



A Newsletter from the Missions Office/Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States  
Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio



MARCH 2023

**ITE MISSA EST**



# St. Joseph, Patron of Universal Church!

On Month of March, we honor St. Joseph by praying the novena, litany, and other prayers. This month, 19th is the feast day of St. Joseph, who is the Foster father of Jesus.

In 1870, on December 8, Pope Pius declared that St. Joseph is the Patron of The Universal Church, The Catholic Church. St. Joseph protected Jesus and Mary from all enemies, hardships, and worked hard for lively hood in their holy family life. He loved, cared and guard them. God the Father has chosen St. Joseph as the guardian of baby Jesus, the Son of God. What a privilege St. Joseph had as he held Jesus in his arms! God the Father entrusted Jesus to St. Joseph, His special chosen one to be the foster father of His only begotten Son.

God the Father also

**May our lips and tongues..**

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace,  
mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.

**Amen.**

entrusted Mary, Mother of Jesus to St. Joseph. He took care of well Mary and Jesus. Therefore, now the bride of Christ, Holy Catholic Church is under the patronage of St. Joseph. We can firmly believe that St. Joseph is interceding for the Church of Christ on earth. May we all united in Christ as He was united to us!

On this special time, let us reflect upon Pope Francis apostolic letter, Patris Corde: "Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.

To monthly mission donors: Thank you for your support!

On behalf of His Excellency Earl k. Fernandes the Bishop of Columbus, and Msgr. Kieran Harrington the National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, I would like to thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and financial support for the missions.

# Take Refuge in God alone!

## (Lenten Psalm: 34: 11-23)

Come, children, \* listen to me;  
I will teach you fear of the LORD.  
Who is the man who delights in  
life, who loves to see the good  
days?

Keep your tongue from evil,  
your lips from speaking lies.

Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the LORD are directed  
toward the righteous  
and his ears toward their cry.

The LORD's face is against  
evildoers to wipe out their memory  
from the earth.

The righteous cry out, the LORD  
hears and he rescues them from all  
their afflictions.

The LORD is close to the  
brokenhearted, saves those whose  
spirit is crushed.

Many are the troubles of the  
righteous, but the LORD delivers  
him from them all.

He watches over all his bones;  
not one of them shall be broken.

Evil will slay the wicked; those  
who hate the righteous are  
condemned.

The LORD is the redeemer of the  
souls of his servants; and none are  
condemned who take refuge in him.

### Journey with Pope:

“Brothers and sisters, we are called to be missionaries of peace, and this will bring us peace. It is a decision we have to make. We need to find room in our hearts for everyone; to believe that ethnic, regional, social, religious and cultural differences are secondary and not obstacles; that others are our brothers and sisters, members of the same human community; and that the peace brought into the world by Jesus is meant for everyone.

We need to believe that we Christians are called to cooperate with everyone, to break the

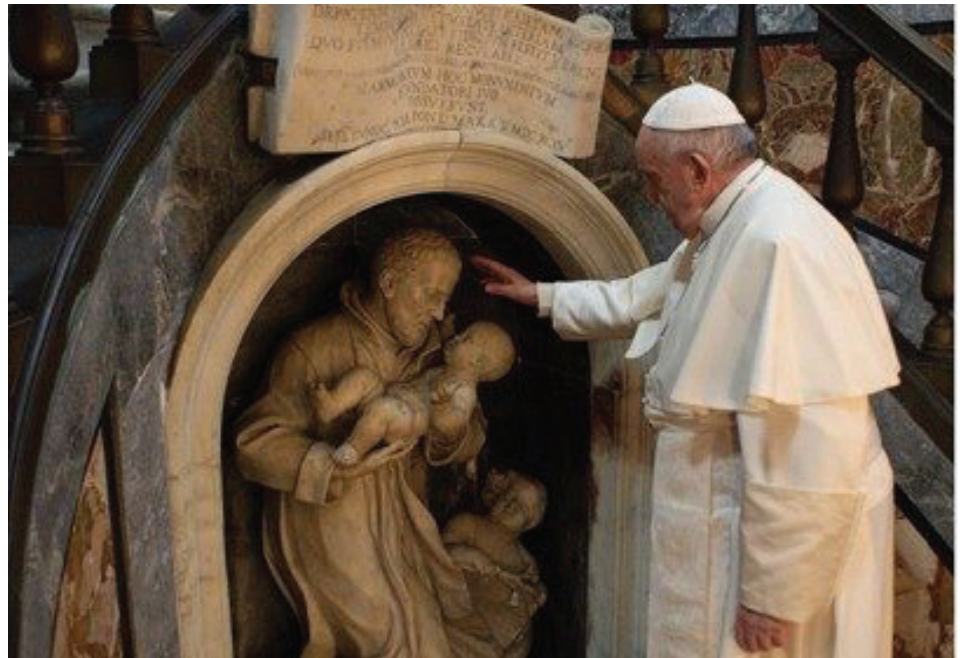
cycle of violence, to dismantle the machinations of hatred.

Yes, Christians, sent by Christ, are called by definition to be a conscience of peace in our world.

Not merely critical consciences, but primarily witnesses of love. Not concerned with their own rights, but with those of the Gospel, which are fraternity, love and forgiveness.

Not concerned with their own affairs, but missionaries of the “mad love” of God for each human being.”

*Pope Francis  
Homily February 1, 2023*



**Sr. Zephрина Mary, FIH, Missions Director**



**Kimberly S. Colston, Program Coordinator**