

## PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE SPECIAL PRESENTATION (3-22-20)

### ACT OF CONSECRATION TO SAINT JOSEPH

by Saint Bernardine of Siena

O my beloved Saint Joseph, adopt me as thy child.  
Take charge of my salvation; watch over me day and night;  
preserve me from occasions of sin; obtain for me purity of body.  
Through thy intercession with Jesus, grant me  
a spirit of sacrifice, humility, self-denial,  
burning love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament,  
and a sweet and tender love for Mary, my mother.  
Saint Joseph, be with me living, be with me dying,  
and obtain for me a favorable judgment from Jesus,  
my merciful Savior. Amen.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION: CONSECRATION TO SAINT JOSEPH

- I. Consecrations:
  - A. An Act of Devotion—for a heart eager to worship God and quick to work for God
  - B. Entrusting oneself to a person completely worth of trust:
    - 1. To Jesus—His Eucharistic Sacred Heart
    - 2. To Mary—The Immaculate Heart
    - 3. To Joseph—The Universal Patron of the Church
    - 4. To Our Guardian Angel and All Holy Angels
  - C. Ways of understanding Holy Communion:
    - 1. As Divine—God = Father/Son/Holy Spirit
    - 2. As Heavenly—God/Holy Angels and Saints
    - 3. As Eucharistic:
      - a. Sacramental and Spiritual (received at Holy Mass)
      - b. Spiritual Communion (experienced anywhere by a devoted heart)
    - 4. As The Church:
      - a. Triumphant in Heaven
      - b. Suffering in Purgatory
      - c. Militant on Earth
  - D. Consecration—Entrusting oneself in loving surrender to another through true devotion for greater holiness to make our service a pleasing sacrifice to God
- II. Saint Joseph—A righteous man moved by the Holy Spirit
  - A. Saint Bernardine of Siena:

“Whenever the Divine Favor chooses someone to receive a special grace, or to accept a lofty vocation, God adorns the person chosen with all the gifts of the Spirit needed to fulfill the task at hand.

This general rule is especially verified in the case of Saint Joseph, the foster-father of our Lord and the husband of the Queen of our world, enthroned above the angels. He was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of his greatest treasures, namely, His divine Son and Mary, Joseph’s wife.”

- B. Joseph: Guardian and Protector:
  - 1. Of Jesus

2. Of Mary
  3. In the Order of Grace: The Guardian and Protector of All the Baptized
    - a. Of the children of Mary by grace
    - b. Of the brothers and sisters of Christ by Baptism
    - c. Of the Christian families that form domestic churches
    - d. In Heaven, God extends, perfects, and brings to completion the work Joseph began on Earth
- C. Joseph = Spiritual Father entrusted to us by the heavenly Father because of:
1. His Righteousness: God's will comes first for Joseph
    - a. His vigilance and silence—humility/prayer
    - b. His heavenly vision—contemplation/angelic dreams
    - c. His earthly work—religious/familial/professional
  2. His purity of heart for a:
    - a. Pure soul—intellect and will
    - b. Pure body—mastery of his flesh and emotions
    - c. Life as a living sacrifice of himself to God for those entrusted to him by God

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercy of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice holy, pleasing unto God, your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1).

## QUESTIONS

1. Do you have a devotion to Saint Joseph? If not, why not? If so, how do you express this devotion?
2. Why do we need the intercession and help of Saint Joseph especially at this time?

## SACRED SEVEN QUESTIONS (T/F)

- \_\_\_ 1. The only persons without sin are the Three Divine Persons.
- \_\_\_ 2. My Guardian Angel is actually a person.
- \_\_\_ 3. Demons are not terrified by any human persons.
- \_\_\_ 4. We pray to Mary just as we pray to God.
- \_\_\_ 5. We venerate Saint Joseph to the same degree that we venerate Mary, since both were parents of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- \_\_\_ 6. We in fact detract from God's greatness and glory by, instead of turning to Him, turning to saints and angels, asking for their intercession and help.
- \_\_\_ 7. Since I know that my death could be a happy one, I can actually pray for a “happy death.”

## MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: “Renewal of Baptismal Promises,” “Angel of God,” “Glory Be,” and “The Anima Christi,” “Veni Creator Spiritus,” “Act of Consecration to Saint Joseph”
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (15-30 minutes):
  - A. The Rosary
  - B. Journal Meditation:
    1. 5-10 Minutes of Scriptural or spiritual reading
    2. 5-10 Minutes writing to either the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
    3. 5-10 Minutes recording what you believe God is saying to you
- III. Examination of Conscience and Act of Contrition:

- A. Have I imitated Saint Joseph in cherishing, adoring, and protecting Christ, Who is still with us in the Most Blessed Sacrament?
- B. Did I imitate Saint Joseph in venerating Mary, loving her and defending her from any indifference or attacks?
- C. Did I imitate Saint Joseph in cultivating a heart so pure that even my dreams are holy visions?
- D. Did I imitate Saint Joseph in practicing silence and vigilance, always seeking God's will while serving others, promptly and without complaining or bragging?