

# MEN OF SAINT JOSEPH INTERNATIONAL



72 hours to a resurrected life

Ezekiel 34:23-24

"Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel"

# He is Risen...

## FOUNDER'S NOTES

### **He is risen – He is risen indeed!**

Let us celebrate this Easter season. Yes, we are still being affected by Covid. Please don't let that fact stop you from the joy of Easter. Jesus conquered death and set us free from the fear of death. "Oh death where is your sting?" St. Paul and all Christians can say this with confidence because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Easter is our hope. Easter is all about hope. Jesus didn't just die on the cross and then return to heaven. He overcame sin, and then He came back to us. By appearing to Peter, Mary Magdalene, the Emmaus disciples, and many more, He gave us proof that He is still involved in our lives. He showed us that He still wants to heal us and help us to follow Him. He showed us that He has great hope for our future, and so should we. Jesus promised us heaven. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, I am going to prepare a place for you." (1Peter 14:1,2)

Can you possibly imagine how the disciples would have felt if Jesus had promised them heaven but failed to help them on their journey there? That is not the kind of false hope that Jesus gave his disciples. He promised to give them the Holy Spirit, who would teach them, lead them and guide them on their way to heaven. He also promised that the Holy Spirit would give them the grace they would need to stay close to Him and to build His Church.

Jesus did not promise us the Holy Spirit just because He wanted to be generous. He made this promise because He knows we need the Holy Spirit in our lives. We need his power to heal the memories of our past hurts. We need His reassurance of God's mercy when we have sinned. We need His peace when we are ensnared in difficult situations. We need His refreshing love when life gets hard. And we need Him to remind us of God's generosity when life is easy. In short, Jesus promised to give us the Holy Spirit because He knew that we could not follow Him without this precious gift.

Don Turbitt

## Gospel Reading for Sunday, April 11, 2021 the Second Sunday of Easter - Sunday of Divine Mercy

### Alleluia

#### **Alleluia, alleluia.**

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;  
Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

#### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel

#### [Jn 20:19-31](#)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

## MOSJI Updates

### Virtual meetings

- Several chapters have returned to in-person meetings. We have time slots available for those who would still like to or need to meet virtually. If there are chapters that would like to use the MOSJI Zoom account, time slots are available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays as well as some Saturdays. Email [mosji72@gmail.com](mailto:mosji72@gmail.com) to request a time slot.

### Chapter News

- As part of our participation in the Year of St. Joseph, men from MOSJI groups across the diocese will be saying the rosary monthly outside of Planned Parenthood located at 175 Broad Street in Providence. We will meet there on the **3rd Saturday of every month at ~8:45 AM**. The next gatherings will be Saturday April 17, etc. There is street parking on the parking lot side of Planned Parenthood. Plan on spending about 60-90 minutes and please bring others if you can to show our solidarity...they do not have to be MOSJI members. Some people will be going to mass beforehand and then heading to Planned Parenthood. There is an 8:00 AM mass at St. Pius located at 240 Eaton Street in Providence. This act courageously embraces the virtue of St. Joseph as **protector of the family**. Hope to see you there.
- St Augustine's chapter in Providence is working with the parish Knights of Columbus council, hosting Reverend Joseph Brice to speak to the men of the parish and interested men from other parishes about St Joseph. The event will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup>, the feast of St Joseph the worker. It will be promoted to get more men , especially young men, involved with both organizations. All men are welcome.
- Mary Mother of Mankind's chapter in North Providence is working with the pastor who has invited parishioners to make the Consecration to St. Joseph. They have about 30 people interested.
- St. Joan of Arc in Cumberland had 12 men make the consecration to St. Joseph at their Palm Sunday at Mass.
- New chapter started – Immaculate Conception parish in Westerly RI at the request and with great support from the pastor Reverend Giacomo Capoverdi has an active chapter with 27 men involved.

We would like to include information, experiences, and events that your chapter is involved with in our monthly newsletters.

Please email them to [mosji72@gmail.com](mailto:mosji72@gmail.com)

## Make Time for St. Joseph

### Wednesday Dedication to St. Joseph

Holy Mother Church in Her liturgical tradition has attributed different days of the week as particular focal points for reflection. Holy Mother Church has given **Wednesday**, “the day the week turns on” to St. Joseph. This means that the middle of the week is the perfect time to reflect on, be grateful for, and intercede on behalf of holy fatherhood, both spiritual and biological. Why not consider going to weekday Mass on Wednesdays

### Events and Dates

April 22, 2021	Chapter development team meeting 7:00PM
May 20, 2021	Chapter development team meeting 7:00PM
June 30, 2021	Chapter Leaders meeting 7:00PM
June/July	Annual Men’s Conference Date to be announced
August 19, 2021	Chapter development team meeting 7:00PM
September 29, 2021	Chapter Leaders meeting 7:00PM
October 13–17, 2021	International Men’s Conference, Rome Italy

### Being a Friend

This is an excerpt from an article entitled “Friendship: The key to the Evangelization of Men” written by Rev. C Francis McCluskey, III over 16 years ago,

There is an old expression: To make a friend, be a friend." It is important to make a distinction between "acquaintances," of whom we may have hundreds or thousands, and "friends." Friendship is a sacred word, full of meaning, and one I do not use lightly. Friendship, ideally, is forever, Friendship requires spending time with another. There are no short cuts. Whether it is at meals, or a shared interest in sport or a hobby, or even during a pilgrimage, we need to share who we are and what we have to give, in order to receive the same gift from our friend. Certainly, friendship may grow through correspondence, but in one way or another, we have to be "present" to our friends. We cannot really say that true friendship exists until we have opened up the deepest human questions: who man is, where he comes from, where he is headed, the meaning of life, the value of suffering. True friends talk about what is most important to them: faith,

family, work. And this exploration of serious topics helps friendships to become apostolic, such friendships lead men to grow and be transformed in Christ, with the inevitable result of creating a Christian environment (whether small or large) around them. Friendship also means loving our friends with all their faults; we forgive them when necessary, and although out of charity, from time to time, we correct them. Strong male friendship must be revived if Catholic men and their progeny are to get on with the holy and ambitious task in this young millennium: to build the civilization of love and truth in the 21st century. The future of America as a state, society, and culture depends upon it. As the sole remaining world power today, America's influence is enormous, for good or evil. I believe that either America will become a largely Catholic country in the course of this century or America may well cease to be (at least in the form we now know), and that the personal apostolate of friendship is the key to the transformation of our society.

As mentioned earlier, friendship is a great good and end in itself. Although there can be many different measures by which to judge our success in life in worldly terms, and although we recognize as Christians that earthly success means nothing at the time of the particular judgment, still there is at least one. Friendship: The Key to the Evangelization of Men measure that applies both naturally and supernaturally: the number of friends we leave behind, and the quality of those friendships, so as a calculation of our "net worth," we might ask ourselves a series of questions:

- How many true friends do I have?
- How many friends would lay down their lives for me, and I for them?
- How many people are there to whom I can go to open up my heart and soul with total trust?
- If I were to die today, how many people would care - would miss me for more than a few days?
- How many would come to my funeral?
- How many lives were changed in a positive way by my friendship?
- How many persons were reconciled, converted, or grew in the life of the Church on account of my friendship?
- Finally, are my friendships a fundamental part of my prayer life? Do I talk about my friends - pleading for their needs and trying to better my understanding of them, with The Friend?

So, men get active in evangelizing your friends!

John Olobri



## St. Joseph of Cupertino

(1603 – 1663)

Happy Easter men!

Many of you that have sat in on one of my meetings know that I have a tradition of starting them off with a Catholic joke and a Catholic miracle or fascinating story. The miracles and stories are plentiful and easy to come by. On the other hand, good clean Catholic jokes are not so easy to find, LOL. One of the more interesting Catholic traditions is that of St. Joseph of Cupertino. He was an Italian saint well known for his miraculous levitation and intense visions. He is recognized as the patron saint of air travelers,

aviators, people with a mental handicap, and weak students. He was canonized in 1767. On October 4, 1630, the town of Cupertino held a procession on the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. Joseph was assisting in the procession when he suddenly soared into the sky, where he remained hovering over the crowd. This was the first of many flights, which soon earned him the nickname “The Flying Saint” ...no relation to Sally Field, “The Flying Nun”. Joseph’s most famous flight occurred during a papal audience before Pope Urban VIII. When he bent down to kiss the Pope’s feet, he was suddenly filled with reverence for the Pope, and was lifted up into the air. He experienced ecstasies and flights (witnessed by thousands) during his last mass which was on the Feast of the Assumption 1663. Fun fact: Apple Inc.’s headquarters are in the California town of Cupertino, which was named after this saint.

God bless,

*Steve Nolan*

## DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE Saturday, April 17, 2021

All Catholic men are invited to the Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul for Holy Mass celebrated by his Excellency Bishop Robert C. Evans at 9AM, followed by a talk and Q & A session with apologist Trent Horn. Conference ends at 12 Noon. Register at [www.discovercatholicfaith.org](http://www.discovercatholicfaith.org). For more information call 278-4646 or email [etrendowski@dioceseofprovidence.org](mailto:etrendowski@dioceseofprovidence.org).



### Prayer Requests

The Men of St Joseph International is concerned for all our members, their families, and friends. We strongly believe in the power of prayer. Our team of Prayer Warriors have committed time each day to pray for the needs presented to them in your petitions sent through our web portal. Click on the Prayer Warrior link on the home page, entitled "**Send Your Petition to Our Prayer Warriors**", to detail and submit your request. Please be as clear and succinct as possible and **include, at least, the first name of the person** you are requesting prayers for.

### Contact Us

For more information on starting, developing, or running a chapter in your parish contact one of our Service Team members.

Don Turbitt - [donturbitt@gmail.com](mailto:donturbitt@gmail.com)

John Olobri - [jolobri2@verizon.net](mailto:jolobri2@verizon.net)

Steve Nolan – [stevennolan@cox.net](mailto:stevennolan@cox.net)

Lucien Laporte - [lu1953oc@yahoo.com](mailto:lu1953oc@yahoo.com)

Visit our website [www.mosji.org](http://www.mosji.org)

## Pray to St Joseph

O Blessed Joseph,  
faithful guardian of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ,  
protector of the Mother of our Lord,  
we choose you this day  
to be our patron and advocate.  
As Men of St. Joseph, we humbly ask you  
to receive us as your cause,  
leading us to Jesus for instruction in doubt,  
comfort in affliction, strength in times of testing.  
Obtain for us, and for all, the knowledge  
and love of the Heart of Jesus Christ.  
May men of good faith turn to you, Joseph.  
May you defend and protect us and our families  
as we grow more like Jesus by your example,  
now, and all the days of our lives.  
Amen