

Prayer to St. Joseph after the Rosary for October

Introduction

This prayer to Saint Joseph — spouse of the Virgin Mary, foster father of Jesus, and patron saint of the universal Church — was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his August 15, 1889 encyclical, *Quamquam pluries* (that is, on devotion to St. Joseph). He asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially during the month of October, which is dedicated to the Rosary. The prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence (*Handbook of Indulgences*, conc. 19), and may be said after the customary *Salve Regina* and concluding prayer. It may also be used to conclude other Marian devotions.

Prayer

To thee, O blessed Joseph, do we fly in our tribulation;
and having implored the help of thy most holy spouse,
we confidently crave thy patronage also.
Through that charity which bound thee
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God,
and through the paternal love
with which thou didst embrace the Child Jesus,
we humbly beseech thee graciously
to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ
hath purchased by His Blood and with thy power
and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Divine family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
O most loving Father,
ward off from us every contagion of error
and corrupting influence;
O our most mighty protector,
be propitious to us,
and from heaven assist us in this
our struggle with the power of darkness;
and as once thou didst rescue the Child Jesus
from deadly peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church
from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity:
Shield, too, each one of us by thy constant protection,
so that, supported by thine example and thine aid,
we may be able to live piously,
to die holily, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
Amen.

