

**I would like you to place the following petitions on Saint Joseph's Altar during the Novena.**  
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY  
**My petitions are:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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"Now the generation of Christ was in this wise. When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child, of the Holy Ghost." (Mt 1:18)

"Whereupon Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing publicly to expose her, was minded to put her away privately." (Mt 1:19)

"But while he thought on these things, behold the angel of the Lord appeared to him in his sleep, saying: Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that which is conceived in her, is of the Holy Ghost." (Mt 1:20)

The Almighty Father chose Joseph to be foster father to Jesus. Joseph was a hard working humble man, who strove to teach his son to care for his fellow man. No spoken word of Joseph is recorded in the Scriptures. Yet he is among the most honored saints. "When in trouble go to St. Joseph". For not only is he the foster father of Jesus, but in truth, he is the foster father of us all.

**PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH**

*Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Patron of the Church*

O glorious St. Joseph, you were chosen by God to be the foster father of Jesus, the chaste spouse of Mary ever Virgin, and the head of the Holy Family. You were then appointed by the Vicar of Christ to be the heavenly patron and defender of the Church founded by Jesus. Most confidently I ask your powerful help for the pilgrim Church. Shield especially with your fatherly love, the Holy Father and all the bishops and priests in union with the See of Peter. Defend all who labor for the Gospel amid the trials and tribulations of this life. May all the peoples of the earth find a spiritual home in that church which is the ark of salvation for all.

St. Joseph, please also accept this dedication which I myself now make to you. I dedicate myself wholly to you, that you may ever be my father, my patron and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me great purity of heart and a fervent devotion to the interior life. Grant that, following your example, I may direct all my actions to the greater glory of God, in union with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and your own heart. Finally, pray for me that I may partake in the peace and joy which were yours at the hour of your holy death.

Amen.

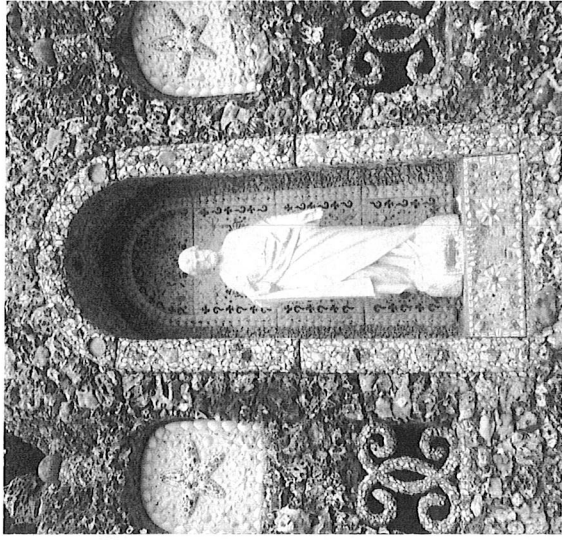
\_\_\_\_\_ Please burn a large Novena Candle as a prayer for my intentions during the Novena, March 11th - 19th. (\$4.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me a Saint Joseph 3<sup>rd</sup> class relic medal.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me a pocket prayer card holder of Saint Joseph with prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in learning more of Saint Joseph. Please send me the 46 page book Devotion to St. Joseph by the Daughters of St. Paul. I have enclosed an additional \$3.00 to cover the cost of the booklet and shipping.

*(check all boxes which apply)*



Saint Joseph Grotto

# Novena in honor of Saint Joseph

March 11 - March 19

**Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Confessor and Patron of the Universal Church.**

St. Joseph's feast has been kept on March 19 since the end of the 15th Century. In 1621, Pope Gregory XV extended it to the whole Church and in 1870, Pope Pious IX proclaimed St. Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church.

The Franciscan Brothers, who are charged with the care of the Black Madonna Shrine and Grottos, invite you to join with us and the Shrine staff in offering prayers to Saint Joseph!

# NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

(begin each day with the following)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I beg of Thee, my God, make haste to assist me. Oh Holy Father, creator of all seen and unseen, help your children as we call upon You to protect, guide and strengthen all of us, so we may do your will.

Father, we honor You through Your saints. Today we call upon Saint Joseph to ask his help in our daily lives.

Lord, You promised those who ask would receive, those who seek would find, those who knock would have doors opened, that faith would move mountains.

Hear the prayers of your humble children, grant our petitions and pardon our sins. Amen.

Dear Saint Joseph, foster father, assist us in our pleas, help us to obtain what we cannot by our own merits. Listen to our prayers and intercede in our behalf (mention petitions silently).

DAY 1 Heavenly Father, You called upon Joseph to raise Your Son. Please allow the nurturing spirit of Saint Joseph to guide us, as he did Our Savior Jesus Christ, to Your all powerful love.

DAY 2 Saint Joseph, foster father, your life as husband, father, care giver, serves as an inspiration to us all. Help us to emulate your life and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

DAY 3 Lord Jesus Christ, Your gospel is the Living Word. "Come to me" You call. Let us

answer Your summons, just as Joseph answered the 'call' from Your Father and dedicate our lives to You.

DAY 4 Divine Child Jesus, at Your birth the world rejoiced. Joseph embraced Your life and love. May we accept Your love, and help us live a life worthy of You.

DAY 5 Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, you serve God by watching over His children. Accept us as children of God. Teach us to accept what we cannot change, and strengthen us to change the things we can.

DAY 6 Good Saint Joseph, your life was that of a humble craftsman. Grant us humility. Help those in need, and show us the path to Christ's love, the true road to salvation.

DAY 7 Divine Infant Child Jesus, Saint Joseph so loved You. Spark our hearts with Your love and shower our families with Your heavenly graces and blessings.

DAY 8 Divine Savior, Son of Almighty God, like Joseph, we commit our lives to You. Grant peace and justice to our world, that we might live in harmony.

DAY 9 Oh Heavenly Father, through You all things came to be. Joseph accepted Your Divine Will. Please help us accept what will be. Forgive our sins and grant us eternal life

### Each Day

Gather me close, I entrust myself to your care. But even more, Lord, keep me close to Your Love.

In conclusion of the novena say one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be.

Dear Friends of Our Lady's Shrine:

This novena in honor of Saint Joseph is our way of thanking our spiritual foster father for looking after us during our lives.

We will pray to Saint Joseph for a period of nine days (the novena March 11-19), Holy Mass will be offered each day in honor of the Patron of the Universal Church.

Daily prayers to Saint Joseph will be offered at the Shrine Chapel (weather permitting) at 10:00 a.m. We urge all of you to join with us in prayer, thanking Joseph for his help. If you are near the Shrine, please stop by and join us in prayer.

May the peace and blessings of Our Heavenly Father be with you and yours.

Sincerely,

Mike Scully, Director

**I have listed my petitions and I earnestly pray that my offering of \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be of help to you with the preservation of Blessed Mother Mary's Shrine and Grottos.**

**(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_

**State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

Detach this section and return the petition slip to:

**BLACK MADONNA SHRINE  
PO BOX 181  
EUREKA MO 63025**

(DUE TO THE HIGH COST OF PRINTING AND POSTAGE, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO DONATIONS UNDER \$5.00.)