

ST. JOSEPH, THE WORKER

St. Joseph has two feast days on the liturgical calendar. The first is March 19 – Joseph, the Husband of Mary. The second is May 1 – Joseph, the Worker. Through these feast days, the Church reminds us that God wanted a working man to be Mary's husband and Jesus' father. Work has dignity because God himself worked (Gen 1) and He asked Adam to work and care for the land (Gen 2:15). This was before the Fall. Work only became a burden due to the

sin of our first parents. In the words of St. John Paul II, St. Joseph reminds us that "Work is a good thing for man – a good thing for his humanity – because through work man **not only transforms nature, adapting it to his own needs, but he also achieves fulfillment as a human being...**" (On Human Work).

May we transform our work and may work transform us into the spouses, children, neighbors, and co-workers that God meant us to be.



ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES & HOMESCHOOLERS

Here are some ideas, crafts, and printables for your little ones.

1. [Gingerbread Tool Box](#)
2. [St. Joseph Memory Match Game](#)
3. [Dot-to-Dot: St. Joseph & Baby Jesus](#)
4. [St. Joseph Booklet](#)

PRAYER BEFORE WORK

TO ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

O Glorious Saint Joseph, model of all those who are devoted to labor, obtain for me the grace to work in a spirit of penance for the expiation of my many sins; to work conscientiously, putting the call of duty above my natural inclinations; to work with thankfulness and joy, considering it an honor to employ and develop by means of labor the gifts received from God; to work with order, peace, moderation, and patience, never shrinking from weariness and trials; to work above all with purity of intention and detachment from self, keeping unceasingly before my eyes death and the account that I must give of time lost, talents unused, good omitted, and vain complacency in success, so fatal to the work of God.

All for Jesus, all through Mary, all after thy example, O Patriarch, Saint Joseph. Such shall be my watch-word in life and in death.

Amen.

Composed by Pope St. Pius X
Note: Along with St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, St. Pius X is our diocese's co-patron saint.



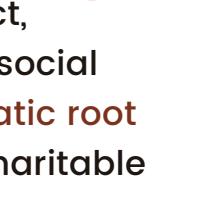
VIDEOS & PODCASTS



Let St. Joseph accompany you at your morning coffee, commute, or daily errands through these inspirational talks.

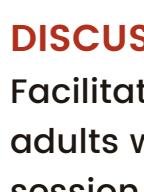
- a. [St. Joseph Series](#)
- b. [St. Joseph, our Protector](#)
- c. [An Example for All Husbands](#)

TWO FEET OF LOVE IN ACTION



To serve like St. Joseph, we are invited to put the Gospel into action using two distinct, but complementary ways: social justice (addressing systematic root causes of problems) and charitable works (short-term emergency assistance). These are the two feet of love in action.

LEARN



Watch the USCCB's [video](#) on how we are called to walk with both feet as missionary disciples.

DISCUSS

Facilitate a workshop for teens and/or adults with this [guide](#). It includes pre-session quiz, icebreaker, opening prayer, application, resources, and next steps.



ACT

1. [Ten Ways Your Parish Can Make A Difference: Catholic Climate Covenant](#)
2. [Volunteer as a family at your parish' food pantry or community's homeless shelter.](#)



MAY RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES, CLASSROOMS, AND PARISHES
YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

WWW.DIOSCG.ORG/YEAR-OF-ST-JOSEPH/