

## NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH

### Archdiocese of Seattle



### The Year of St. Joseph

This is the Year of St. Joseph! On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis announced a special year dedicated to St. Joseph, continuing until December 8, 2021. This year marks 150 years since Pope Pius IX declared St. Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church. This is a time to get to know and love this special saint.

### A Novena of Prayer

Beginning March 10, parishes, schools, and faith communities of the Archdiocese of Seattle are invited to join in a novena of prayer to St. Joseph. These nine days of prayer will be a way for us to prepare to celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on Friday, March 19.

### Using this Novena Prayer Guide

This guide is provided for parishes and schools and includes a simple order of prayer for each day. The brief prayer includes an invitation to prayer with an intention for each day of the novena. A short reading follows, either a Scripture passage or a selection from *Patris Corde*, Pope Francis' letter for the Year of St. Joseph. This can be read by another reader, or by the leader. The novena prayer follows and the prayer concludes with three invocations from the Litany of St. Joseph. This prayer could be used before meetings or classes. In parishes, it could be used before or after Mass, and might be prayed before the parish's statue of St. Joseph.

## Novena Prayer – March 10

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

This is the Year of St. Joseph. As we prepare to celebrate his feast on March 19, we join in a novena of prayer to this great saint, who is intercessor, support, and guide in times of trouble.

Today, let us pray for a greater openness to God's will for us, and the courage to follow wherever God may lead.

### Scripture

The angel of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." (*Matthew 1:20*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Saint Joseph,

*ALL: pray for us.*

Leader: Husband of the Mother of God,

*ALL: pray for us.*

Leader: Foster Father of the Son of God,

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 11

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for the “unsung heroes” who have kept us going during the pandemic, especially health care workers, teachers, and essential workers.

### Reflection

Pope Francis writes: 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. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all. (*Patris Corde*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader:	Joseph, chaste and just,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>
Leader:	Joseph, prudent and brave,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>
Leader:	Joseph, obedient and loyal,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 12

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for all who work, and for all who are unemployed or underemployed, that they may be treated with justice and dignity.

### Scripture

Jesus came to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue. They were astonished and said, "Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds? Is he not the carpenter's son?" (*Matthew 13:55*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, pattern of patience,  
Leader: Joseph, lover of poverty,  
Leader: Joseph, model of workers,

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 13

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for migrants and refugees, forced like the Holy Family to leave their homeland, that they may find safety and welcome.

### Scripture

The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.” Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. (*Matthew 2:13-14*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader:	Joseph, example of courage,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>
Leader:	Joseph, protector of the Holy Family,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>
Leader:	Joseph, comfort of the troubled,	<i>ALL: pray for us.</i>

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 14

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for our local Church, that we may proclaim the Gospel with integrity, and serve Christ in the poor and the afflicted.

### Scripture

You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you:  
Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God. (*Micah 6:8*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, protector of the Church,  
Leader: Joseph, just and courageous,  
Leader: Joseph, faithful and true,

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 15

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for the dying, that God may grant them the grace of a happy death, and give comfort and peace to their families.

### Scripture

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them....  
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. (*Wisdom 3:1, 5-6*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, comfort of the troubled,  
Leader: Joseph, hope of the sick,  
Leader: Joseph, patron of the dying,

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 16

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for all who have authority over others – bishops and priests, elected officials, teachers, supervisors, and parents – that, like Joseph, they may be examples of gentleness and fidelity.

### Reflection

Pope Francis writes: Our world today has no use for tyrants who would domineer others as a means of compensating for their own needs. It rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction. (*Patris Corde*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, gentle and strong,  
Leader: Joseph, faithful and loving,  
Leader: Joseph, protector of the Holy Family,

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**



## Novena Prayer – March 17

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast on March 19. Today, let us pray for husbands and fathers, that they may learn from St. Joseph to be gentle, loving, faithful, and courageous.

### Reflection

Pope Francis writes: Fathers are not born, but made. A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child. Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person. (*Patris Corde*)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, husband of the Mother of God,  
Leader: Joseph, faithful guardian of Christ,  
Leader: Joseph, Foster Father of the Son of God,

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**

## Novena Prayer – March 18

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### Invitation to Prayer

Leader:

We continue our novena of prayer to St. Joseph, in preparation for his feast day tomorrow. On this last day of our novena, let us pray for families, especially families in crisis, that they may draw strength from the example and intercession of St. Joseph and the Holy Family.

### Scripture

[Jesus's] mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them.

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. (Luke 2:48-51)

### Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*

### Litany

Leader: Joseph, pillar of family life,

*ALL: pray for us.*

Leader: Joseph, head of the Holy Family,

*ALL: pray for us.*

Leader: Joseph, example to parents,

*ALL: pray for us.*

**All make the sign of the Cross**