

Triduum in Celebration of the Year of St. Joseph

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis announced that this year of 2021 would be the Year of St. Joseph. The Year was announced on the 150th Anniversary of St. Joseph being named the Patron Saint of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX. The Holy Father said, "Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble."

The Feast of St. Joseph is March 19th. So on the three days prior to the Feast of St. Joseph March 16, 17 & 18 we will celebrate a Triduum in honor of St. Joseph with three evenings of Reflection focusing on different aspects of the life of St. Joseph. We will then celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph on March 19th with a concluding Mass only at 6:30 p.m.

On March 16 – 18 the usual 5:00 p.m. Mass will be moved to 6:30 p.m. The schedule for the Evenings of Reflection will then be as follows:

- 6:30 p.m. - Mass
- 7:00 p.m. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7:15 p.m. - Reflection
- 7:45 p.m. - Litany to St. Joseph followed by Benediction

All are welcome to join for all or some of the evenings. Each evening's reflection is independent of the other as is each day's Mass. One of the Friars will lead each evening's program.

Pope Francis concluded the decree announcing the Year of St. Joseph with the following prayer: *"Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen."*