

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED

APRIL 30, 2017

SPIRITUAL PONDERINGS

Devotions to the Seven Sorrows of St. Joseph Part V

I would like to continue our reflections on the Seven Sorrows of St. Joseph with the following admonishment of St. Alphonsus Liguori:

“Go, then to Joseph, and do all that he shall say to you;
Go to Joseph, and obey him as Jesus and Mary obeyed him;
Go to Joseph, and speak to him as they spoke to him;
Go to Joseph, and consult him as they consulted him;
Go to Joseph, and honor him as they honored him;
Go to Joseph, and be grateful to him as they were grateful to him;
Go to Joseph, and love him, as they love him still.”
- St. Alphonsus Liguori

Sorrow #7. The loss of the Child Jesus (Luke 2:45)

I can still remember quite vividly a day when I was ten years old. My mother had taken two of my

brothers and myself to Union Station. I believe we were there with my aunt Chris and two of my

cousins. We were getting ready to leave and I was mesmerized by the guys working at Fudge Factory. The Fudge Factory guys used to

sing crazy songs while they made their fudge. They would also use these long white paddles to flip the chocolate way up into the air. All of a sudden, my mother started yelling. She had lost sight of one of my brothers in the large crowd. The sound of panic in my mother’s voice was a sound I will never forget. I know that I panicked at the thought of my brother being lost, I can only imagine it was ten times worse for my mother as a parent. Luckily my brother was quickly found. Unfortunately, though my mom started making us wear harnesses from that day forward and those harnesses were not shaped like cute animals with long tails either. Joseph losing Jesus in the temple had to be one of the scariest and saddest things that he and Mary ever went through. Once again Joseph showed us how to act by

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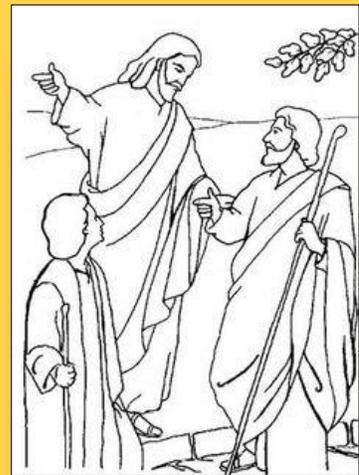
The story is also symbolically about sin. When we sin, we like Mary and Joseph, lose God. The important thing to do is not to

**3rd Sunday of Easter Lectionary:
46 Gospel LK 24:13-35**

Spiritual Reflection: Jesus never gets mad at the two disciples for being sad and walking away. He does explain to them that their mistake is that they do not take their sorrow to prayer especially prayer with the Scriptures.

Spiritual Questions:

1. How well do you know the Scriptures?
2. Do you pray over the Mass readings a head of time?
3. Where do you learn about Scripture from?
4. What role does the Church have in helping you understand the Scripture?
5. How do you bring sadness to prayer?



panic but seek God out. Sacrament of Reconciliation and Sacrament of Eucharist are great places to go and find God again.

The following prayer invokes both the Sorrows of St. Joseph that we have meditated on and the Joys which we will cover in the future.



Prayer of Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys of Saint Joseph

Glorious St. Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to you do we raise our hearts and hands to implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the Sacred Heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death and the special favor we now implore: _____.

Guardian of the Word Incarnate, we feel animated with confidence that your prayers in our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

R: *Glorious St. Joseph*, through the love you bear to Jesus Christ and for the glory of His name, hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.

1. *Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph*, you felt sorrow when you learned that your betrothed was pregnant and in danger of being stoned to death. However, you felt joy when the angel of the Lord told you to have no fear, to take Mary as your wife because the child was the Word Incarnate, conceived in her by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18-24) **R.**

2. *Foster Father of Jesus Christ, St. Joseph*, your sorrow was keen when you saw the infant Jesus born in abject poverty, in a stable, because there was no room at the inn in Bethlehem. But your sorrow was changed to heavenly joy when you heard the harmony of angel choirs and beheld the glories of that night (Luke 2:6-15). **R.**

3. *Obedient in following the law of God, St. Joseph*, you felt sorrow when Jesus' first blood was shed at his circumcision, but you felt joy when he was given the name Jesus (Luke 2:21). **R.**

4. *Faithful St. Joseph*, you felt a pang close to death when you and Mary took Jesus to the temple for purification and Holy Simeon prophesied that many would oppose Jesus and that a sword would pierce your beloved wife Mary's heart. But at the same time, you were filled with great joy when Simeon and the

prophetess Anna foretold that the little child in your care would save many souls (Luke 2:22-39). **R.**

5. *Watchful Guardian St. Joseph*, you felt sorrow at having to flee with Jesus and Mary into Egypt to escape King Herod's murder of The Holy Innocents, but you felt joy at having God with you (Matthew 2: 13-18). **R.**

6. *Worker St. Joseph*, among the sorrows you faced was fear of Herod's cruel son Achelous and so you moved to Nazareth in Galilee. But there you experienced the joys of living with Jesus and Mary (Matthew 2:19-23). **R.**

7. *Head of the Holy Family, St. Joseph*, you felt horrible sorrow when Jesus was lost to you and Mary in Jerusalem. However, your joy was unspeakable when you found him after three days, among the teachers in the temple (Luke 2:41-51), and when Jesus and Mary were at your side during your old age and at the hour of your death. **R.**

Spouse of the Immaculate Virgin, St. Joseph, obtain for me a pure, humble and charitable mind, and perfect resignation to the divine will. Be my guide, father and model through life, that I may merit to die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary. St. Joseph, friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Prayers For Eucharist

Affirming Belief In Eucharist

I believe in God the Father Almighty. I believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ. I believe in God the Holy Spirit. I believe in the Holy+ Trinity. I believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. I believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Body of Christ, the Consecrated Bread. I believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blood of Christ, the Consecrated Wine. I believe that Jesus instituted the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church as His dwelling Home on earth. I believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Sacred Tabernacles of the Catholic Church. I believe that Jesus is truly present physically among us, over and above being spiritually present within us. May this truth be known to all for the glory of God. Amen

ACT OF CHARITY

BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

O Most Sweet Savior, Jesus Christ, how great was Thy love, which drew Thee from the bosom of the Father to this vale of tears, to take our flesh and endure infinite miseries and wrongs, yea, even the death of the Cross, and that only for us miserable sinners and for our salvation. O how great was Thy love! Thou mightiest have condemned us, and Thou didst rather choose to save us: we were guilty, and Thou, the sinless One, didst endure our punishment to set us free. Out of love it was that Thou comest down to take our flesh; and when about to depart from this world to the Father, Thou didst leave to us this Sacrament as a pledge of Thy love, that after a new and wondrous manner Thou mightiest abide with us forever; Thou whose delights are to be with the children of men. O Lord how worthy art Thou of

Love, who dost so much for love of us! Wherefore I will love Thee, O Lord, my Strength, my Refuge, and my Deliverer. O God, Thou art true Love! He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in Thee. I desire to receive Thee in this Sacrament, that I may be more firmly united with Thee in the bond of love. Who shall separate me from the love of Christ my Savior? O that neither life, nor death, nor any creature may have power to do so.
Amen.



CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Last Week's Answers: Identify these Holy Churches



1. New Cathedral
King Louis IX



2. St. Peter (Vatican)



3. St. John Lateran



4. National Cathedral
Immaculate Conception

This Week's questions.

1. What is the first prayer said when praying the Rosary?
2. What is the Catholic term describing a place of purification after bodily death but before the soul enters into heaven?
3. What was the name of the Church Council before Vatican I
4. What is the title of the bishop (sometimes archbishop) who acts as the pope's ambassador to a country.

CATHOLIC HUMOR

Catholic Laughs

Catholic Dictionary

AMEN - The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

BULLETIN - Your receipt for attending Mass.

CHOIR - A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the Parish to lip-sync.

HOLY WATER - A liquid whose chemical formula is H2OLY.

HYMN - A song of praise usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

RECESSIONAL HYMN - The last song at Mass often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left.

INCENSE - Holy Smoke!

JESUITS - An order of priests known for their ability to found colleges with good basketball teams.

JONAH - The original "Jaws" story.

JUSTICE- When kids have kids of their own.

KYRIE ELEISON - The only Greek words that most Catholics can recognize besides gyros and baklava.

MAGI - The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

MANGER – Where Mary gave birth to Jesus because Joseph wasn't covered by an HMO. Holiday travel has always been rough.

PEW - A medieval torture device still found in Catholic churches.

PROCESSION - The ceremonial formation at the beginning of Mass consisting of altar servers, the celebrant, and late parishioners looking for seats.

RECESSIONAL - The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of Mass led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot.

CATHOLIC QUOTES

If a man finds it very hard to forgive injuries, let him look at a Crucifix, and think that Christ shed all His Blood for him, and not only forgave His enemies, but even prayed His Heavenly Father to forgive them also. Let him remember that when he says the 'Our Father', every day, instead of asking pardon for his sins, he is calling down vengeance on himself - Saint Philip Neri

He who knows how to forgive prepares for himself many graces from God. As often as I look upon the cross, so often will I forgive with all my heart - St. Faustina

To the extent that you pray with all your soul for the person who slanders you, God will make the truth known to those who have been scandalized by the slander - St. Maximus the Confessor

Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave - St. John Chrysostom

Epiphany of Our Lord Cow Patty Bingo



Epiphany is hosting its first ever Cow Patty Bingo on Saturday June 3rd from 2PM – 9PM.

Cow Patty Bingo Basics:

1. Msgr. Sullivan field has been divided into 500 5ftx5ft squares.
2. Each square will randomly receive a number 1 through 500. (So #1 will not necessarily be a corner)
3. You may purchase a square for \$20.
4. Squares are assigned randomly.
5. If the Cow drops her patty on your square you win \$2,000

*See www.epiphanystl.org for more info, official rules, and to purchase your squares

RELICS - People who have been going to Mass for so long, they actually know when to sit, kneel, and stand.

TEN COMMANDMENTS - The most important Top Ten list not given by David Letterman. USHERS The only people in the parish who don't know the seating capacity of a pew.

Do not try to excuse your faults; try to correct them - St. Don Bosco



"Fundraising is a very rich and beautiful activity. It is a confident, joyful and hope-filled expression of ministry. In ministering to each other, each from the riches that he or she possesses, we work together for the full coming of God's Kingdom."

– Fr. Henri Nouwen. (Spiritual Writer)

I am amazed at the number of charities, that I help through my donation to the Annual Catholic Appeal. – Fr. Pastorius

Spiritual Adoption Prayer



"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of [baby's name] the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion." - Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

MONTH 4 -- Developing Baby -- "I had a dream!" Well, your little baby now weighs six ounces. She has fingernails and eyelashes. She has her own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same until she dies. Her taste buds are working. Her sense of hearing is developing and present at 14 weeks. There are no major developments anymore. At this month rapid eye movements (REMs) can be detected – a sign of dreaming. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well-formed, internally and externally. All she needs now is time to gain weight and grow strong. What a miracle she is!

