

TWENTY-NINTH DAY

SAINT JOSEPH, HEAD OF THE HOLY FAMILY

April 27, 2021

St. Peter Julian Eymard writes:

Saint Joseph was Jesus' legal father, His adoptive father, His foster-father. As father, Saint Joseph supported Jesus, worked to feed Him, and defended Him at the risk of his own life; he also supported the Mother of Jesus, assisted, and protected her.

Like Jesus, we should honor Saint Joseph as our father. Our Lord gave him that beautiful title and conformed Himself to the relation it created; He honored, served, and loved Joseph in his capacity as father. We should do likewise. Saint Joseph is our guide and our model.

Now in what spirit did Joseph serve Jesus and Mary? In a spirit of love, because he appreciated the divinity of Jesus and the excellence of Mary. Filled with grace and understanding, he could never thank God enough for having associated him with such great and holy mysteries. At the sight of his unworthiness, Joseph plunged himself in humility, offered himself joyously and unreservedly to accomplish the will of God in all things. No matter how toilsome it might be, he cheerfully spent himself in the service of Jesus and Mary.

There then lies our path. We share the dignity of the holy patriarch; we must share his humility, because we are neither as holy nor as perfect as he. With the devotedness of Joseph, let us serve Christ and our brothers as other Christs.

Saint Joseph will be our protector: we are his poor, feeble children. Since we are continuing his mission, he will help us fulfill it like him and with him. Saint Joseph will be the father of the Society of the Blessed Sacrament, the head of this Eucharistic family, and the model of every adorer who wants to please Jesus and serve Him after His own Heart.

Further questions to consider:

Do I see my neighbor as another Christ? Do I offer myself joyously and unreservedly to accomplish the will of God in all things. Do I serve Him cheerfully?

Action Item:

Do a kind deed for someone with joy!

Daily Prayer:

Be mindful of us, O blessed Joseph, and intercede for us with thy foster-Son by the pleading of thy prayer: do thou in like manner render the Blessed Virgin Mary, thy Spouse, gracious unto us, for she is the Mother of Him, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns world without end. Amen. (*Memorare of St. Bernardine of Siena*)

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be