

19 March
SAINT JOSEPH,
SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Patron Saint of the Society of Jesus

Solemnity

The feast-day of Saint Joseph, 19 March, was established by Pope Sixtus IV in 1481. The Society of Jesus has had a marked devotion to Saint Joseph since its earliest years. In 1955, when Pope Pius XII established the feast of “Saint Joseph the Worker”, the Church and the Society of Jesus omitted the feast of the patronage from their liturgical calendars. In 2012, the Society of Jesus reinstated the feast of the patronage of Saint Joseph.

Everything as in the Roman Missal, except for the Proper Solemn Blessing.

**May God, who entrusted the Holy Family
to the fatherly care of Saint Joseph,
graciously allow him
also to promote and guard
the Society of Jesus as his own.**

R/. Amen.

**Through the intercession of Saint Joseph,
may God move
all you companions and co-workers of the Society of Jesus
to imitate Christ Jesus more closely.**

R/. Amen.

**Supported by Saint Joseph as patron in this life,
may you also experience his care in death,
so that you may savour the eternal vision of the Most Holy Trinity.**

R/. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R/. Amen.