

## Parish Consecration to St. Joseph

As you know, Pope Francis declared this year dedicated to St. Joseph (December 8, 2020-December 8, 2021). This means that in a special way, the Universal Church will fix her gaze on St. Joseph, drawing closer to him and asking more fervently for his intercession and fatherly protection. As the earthly father of our Lord and the spouse of Mary, St. Joseph lived a life of great faith, trust, humility and courage. During this year, we are invited to get to know this holy man better, to learn from his great example and ask for his intercession and protection.



One spiritual opportunity that is available to us is to consecrate ourselves to St. Joseph. What does that mean and how do we do it? Quite simply it means to put ourselves under his paternal care and ask his help in all things that will lead us to God. Consecration can take place through a simple prayer. However, it is customary to have a period of preparation.

At the parish, we plan to follow a 33 day preparation plan. The preparation includes daily prayers and readings. We will be using two resources—you are free to choose either one. The first one is Fr. Calloway's Book entitled: *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of our Spiritual Father*. Men, women and families can use this book for consecration. The second one is an online resource from the Archdiocese of Detroit that has been shared with us. The online resource is free, the daily readings involved is a little shorter but it is primarily geared toward men.

***Everything can be done on your own, but if you would like to be part of a group experience, see the schedule below:***

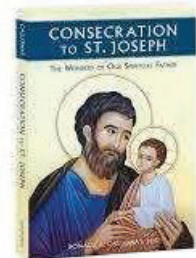
**We start our preparation on Monday February 15<sup>th</sup> for the consecration day to fall on the Feast of St. Joseph on Friday March 19<sup>th</sup>.**

You will do the daily prayers on your own but we will gather three times:

- To begin our preparation time –Monday, February 15 at 7pm
- Check in a half way point of the preparation period-- Monday, March 1 at 7pm
- Consecration day, Friday, March 19 8:30am, 12 noon or 7pm.

(Pick one of the three times)

(Come in person to church or participate via livestream)



If you are going to use the book, please purchase it on your own. It is available at

[www.shopmercy.org](http://www.shopmercy.org) in hard copy form or as an e-book. It is also available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

If you are going to use the online resource for the consecration, it can be found on our website under the year of St. Joseph banner. [www.noolp.org](http://www.noolp.org)

**Please sign up to let us know you are participating in the group consecration by Wednesday February 10 so you can be sent additional information regarding the group consecration.** The link for that can also be found on our homepage. Please contact Ann Marie in the parish office with any questions 215-675-1925.