



## **“With a Father’s Heart” Novena to St. Joseph**

With Quotations from the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* of Pope Francis (8 December 2020)

### **1<sup>st</sup> Day – Spouse of Mary**

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, “at the service of the entire plan of salvation”. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Day – Guardian of the Redeemer**

With a Father’s heart: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “the son of Joseph”. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Day – Beloved Father**

Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people [...] “Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do” (Gen 41:55). *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **4<sup>th</sup> Day – Tender Father**

In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God: “As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him” (Ps 103:13). *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **5<sup>th</sup> Day – Obedient Father**

“In every situation, Joseph declared his own “*fiat*”, like those of Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **6<sup>th</sup> Day – Accepting Father**

“Joseph ... teaches us that faith in God includes believing that he can work even through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses ... amid the tempests of life, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course.” *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **7<sup>th</sup> Day – Chaste Father**

Joseph is traditionally called “a most chaste” father. [...] Chastity is freedom from possessiveness in every sphere of one’s life. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **8<sup>th</sup> Day – Working Father**

From [Joseph], Jesus learned the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labour. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **9<sup>th</sup> Day – Patron of the Catholic Church**

From Saint Joseph, we must learn ... to love the child and his mother, to love the sacraments and charity, to love the Church and the poor. *(Pause in silence to mention the favour you ask of St. Joseph).*

*All say the Novena Prayer below.*

### **Novena Prayer**

1. Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.
2. 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.