

# NOVENA IN HONOR OF SAINT JOSEPH

## National Shrine of St. Joseph, De Pere, Wisconsin

*Prayed weekly every Wednesday and annually from March 10-19 at the National Shrine since 1888.*

### Opening Hymn (O Joseph, Mighty Patron)

1. **O Joseph, mighty patron,  
your love and strength bestow  
upon a pilgrim people,  
who are the Church below.  
You were the Father's image,  
Great Prince of David's line;  
Obtain for us God's blessing,  
that we may be God's sign.**

2. **Great Saint, you cherished Mary,  
who loved and cared for you;  
You taught and nurtured Jesus,  
oh teach us to be true,  
True to the Church he founded,  
until we form above;  
A family united  
in bonds of lasting love.**

Universal Prayer Response: **St. Joseph, Spouse of the Mother of God, pray for us.**

### Novena Prayers (following Prayer after Communion; please kneel or be seated)

*Presider:*

Glorious St. Joseph, who has been elevated by an ineffable design of God to the dignity of Spouse of Mary and Foster Father of Jesus, and who has been proclaimed as Patron of the Universal Church, with joy we kneel before you to thank God for the privileges bestowed upon you, and also for the dignity to which He has raised you among all men.

Blessed are you because you have consoled, assisted, and protected the august Virgin Mary, your Immaculate Spouse.

Blessed are you because you have devoted yourself to our Divine Redeemer Jesus, sparing no trouble to clothe him, to protect Him against the snares of His enemies, to save Him for the salvation of the world.

Blessed are you because you have always been the consoler, the defender and the supporter of the Church in its trials.

Blessed are you because no one has ever had recourse to your protection or implored your aid without obtaining relief.

We kneel before you to place ourselves among the number of your children and in the shelter of your powerful protection.

We shall always love and honor you as our kind father, and we beg of your goodness, O dear Joseph, that you accept us as your beloved children. That you take into your hands our interests, temporal as well as spiritual. That you defend us against the snares of the

devil; protect us against the dangers with which we are surrounded.

Direct us, O most loving Father, to the love of the Divine Heart of Jesus to an unswerving fidelity to the Holy Church to a filial affection for the Blessed Virgin, our Mother so that by your help we may enter heaven to glorify God together with you during all eternity.

**Amen.**

*(All)*

**Hail Joseph, Son of David,  
most pure spouse  
of the Immaculate Mother of God and  
faithful guardian of our Lord Jesus Christ  
pray for us your children  
pray for our loved ones  
whom you have graciously accepted  
into your protection  
and your mighty patronage. Amen.**

*(Litany of St. Joseph)*

*Presider or Cantor:*

*All:*  
Lord, have mercy.....**Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy.....**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.....**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, hear us. ....**Christ, hear us.**  
Christ, graciously hear us...**Christ, graciously hear us.**

God the Father in heaven, ..... **have mercy on us.**  
God the Son,  
Redeemer of the world,..... **have mercy on us.**  
God the Holy Spirit,..... **have mercy on us.**  
Holy Trinity, one God, ..... **have mercy on us.**

Holy Mary, ..... **pray for us.**  
Saint Joseph, ..... **pray for us.**  
Illustrious son of David, ..... **pray for us.**  
Light of Patriarchs, ..... **pray for us.**  
Spouse of the Mother of God, ..... **pray for us.**  
Guardian of the Redeemer, ..... **pray for us.**  
Pure Guardian of the Virgin, ..... **pray for us.**  
Provider for the Son of God, ..... **pray for us.**  
Zealous defender of Christ, ..... **pray for us.**  
Servant of Christ, ..... **pray for us.**  
Minister of salvation, ..... **pray for us.**  
Head of the Holy Family, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most just, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most chaste, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most prudent, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most brave, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most obedient, ..... **pray for us.**  
Joseph, most loyal, ..... **pray for us.**  
Mirror of patience, ..... **pray for us.**  
Lover of poverty, ..... **pray for us.**  
Model for workers, ..... **pray for us.**  
Glory of family life, ..... **pray for us.**  
Guardian of virgins, ..... **pray for us.**  
Cornerstone of families, ..... **pray for us.**  
Support in difficulties, ..... **pray for us.**  
Comfort of the sorrowing, ..... **pray for us.**  
Hope of the sick, ..... **pray for us.**  
Patron of exiles, ..... **pray for us.**  
Patron of the afflicted, ..... **pray for us.**  
Patron of the poor, ..... **pray for us.**  
Patron of the dying, ..... **pray for us.**  
Terror of demons, ..... **pray for us.**  
Protector of the Holy Church, ..... **pray for us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
..... **spare us, O Lord.**  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
..... **hear us, O Lord.**  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
..... **have mercy on us.**

He made him master of his house, .....  
**and ruler of all his possessions.**

Let us pray.

*(All)*

**O God, who in your inexpressible providence  
were pleased to choose Saint Joseph  
as spouse of your most holy Mother,  
grant, we pray, that we,  
who revere him as our protector on earth,  
may be worthy of his heavenly intercession.**

**Who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.**

**O Blessed Joseph, faithful guardian of  
my Redeemer, Jesus Christ;  
protector of your chaste Spouse,  
the Virgin Mother of God,  
I choose you this day  
to be my special patron and advocate,  
and I firmly resolve to honor you  
from this time forth.**

**Therefore I humbly beseech you  
to receive me as your client,  
to instruct me in every doubt,  
to comfort me in every affliction,  
to obtain for me and for all the knowledge  
and love of the Heart of Jesus  
and finally to defend and protect me  
at the hour of death. Amen.**

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### **Closing Hymn (Dear Guardian of Mary)**

- 1. Dear Guardian of Mary! dear nurse of her child! / Life's ways are full weary, the desert is wild;  
Bleak sands are all round us, no home can we see; / Sweet Spouse of our Lady! we lean upon thee.**
- 2. For you to the pilgrim are father and guide, / And Jesus and Mary felt safe at your side;  
Ah! blessed Saint Joseph, how safe should I be, / Sweet Spouse of our Lady! if you were with me.**
- 3. O blessed Saint Joseph, how great was your worth, / The one chosen shadow of God upon earth,  
The father of Jesus! Ah, then will you be, / Sweet spouse of Our Lady, a father to me.**