

*Year of St. Joseph (Part 7)*

## **Prayer to St. Joseph.**

**St. Joseph**, you answered God's call to do his work.

Help us to do God's work.

**St. Joseph**, you were silent in the gospels.

Teach us to value silence.

**St. Joseph**, you looked after Jesus and Mary.

Look after us too.

**St. Joseph**, you brought your family to safety.

Protect all families who are forced to flee for their safety.

**St. Joseph**, you watched over the family of Nazareth.

Watch over our family.

**St. Joseph**, with Jesus and Mary you were a family united in respect and love.

Help us to live like the Holy Family.

**St. Joseph**, you worked as a carpenter.

Pray for all workers.

**St. Joseph**, according to tradition, Jesus and Mary were with you when you died.

Be with us when we journey from this world to the next.

**St. Joseph**, patron of families, patron of workers, patron of a happy death, pray for us. Amen.

## **St. Joseph Prayer Cards.**

**A donation of 25cent for each card is suggested to help cover the cost of printing the cards** which were printed by the Carmelite Nuns, Tallow, Co. Waterford. (Tallow Carmel) A short explanation is given with each card.

## **St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan**

**August 2021**



### **Our Father**

The Our Father is one of our best-known Christian prayers. It was given to us by Jesus Himself, in response to the disciples' request to Jesus to teach them to pray. The very first word tells us that it is the prayer of all God's children. It's our prayer to Our Father. It's about **'your'**(thy) and **'us'** and **'our'** not **'me'** or **'my'** or **'mine'**.

In the first part of the prayer we turn to God, that **your** (God's) name may be used properly, that **your** kingdom may come, that **your** will may be done, not **my** name, **my** kingdom, **my** will. It reminds us that our prayer should always include others.

In the second part of the Our Father that focus continues, as we pray that God will give **us** this day **our** daily bread and forgive **us** our trespasses as **we** forgive those who trespass against **us** and lead **us** not into temptation but deliver **us** from evil. In praying for our most basic daily needs, we include all people, and especially those who do not even have enough bread to eat. **Above all, it is not 'my prayer'. It is 'our prayer' – our prayer to Our Father.**

#### **Our Father who art in heaven,**

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy Kingdom come

Thy Will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses.

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation.

But deliver us from evil.

Amen

#### **Ár nAthair, atá ar neamh,**

Go naofar d'ainm

Go dtaga do ríocht

Go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh,

Mar a dhéantar ar neamh.

Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu

Agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha,

Mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna fein.

Agus ná lig sinn í gcathú.

Ach saor sinn ó olc. Amen.

**A Focus on Vocations this August.**

August is a month when many young and not so young people must make choices about their future. Leaving Certificates results, college courses, college places, choice of college, student accommodation, all come to the fore for many people. It is a time too when we pray that some will consider a vocation to the Priesthood, diaconate or religious life and begin a process of discernment with the help of a Vocations director or spiritual guide. A Prayer for Vocations and two reflections on priesthood are given adjacent and below.

**Prayer for Vocations.**

God our Father,  
send workers into your harvest.  
May the Spirit we received in baptism  
touch the hearts of many to offer themselves in priesthood, diaconate, religious life and other forms of service.

Give the parents and families of our parish, the wisdom and courage to support young people, in searching for and following the call of God on their lives.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Vocation – Responding to the Challenge.**

**Responding to the Lord’s call involves putting ourselves on the line and facing a great challenge. It means being ready to leave behind whatever would keep us tied to our little boat and prevent us from making a definitive choice. We are called to be bold and decisive in seeking God’s plan for our lives. Gazing out at the vast “ocean” of vocation, we cannot remain content to repair our nets on the boat that gives us security but must trust instead in the Lord’s promise.**

(From Pope Francis’s World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2019)

**Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Life Within.**

O Mary, Mother of the Life Within,  
all life we entrust to you,  
the life of every expectant mother  
and the child within her womb:  
the life of every human body,  
the life of every human soul;  
the life of every newborn child  
and the life of all grown old.  
You held the Lord to your own heart  
and drew Him so close in.  
So draw us now in all our needs,  
O Mother of the Life Within.  
Amen.



**My Vocation - Archbishop Fulton Sheen (1895-1979)**



‘A vocation is so very sacred that one does not like to speak of it; I never mentioned it to anyone – my classmates, my parents, nor to the priests (except Father Kelly, a curate in the cathedral parish). Always associated with that sense of the gift of a treasure was the frailty of the earthenware pot which was to house it. I would often drive it out of my mind, only to have it come back again. For the most part, the religious vocation is rather a silent but insistent whisper, yet one that demands a response, no violent shaking of bedposts or loud noises in the night. Just ‘you are called to be a priest.’

(Treasure in Clay: The autobiography of Fulton J. Sheen. Page 30)

**August 15<sup>th</sup>: We celebrate that Mary was taken body and soul into heaven on the Feast of the Assumption.**

Today’s feast is a feast of hope. Mary is a woman of Hope. ‘...today’s feast – Mary’s message of hope reaches beyond this life to the next. While she is always on our side – and especially of those in need – she is on our side from the other side. Nothing can take away the hope she shares, for she shared it from eternity.

We need this – now and at the hour of our death. Our world needs this hope – the confidence in faith, that God is always with us, always cares and always walks with us in life.’

(Donal Neary, SJ Gospel Reflections for Sundays of Year B: Mark. P. 69)