



ADVENT  
MEDITATIONS  
With Joseph

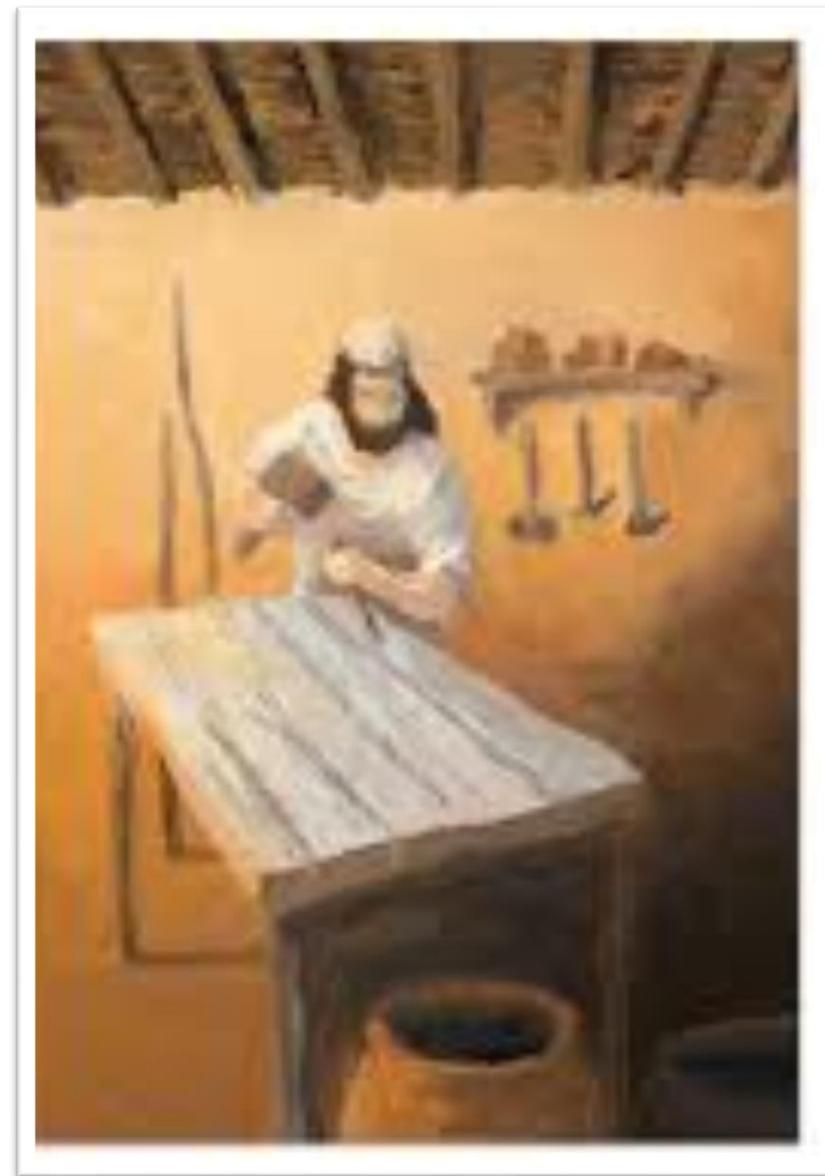
Week Two

Hello ...  
and welcome to our  
ADVENT MEDITATIONS WITH JOSEPH ...  
Week TWO.

It is our hope that this presentation and  
all the others for the weeks of Advent  
will allow you to come to know our  
Patron Joseph more fully.

The VIDEO and the excerpts from the  
Guide that are a part of this presentation  
are from the REJOICE series  
published by Ascension Press.

In a spirit of prayer, we begin.



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Ascension Press

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

In the name of the Father ...

Come, let us worship Christ the Lord,

who was honored to be known as the carpenter's son.

**May our prayer enable us  
to see through Joseph's eyes and  
feel with Joseph's heart**

**so that we can be prepared to welcome Jesus  
this Christmas.**

## PSALM 37

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.  
Take delight in the LORD who will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in God who will do this:  
God will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, and your vindication like the noonday sun.

The blameless spend their days under the LORD's care, and their inheritance will endure forever.  
In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.

The LORD makes firm the steps of the ones who delight in God;  
though they may stumble, they will not fall,  
for the LORD upholds them.

Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.  
For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake the faithful ones.

The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD who is their stronghold in time of trouble.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.



The Lord knows  
the days of the upright,  
and their inheritance  
shall be forever.

- Psalm 37:18 -

Joseph was a man  
chosen by God  
for one of the most  
important tasks  
in the history of the  
world.

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**During this Second Week of  
Advent Prayer,  
we reflect on the interior life of Joseph  
that enabled him to marry the sinless  
Virgin Mary.**



## JOSEPH WAS A MAN OF LOVE.

*He would have known about Mary's intended virginal consecration before, during, and after his decision to betroth her.*

*Joseph's knowledge of ... and respect for ... Mary's consecration reveals much about his own heart.*

*His love for her means living with a posture of only wanting to receive Mary on her own terms, not his.*



Love

**Joseph embraced Mary as she was because that is what true love is.**

**During this week, I will consider what stirs within me as I consider the purity of Joseph's love for Mary.**

## JOSEPH WAS A MAN OF HUMILITY.

*He knew himself as he truly was and must have asked himself:*

- *Am I worthy of receiving Mary ... the New Ark of the Covenant ... into my home?*
- *Am I holy enough to represent fatherhood to Jesus on behalf of God the Father?*

**Joseph did not pretend to be who he was not.**

**It was Joseph's humility that led to his decision to welcome Mary into his home.**

**During this week, I will consider Joseph's humility ... as well as my own.**

**Humility**

## JOSEPH WAS A MAN OF FREEDOM.

*In Joseph's heart, there is no fear of facing God's truth.*

*Even though he feels unworthy,  
he stands still and allows God to speak to him.*

*When we feel unworthy, we often worry that our deepest fear is true:  
we feel we are not good enough  
and that God will abandon us.*

**This week ... in the silence of prayer ...  
I will hear God pursue me with the truth  
and hear the same words that were spoken to Joseph:  
“Do not be afraid.”**

freedom

## JOSEPH WAS A MAN OF TRUST.

*There is a difference between trusting what a person tells us and trusting the person who does the telling.*

*Once Joseph was clear about who was speaking to him, he immediately assented to the angel's message.*

*Joseph trusted God ... and that was enough.*

**In Joseph's heart,  
he deeply trusted the voice of the One who spoke to him.**

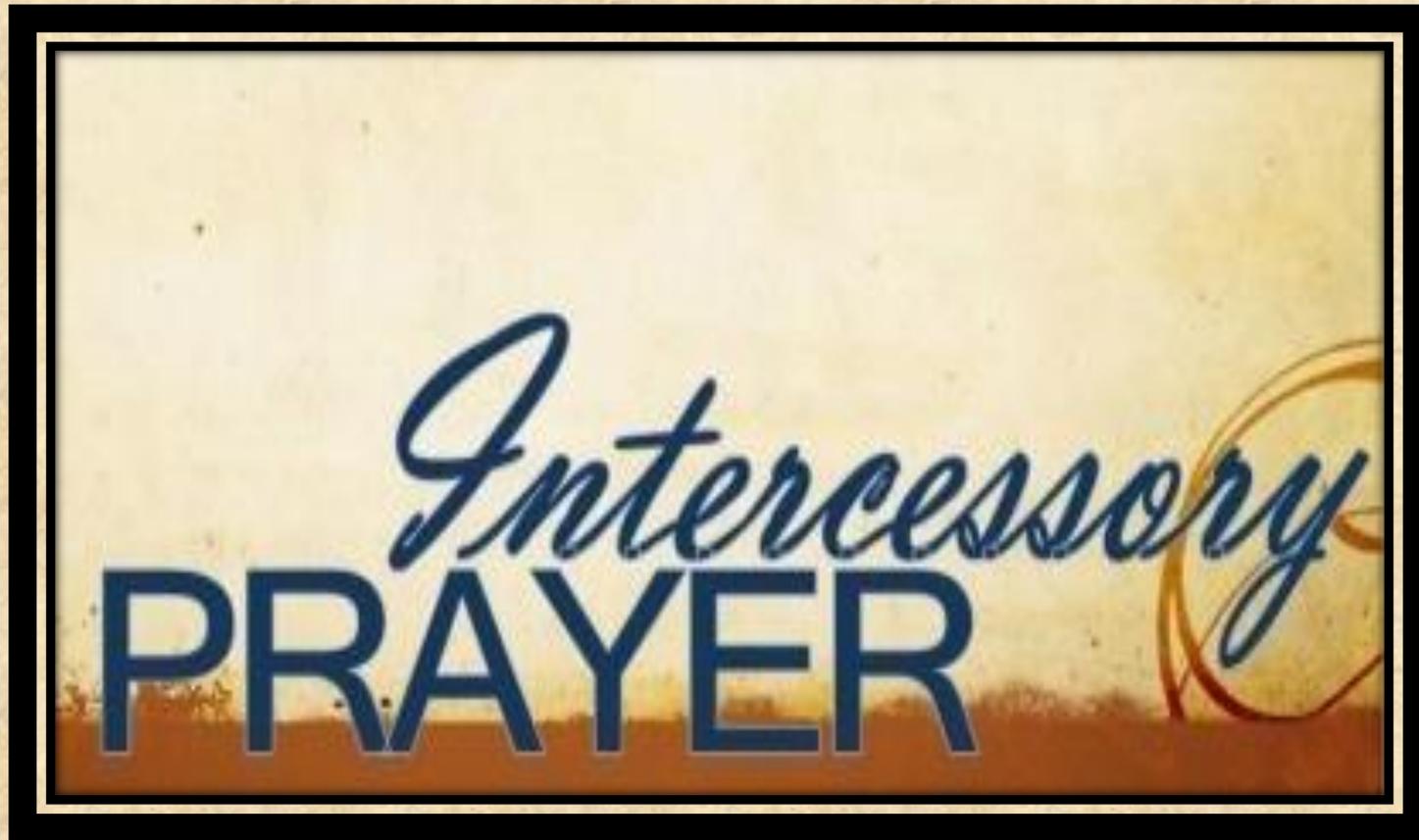
**This week, I will reflect on the immediacy  
with which Joseph responded to God's word,**

**and ask myself if I trust God's voice  
as Joseph did.**

**T R U S T**

# VIDEO PRESENTATION

ADVENT MEDITATIONS WITH JOSEPH  
WEEK TWO



**We now offer our prayers to God through the intercession of Joseph:**

In the home of Nazareth,  
Joseph acted with courage and conviction.

+ May God inspire those who are the prophets  
of our Church ... our Congregation ... and our world.



For this we pray:

**JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH,  
HEAR US.**

In the home of Nazareth,  
Joseph relied on God's direction  
when making decisions.

+ May God guide those whose decisions  
profoundly affect the lives of others:



For this we pray:

**JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH,  
HEAR US.**

In the home of Nazareth,  
Joseph's humble labor served Mary and Jesus.

+ May the needs of the suffering poor  
be cared for  
in the manner of Joseph's loving service.



For this we pray:

**JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH,  
HEAR US.**

In the home of Nazareth,  
Joseph tended to the needs  
of his family, friends, relatives and neighbors:

+ May God make our homes welcome havens  
for those in need of comfort, compassion, and peace.



For this we pray:

**JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH,  
HEAR US.**

In the home of Nazareth,  
Joseph knew the loving presence  
of Jesus and Mary, even at the hour of his death:

+ May God give comfort to those who are dying  
and welcome all those called to eternal life.



For this we pray:

**JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH,  
HEAR US.**

**Ever-present God,  
bless us with sacrificial hearts,  
so that love, harmony, and peace  
will be the hallmarks of our hearts and of our homes.**

**Continue to empower us to love and support one another,  
coming together around your most holy word  
and thus inspiring our works of service.**

**Only then can we empty ourselves for you and for one another,  
truly living as did Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
in the holy home at Nazareth.**

**We make our prayer in union with Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**





**As Joseph and Mary taught their son Jesus to pray  
in their home in Nazareth,  
so we now join our voices with others  
who follow their ways, and say:**

**OUR FATHER ...**

Ever-living God,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus  
to the care of Joseph, our Patron.

In his spirit of gentleness, peace, and joy,  
may we serve those whom you place  
in our care.

We offer this prayer  
in the name of Jesus  
who lives with you and the Spirit ...  
now and for all time.

Amen.



Blessings

**I pray that the God in whom I place all my trust will bless my days with peace.**

**And may my time of prayer prepare me more worthily for Christ's coming.**



Thank you for joining us for this Reflection for the Second Week of Advent.

It is our hope that your week will be wrapped in prayer  
and abundant in blessings.