

Pope Francis Proclaims Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis announced a Year of St. Joseph in honor of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church.

The year began December 8, 2020, and concludes on December 8, 2021, according to a decree authorized by the Pope.

The decree states that Pope Francis had established a Year of St. Joseph so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will.

In addition to the decree, Pope Francis issued an apostolic letter Tuesday dedicated to the foster father of Jesus.

He explained in the letter, entitled *Patris corde* ("With a father's heart") and dated December 8, that he wanted to share some "personal reflections" on the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

LITANY OF SAINT JOSEPH

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

God our Father in heaven

God the Son, Redeemer of the world

God the Holy Spirit

Holy Trinity, one God

Holy Mary

Saint Joseph

Noble son of the House of David

Light of patriarchs

Husband of the Mother of God

Guardian of the Virgin

Foster father of the Son of God

Faithful guardian of Christ

Head of the holy family

Joseph, chaste and just

Joseph, prudent and brave

Joseph, obedient and loyal

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

have mercy on us

have mercy on us

have mercy on us

have mercy on us

pray for us

pray for us

pray for us

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pray for us

Pattern of patience	pray for us
Lover of poverty	pray for us
Model of workers	pray for us
Example to parents	pray for us
Guardian of virgins	pray for us
Pillar of family life	pray for us
Comfort of the troubled	pray for us
Hope of the sick	pray for us
Patron of the dying	pray for us
Terror of evil spirits	pray for us
Protector of the Church	pray for us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world	have mercy on us
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(from the "Book of Blessings")