

7th Day of the 33-Day Preparation for Consecration to St. Joseph

St. Joseph can help us to be more devoted to Mary

On this day of our preparation to consecrate ourselves to St. Joseph, you might ask yourself about your devotion to Mary. Perhaps you hesitate to consecrate yourself to St. Joseph because you have already consecrated yourself to Mary. Or perhaps you feel that you should improve your devotion to Mary before you think about consecrating yourself to St. Joseph. You should not let these thoughts prevent you from entrusting yourself to your spiritual father, St. Joseph! Do not say: "I am very devoted to Mary, and so I should not be devoted to Joseph." And do not say: "I am not very devoted to Mary, and so I should work on that before I try to be devoted to Joseph." St. Joseph can help you either way! He can help you to increase your devotion to Mary. No one loved Mary more than her husband. St. Joseph consecrated himself completely to Mary. He will help you to be more completely consecrated to Mary.

Here are some quotations which reassure us that devotion to St. Joseph does not conflict or compete with our devotion to Mary.

All Christians belong to St. Joseph because Jesus and Mary belonged to him.

— St. Leonard of Port Maurice

A servant of Mary will have a tender devotion to St. Joseph, and by his pious homage of respect and love, will endeavor to merit the protection of this great saint.

— Blessed William Joseph Chaminade

O my dear father St. Joseph, I want to love you with the love that Mary has for you.

— Blessed Bartolo Longo

Many saints spoke of consecrating themselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary in order to be her special "servant" or "slave" or "knight". St. Joseph is the perfect model for those who wish to entrust themselves to Our Lady and serve her. St. Joseph was a gallant and chivalrous gentleman who always showed the maximum respect and honor to his beloved spouse.

Saint Joseph sweetly and continuously stimulates us to love, serve, and imitate the Queen of his heart, the Immaculate Mother of Jesus.

— Blessed Gabriele Allegra

Saint Joseph is the most Marian of all saints. His love for Mary is greater than that of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Louis de Montfort, St. Alphonsus Liguori, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and St. John Paul II combined. There has never been a greater Marian saint than St. Joseph, and there never will be.

— Fr. Don Calloway

Like Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary into your home.

— Pope Benedict XVI

When the Holy Virgin and St. Joseph intercede together it is very powerful!

— St. André Bessette

Grant that according to your example [St. Joseph] we may keep our eyes fixed on our mother Mary, your most sweet spouse.

— Venerable Pope Pius XII

Please pray the Litany of St. Joseph every day at home for the intention of consecrating our parish to St. Joseph on March 19th!