

**St. Joseph,
we trust in your protection**

St. Joseph, we entrust ourselves to your protection, to you: the Patron Saint of the Universal Church, the Patron Saint of Workers, the principal Patron Saint of Canada.

Protect the Church. May she continue to proclaim courageously the Good News of Christ's resurrection to the women and men of our time.

Protect the faith of those families and individuals who were preparing to receive the sacraments of Christian initiation. May they persevere despite present difficulties and grow in their thirst for God.

Protect the upset hearts of those engaged-to-be-married and whose wedding plans have been disrupted. May these men and women enter more deeply into one of the most significant events of their lives.

Protect the hope of those families and individuals who have lost a loved one to whom they could not be physically present, and who were unable to receive the spiritual and compassionate support so needed in their time of grief and painful loss.

Protect those sick persons who are separated from their families. May the Risen Jesus touch their hearts and comfort them as He himself was comforted by the Angel during his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane

Protect health care workers. May they find through prayer the fortitude to be of service to the sick and to life itself, as they work long hours and put themselves at risk of infection.

Protect seniors whom this pandemic has rendered particularly at-risk and vulnerable. May they know deep down in their hearts that their families, society and the Church have not abandoned them, but that everyone is working for their benefit.

Protect the human dignity of those who have lost their jobs, who have been hard hit by economic insecurity and now find themselves in difficult straits when facing tomorrow.

Protect decision-makers at various levels of government, employers and major players in our economic and communal life. May they all pursue initiatives based on compassion, justice and solidarity.

Protect the love within families. May family members become more attentive, patient and self-giving toward one another, in prayer and imitation of the Holy Family.

Protect our Christian communities, our parishes and our missions. May they remain actively engaged in the mission, here and now, relying on the presence of the Risen Christ and co-operating with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Protect the people of God who yearn to assist at Mass physically. May our personal and family prayer life, our Scripture reading, our online prayer and our participation in spiritual communion deepen our yearning for the Eucharist.

St. Joseph, you who are a righteous man, you who are a descendant of King David, you who are the husband of Mary and the adoptive father of Jesus, you who have lived in this world as a faithful servant to God's Plan of Love, we entrust ourselves to your protection; we entrust our families to you, so they may each become part of the domestic church; we entrust the dignity of men and women to you, in their vocation of work; we entrust our diocese to you, so that it may be the Home of the Holy Family and may welcome Mary as the Mother of our Saviour.