FATHER HANNIBAL, TODAY

Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia

**Prayers to Saint Joseph**

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Special Year of Saint Joseph

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*All texts are by Saint Hannibal Maria Di Francia unless otherwise indicated.*

Dear devotees,

After those of the Blessed Virgin Mary who was made Mother of God, there can be no greater dignity than the one to which God has raised the glorious patriarch Saint Joseph.

The first grace, from which his immeasurable goodness derives, is that of being chosen to the virgin Bridegroom of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. For this, he could say: “Venerunt mihi omnia bona pariter cum illa” [All good things came to me together with her (Wisdom 7:11)]. From being Mary’s Husband, all goodness came to him. Joseph was born with very special gifts. According to his name which means "Continual Growth": “Filius accrescens Joseph - Joseph is growing son» [Gen. 49:22], he grew day by day, hour by hour, in every virtue, because he had to be worthy to marry the Immaculate Lady Mary who is the Queen of all Saints.

He is the Patron of the universal Church. "Patron" means protector. He who protects loves. If he protects and does not love, that means that his protection is momentary. The protection of Saint Joseph is all full, or better, overflowing with love for all the members of the Holy Church, in fact for all mankind, because even the infidels are the object of the maternal care of the Holy Church and all the righteous belong to the soul of the Church, wherever they may be, for to them God will give faith and love, even at the point of death, and will save them.

All, according to the greater or lesser disposition and devotion, feel more or less the great protection of Saint Joseph. It is felt by the workers who find in Him the model of the just and honest worker; it is felt by the families who, being the head of the Holy Family, find in him the true protector; it is felt by the poor because Saint Joseph was poor too, and now he is the father of providence; it is felt by the rich because Saint Joseph was the descendant of King David; the virgins feel his protection because he was the guardian of the virginity of Mary; it is felt by the children whom he especially loves, having embraced and loved them all while he embraced the Child Jesus.

FR. HANNIBAL MARY DI FRANCIA

**Entrustment of the family**

O glorious Saint Joseph, confident in your immense goodness, to you we entrust our family and all our possessions. O giver of all graces, obtain for us the forgiveness of our sins, love for Jesus and Mary, peace of heart, perfect conformity to the divine will, the necessary work and daily bread. Free us from dangers, enlighten us in doubts, comfort us in afflictions, and at the end of our days, obtain for us to die a holy death to live in the eternal glory of Paradise. Amen.

**For a benefactor**

O glorious Patriarch, Saint Joseph, we beseech you that, out of love for Jesus and Mary, you may deign to receive the prayers that we humbly present to you for our benefactor *(the name is said)*. You, who are the treasurer of the divine graces, grant this benefactor the most special graces and mercies. Preserve him/her from every danger and every evil of soul and body; increase his/her days, fill him/her with health, peace, providence and obtain him/her from the sweet Hearts of Jesus and Mary a hundredfold in this life and the eternal glory of Paradise. Amen.

**For the poor**

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, we humbly turn to you, the father of the poor, the comforter of the afflicted, and the help of the weak. We kneel at your feet, O mighty and merciful Saint, to beseech you to cast a kind and gracious gaze upon all who live in poverty, affliction, and spiritual and material turmoil.

*O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, you will help those who live in ignorance, squalor, abandonment, and sin. Look especially at the places where the infernal enemy afflicts bodies and souls. To you we raise our hands in supplication, exclaiming: Come, visit and protect all the poor. Come and take under your protection those who are forgotten by all. Come and call at the feet of Jesus the most obstinate sinners. Come and bring back to the arms of the Good Shepherd the lost sheep.”*

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hurry because the miseries are extreme, and the dangers are innumerable. Have compassion for so many sick and forgotten elders. Have mercy especially on children who are poor, abandoned, abused, exploited, and killed.

*O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, take under your protection all the poor, remove from them the infernal enemy, and let the kingdom of God arise beautiful and glorious from the ruins of the kingdom of sin. Amen.*

**In the time of need**

O, dear Saint Joseph, you know our spiritual and temporal needs and those of our loved ones. O dear Saint, we recognize that we give so many sorrows to the Most Holy Heart of Jesus. I pray you, come to our help. Obtain for us true repentance of our faults and forgiveness for all our shortcomings. Look at us with eyes of mercy and help us in our spiritual and temporal needs. Hasten, dear Saint, for we are perishing. We place all our hopes in you. Take the helm of our poor little boat so that it may arrive in the port. If everyone abandons us, you do not abandon us. You help, comfort, and enlighten us. You give us courage, strength, counsel, health, work, and providence. Hurry, O glorious Saint, come to our aid, delay no more. See, Satan presses us; let him go away by the power of the most Holy Name of Jesus and give us victory over him. Dear Saint Joseph, for the love of Jesus, for the love of Mary, swiftly hear us. Amen.

**For vocations**

O glorious Patron of the Holy Church, we pray to you with insistent trust: “Accept the prayers that the Church raises to you to obtain good and holy seminarians, good and holy workers for the mystical harvest.” O dear Saint, for the love of Jesus and Mary, deign to grant this ardent desire which conforms to the desires of the Most Holy Heart of Jesus. Console the Holy Church by granting numerous seminarians to all dioceses and religious congregations. Remove from the seminary those who have no true vocation. Assist seminarians and clerics so that they may grow in piety, study, humility, obedience, purity, fervor, detachment from earthly things, and fullness of love for Jesus and the zeal for his glory. Amen.

**For the Holy Father**

O most merciful Saint Joseph, by your power and mercy, we pray to you according to the intention of our Holy Father, the Pope. Through the love with which you loved Jesus and Mary; may your protection be extended to him. May you come to his aid, fulfill his desires which conform with those of the Most Holy Heart of Jesus. O victor over hell, defend the Supreme Pontiff from all his enemies. Amen.

**For a special grace**

O exalted and glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, my most loving protector, I come at your feet and as the eyes of the servant look at the hands of the mistress, so I look at your merciful hands waiting for the grace (*mention it here*) that I insistently ask of you. Look, O glorious Patriarch, at the supplications and prayers I have presented to you so far and grant them to me, not for my merits, but for the merits of Jesus, your adorable foster son, and your immaculate bride Mary. Indeed, I beseech you, O glorious Patriarch, not only to grant me this grace but to grant it quickly in the way most pleasing to you and in conformity to the consolation of the hearts of Jesus and Mary. O holy Patriarch, I place my hope in you alone. You cannot reject my supplication because I present it to you in the name of Jesus and Mary. Glorious Patriarch, defeat the infernal enemy with your powerful arm and make the Divine Mercy triumph through your powerful intercession. Amen.

**For the happy conclusion of a transaction**

Glorious patriarch Saint Joseph, kneeling at your feet, I implore your powerful support for the successful conclusion of that transaction which you know. Treat this matter (*mention it here*) as you like it best; I entrust it with confidence to you so that you may decide everything on it for the glory of God and the edification of my soul. I pray you, O holy Patriarch, for the love of the Child Jesus and the beautiful Immaculate Mother, obtain for me the necessary light so that in everything I may act according to justice, charity, prudence, and fairness. Help me with your powerful protection so that the power of the infernal enemy may not prevail. Come quickly to my aid. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary.

**For the final perseverance**

Glorious Saint Joseph, with insistence, I ask you for the grace of holy perseverance. Please do not deny it to me! This grace will crown all the others, which without final perseverance, would be useless. This grace will lead me to Paradise to praise and glorify with you the Most Holy Trinity and Mary. O mighty Saint Joseph, call sinners to God, lead those who have separated themselves from the faith back to the true Church of which you are the universal protector. Convert everyone, let the souls of purgatory also experience the beneficial effect of your help, and bring them today to the ranks of paradise where you sit crowned with glory. O glorious Saint, do not reject my humble supplications but deign to hear them and accept with them the hymn that fervently rises to you from my heart. Amen.

**For the success of an endeavor**

Glorious patriarch Saint Joseph, I confidently recommend to you the success of my work. Direct my steps and my work. Give me the light I need to avoid what is harmful and choose what is most beneficial to me. Preserve me from the unjust actions of my adversaries, and since you are the father of providence, bless my work so that it may bring me temporal goods ordered toward true spiritual and eternal goods. Amen.

**Offerings in the month of March**

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, my protector, throughout this month I intend to present to you my poor gifts, begging you to accept them. I intend to praise and bless God, the Most High, for the very special privileges granted to you, for the singular gifts of grace and holiness with which He enriched you.

I bless the eternal Father for having made you his representative before his divine Son, giving you divine fatherhood over him. I bless the eternal Son because he deigned to have you as a father and obey you with love. I bless the eternal Holy Spirit because he gave you his immaculate bride Mary as your true bride.

You are the most privileged of all the children of Adam, the most holy, the most upright, the most exalted to sublime dignity, so I take pleasure in you and kneeling at your feet, I ask for your mercy!

I and my family trust in your powerful intercession because we know that God grants you what you ask. We trust in your mercy we know that you want us all to be saved.

We beseech you that in this month you may obtain for us the love for Jesus and Mary, the great desire for our sanctification, and the true growth in the holy virtues. Help us to be humble, obedient, pure, hardworking, respectful, and pious. We beseech you, O mighty Patriarch, for all the spiritual and temporal needs of our relatives, friends, benefactors, and especially for our parish. O Guardian of the Holy Family, provide us with all that is good for our sanctification, for the success of our children and grandchildren, and the relief of the poor of Jesus Christ.

To you, we offer ourselves, our family, and what we possess. Present us to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary as a perfect holocaust and victim of the Divine will. Deign, O holy Patriarch, to take us all under your special protection. Free us from the infernal enemy, who as a hungry lion roars around us to devour us. Bless our good desires and all our works. Send holy priests to the holy Church and let us serve and love God with a true heart throughout our lives. Finally, assist us at the hour of our death and lead us to the everlasting joy of Paradise. Amen.

**Salutations to Saint Joseph**

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, I greet you as the true bridegroom of Mary Immaculate and I praise you because the Ark of the true covenant was entrusted to you.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, I greet you as the true husband of Mary Immaculate and I praise you because the precious Pearl of great price was given to you.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

O glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, I greet you as the true bridegroom of Mary Immaculate and I praise you because the sealed and purest Fountain [Songs 4:12] of all graces was handed over to you.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

**LITANY OF SAINT JOSEPH**

For the incarnation of the Word of God in the immaculate womb of Mary:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the holy birth of the child Jesus in the grotto of Bethlehem:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the painful circumcision of the child Jesus:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the presentation in the temple and the prophecy of Simeon:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the flight and exile in the land of Egypt:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the return from Egypt:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the loss of Jesus in the temple:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the sorrow with which you and Mary sought Jesus:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the ineffable joy with which you and Mary found him in the temple:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the hidden life with Jesus in Nazareth:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For your precious death in the arms of Jesus and Mary:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the sorrows of the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For all that Jesus suffered in body and soul:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the mysteries of the mortal life of Jesus and Mary:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the treasures of grace and holiness which Jesus and Mary bestowed on you:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For your glorification in heaven:

***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

For the eternal glory of Jesus and Mary:

 ***Glorious patriarch, Saint Joseph, hear us.***

**Triduum to Saint Joseph**

**1.** In the anguish of this valley of tears, to whom shall we turn, if not to you, O glorious Saint Joseph? Your most chaste bride Mary entrusted all her treasures to you, that you might pour them out for our benefit? Mary seems to tell us: “Go to my husband Joseph and he will console you, and raising you up from the evils that oppress you, will make you happy.” For the great love you have for your loving Bride, have mercy on us, O Joseph, now and at the hour of our death.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

**2.** We recognize that we have provoked Divine Justice with our sins and that we deserve the most severe punishment. And what will be our refuge? In which port can we take refuge? “Go to Joseph» Jesus seems to tell us. “Go to Joseph whom I revered as a father. I gave him, as your father, all authority to help you.” For the great love you had for Jesus, therefore, have mercy on us, O Joseph, have mercy on us in this life and even more at the hour of our death.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

**3.** We confess that the sins committed bring upon us the most terrible punishments. In which ark can we find refuge? What will comfort us in such great danger? “Go to Joseph», the eternal Father seems to tell us. “Go to Joseph, to him I entrusted my Son, the everlasting source of grace; therefore, all graces are in his hands.” Have mercy, therefore, O Joseph, have mercy on us on this earthly pilgrimage; for the great love which you showed to God, who was gracious to you, let us be saved.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Prayer

O our most gracious protector, Saint Joseph, we are consoled because you have been chosen by the Most High to be the virgin bridegroom of the purest of all women. Great is your power before God and your mercy on us. That is why we trust in you, imploring your powerful assistance. Jesus and Mary send us at your feet, saying: “Go to Joseph»; the holy Church of which you are the Patron sends us at your feet; the graces that you have always granted us, the needs in which we find ourselves, and the new graces that we long for, bring us at your feet. O glorious Patriarch, do not reject our humble prayers; receive them graciously and hear them; do so for the sake of that immaculate Bride whom you kept as the true Ark of the new covenant; do it for that adorable little new-born baby Jesus whom you carry in your arms and tightly embrace in your chest. For the love of Jesus and Mary, for all the mysteries of the Incarnate Word and the Immaculate Mother, come to our help and grant us the graces we are waiting for, for the infinite consolation of the Most Holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

V/. Pray for us, Saint Joseph.

A/. That we are made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray

Help us, O Lord, through the merits of Saint Joseph, the bridegroom of your most holy Mother. Grant us, through his intercession, what we cannot obtain by our merits. You who live and reign with God the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

Servant of God

**Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo rcj**

May 5, 1917 - November 30, 1992

**Prayer to implore graces**

Almighty and merciful God, I turn to you with filial trust: glorify your servant Father Joseph Marrazzo and through his intercession grant me the grace ... (*mention it here*) I greatly need and look with love on those who turn to You with sincere faith. Amen.

Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo RCJ was born in San Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi, Italy) on May 5, 1917. At the age of 13, he entered the Rogationist seminary in Trani (Ba) and was ordained a priest on May 9, 1943. He spent almost all his life exercising the ministry of reconciliation in the Shrine of Saint Anthony in Messina, Italy. His ideal is summed up in loving and becoming a saint, following the spirit of the Founder, Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia, and dedicating himself to hearing confessions so that Messina may become a second Padua and the sanctuary of Saint Anthony, in which he administered the mercy of God for more than 40 years, may become a fragrant garden of virtues and saints, sanctifying the souls that the Lord entrusted him. Most devoted to Our Lady, whom he invoked as Mother of Good Counsel, he paid special attention to the sick. He died suddenly in Messina on November 30, 1992. As confirmation of the holiness which he enjoyed when he was alive, the announcement of his death immediately spread the news that «a saint has died!». His memory is alive in the midst of the people and the fame of holiness is growing. The Diocesan Process for beatification is underway.

**From the writings of Father Marrazzo**

**Joseph, a man of faith**

The figure of Saint Joseph is of primary importance for his great faith. Without faith, it is impossible to please God. We admire the faith of Abraham who believes in God who promises him a descendant as numerous as the stars of heaven and the sands of the sea. Abraham also believes when God says to him: “Take your son and sacrifice him.”

Saint Joseph is a man of faith. Mary manifested her faith by saying, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord.” Joseph manifests his faith without speaking but obeying God. With his actions, he says *“Ecce servus tuus”* [Behold your servant]. At the foundation of faith is love. God did not make us to understand but to love. Whoever loves understands.

Mary, the faithful virgin, needed a husband worthy of her, for this God chose Joseph who in addition to believing in the angel also believed in Mary and her divine motherhood. Joseph and Mary believe in the divinity of Jesus.

**Saint Joseph and the interior virtue**

I am called to holiness, to union with God, to complete detachment from the world; I lack the inner virtue that I will ask Saint Joseph daily.

**Patron of a happy death**

Saint Joseph is the patron of a happy death because he died beside Jesus and Mary. We say: “Jesus, Joseph, and Mary, I give you my heart and soul. Jesus, Joseph, and Mary, assist me in the last agony. May Jesus, Joseph, and Mary, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with you.”

**We love Jesus and Mary as did Saint Joseph**

May the love for Jesus and Mary, which filled the heart of Saint Joseph, may also fill our hearts. Let us take courage and be always with Jesus, the only purpose of our lives.

Whoever receives graces through the intercession of the Servant of God Fr. Giuseppe Marrazzo is asked to communicate it to: The Postulator General of the Rogationists at Via Tuscolana 167 - 00182 ROMA Tel. 06 7020751 - Email: postulazione@rcj.org

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