



Missionarii Sancti Joannis Baptistæ

Vox clamantis in deserto, parate viam Domini

1101 AMSTERDAM ROAD ✦ PARK HILLS ✦ KENTUCKY ✦ 41011

Good St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, Come to Our Aid

ONE NIGHT when Joseph was peacefully sleeping at Bethlehem, an angel's voice aroused him from his slumber. The angel then spoke, saying: *Arise, and take the young Child and His Mother, and fly into the land of Egypt, for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.* From this well known event in the Holy Gospel, we are able to surmise that God's ways are very different from our ways. Human wisdom would suggest that the good Lord should have cut down Herod's soldiers or perhaps blinded them so that they could not carry out their bloody mission. Perhaps the Most High could have moved the heartless Herod to repent, hurry to Bethlehem, and fall prostrate before the manger in union with the three kings from the East. Yet God's messenger provides a more clumsy strategy, if you will, of saving the Divine Infant from His enemies - *fly into the land of Egypt.* Flee like exiles into a pagan land, a land, which for the Jew, was synonymous with slavery, misery, and idolatry. If St. Joseph had relied upon human wisdom, he would have dismissed the message of the angel as merely a dream. He would have stayed put in David's City and ignored the Will of God and the ways of Divine Wisdom. But filled with more grace than any other created person outside of Our Lady, St. Joseph immediately awakened his Immaculate Spouse and took the Holy Family towards the Land of Ham, for it was the Will of God, and that was enough.

God's ways are so different from ours. Many of you are probably aware of recent events that have negatively affected our religious community of the

Missionaries of St. John the Baptist and the Traditional Latin Mass Personal Parish under the patronage of Our Lady of Lourdes. For more information on this event and the response of the Missionaries, please see the press release found at www.msjb.info. Although human wisdom finds itself stunned by these events, Divine Wisdom enables us to accept this difficult situation for it is the Will of God and that is enough: *"we know that to them that love*

God, all things work together unto good, to such as, according to his purpose, are called to be saints" (Romans 8:28). And with holy Job we say, *"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: as it hath pleased the Lord so is it done: blessed be the name of the Lord"* (Job 1:21).



The Missionaries of St. John the Baptist will continue to live on and maintain their existing properties. We will continue to pray, do penance, and continue the work of educating our members and constructing the future Grotto. During this time, however, we will look to St. Joseph to guide and protect our religious family. As patron of the Universal Church, St. Joseph protects and provides for the Mystical Body of Christ on earth. His intercessory power is truly immeasurable. His power before the throne of the Son of God is compared to the power of the Old Testament Joseph before the throne of Pharaoh. In the *Book of Genesis*, it is said that Egypt experienced a great famine. When people cried for help, Pharaoh told all of the Egyptians, *Go to Joseph and do what he tells you.* With so much being taken away from us, we are now experiencing a sort of exile and spiritual famine. And so we, too, go to the New Testament Joseph for assistance.



Many teachers of the holy Faith have declared that most saints are prayed to for some particular need, such as praying to St. Christopher for safe travels. But as for St. Joseph, he has received universal power to come to our aid in all our wants of body and soul. We, along with the great Carmelite mystic, St. Teresa of Jesus, know the power of the greatest of Patriarchs:

I took for my advocate and lord the glorious Saint Joseph and commended myself earnestly to him; and I found that this my father and lord delivered me both from this trouble and also from other and greater troubles concerning my honor and the loss of my soul, and that he gave me greater blessings than I could ask of him. I do not remember even now that I have ever asked anything of him which he has failed to grant. I am astonished at the great favors which God has bestowed on me through this blessed saint, and at the perils from which He has freed me, both in body and in soul. To other saints the Lord seems to have given grace to help us in some of our necessities but of this glorious saint my experience is that he helps us in them all and that the Lord wishes to teach us that as He was Himself subject to him on earth (for, being His guardian and being called His father, he could command Him) just so in Heaven He still does all that he asks. ❀

St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Church, pray for us!

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE our sixth annual MSJB benefit dinner to be held on June 6th from 5:30 - 9:30 pm at the nearby Fort Mitchell Country Club. All present will also enjoy a live and edifying children's play on the apparitions of Lourdes, France, as well as other live, wholesome musical performances.

Please join us in praying the Novena in honor of the great St. Joseph. An intention sheet is provided if you desire to unite your intentions with us before the holy Altar of God.

Should you wish to contribute to our work, please make out checks to:

The Missionaries of St. John the Baptist –or simply- MSJB

May God reward you!

The Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist (www.msjb.info)

ST. JOSEPH NOVENA (MARCH 10-18)

O GLORIOUS ST. JOSEPH, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to thee do we raise our hearts and hands to implore thy powerful intercession in obtaining from the benign Heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special intentions that have been committed to us.

O GUARDIAN OF THE WORD INCARNATE, we feel animated with confidence that thy prayers on our behalf will be graciously heard before the Throne of God.

(Then the following V. & R. are to be said seven times in honor of the seven joys and sorrows of St. Joseph.)

V. O glorious St. Joseph, through the love thou dost bear to Jesus Christ, and for the glory of His name,

R. Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.

Let us pray.

O GLORIOUS ST. JOSEPH, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin, obtain for me a pure, humble, and charitable mind, and perfect resignation to the Divine Will. Be my guide, father, and model through life, that I may merit to die as thou didst in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

St. Joseph, Friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Mother of God, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Church, pray for us.

WE REMAIN COMMITTED to building and erecting beautiful monuments to His Majesty and His Blessed Mother to edify the Church and Her pious faithful. In this time of decay and iconoclasm, we strive to instill hope in the faithful soul. And so we will soon place a beautiful cast iron statue of the Sacred Heart before the front entrance to the church, place twelve wood carved angels on the ceiling inside, and continue to restore the windows. So also we hope to resolve all blockages regarding our proposed Grotto. *May God reward you for all you have done to make these beautiful things possible!*





St. Joseph Novena Intentions & Petitions
