



## ST. JOSEPH

Pope Francis recently directed that the name of St. Joseph should be included in Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV. Decades ago, Blessed John XXIII had directed that Joseph's name was to be included in the Roman Canon, or Eucharistic Prayer I.

Mention of St. Joseph is to be made after the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by inserting the phrase “...with **Blessed Joseph, her spouse...**” Joseph is the **Patron of the Universal Church**, and is also referred to as the **Patron of the Dying**. His inclusion in the Eucharistic Prayers should remind us of his watchful care and protection, just as he cared for the Holy Family.

This change is rather recent, so you may not see this phrase in our worship aid, Today's Missal published by Oregon Catholic Press and other worship aides for a while. Also, since the change was made after the new Roman Missals were printed about a year and a half ago, the words are not included in current editions of the Missal (altar book).

**Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Collect, Feast of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
The Roman Missal, Third Edition*