

O God, come to our assistance; Jesus, Mary, Joseph please make haste to help us!

Jesus! Mary! Joseph!

FERVENT invocation of these blessed names gains for us access to the persons, yes, to the very hearts of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph*.

The aspiration *JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH!* is enriched with an indulgence of seven years for each recital (Raccolta, 274), applicable to the poor souls in purgatory. This, obviously, is a pearl among partial indulgences. But why should so high an atoning value be attached to so short a formula?

1. To invite us to pray it unceasingly.
2. Because of the incomprehensible grandeur of the holy Names of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph*. The name of a person is a personification of its bearer. What a glorious invocation, then, is the prayer: *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* What a vast field for meditation here lies open to angels and men! Each one of these names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, unfolds to us a world of wonders, an abyss of greatness and beauty, of grace and power.

At the sound of these names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, which to us are so sweet and love-inspiring, all hell shrinks back in terror. The aspiration *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* is a deadly flash of lightning to Satan and the devils.

The aspiration *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* is a golden arrow, a fiery dart, which springs from our hearts and at the same moment blissfully wounds the hearts of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph* and lays them lovingly open to us and to our dear departed. Into this formula, so divine in its content, one breathes the tenderest, strongest and purest love.

How often should we pray this aspiration? Without counting. . . or, if we prefer, on our rosary; on each bead these three names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph* and nothing more (that is no Creed, no Our Father, Hail Mary or Glory be to the Father). It is not a rosary, but simply a chaplet of diamonds, beautiful gems from the Orient of Divine love. It is greatly to be desired that this practice be spread over the world, flowing as a river of love in a never-ending stream from the hearts and lips of Christian people.

The aspiration *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* is an inexhaustible treasure of indulgences especially for the poor souls. With this prayer one enkindles a fire on earth which extinguishes the flames of Purgatory. If every Christian soul but knew, if the world but knew, what consolation for the poor souls is contained in the names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* Day and night, everywhere and without ceasing may this blessed prayer be the refrain of fervent petitions. Gather, O Christian souls, gather blessings through these heavenly names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, for those who suffer unspeakable pains in the flames of Purgatory; beg in these sweet names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, without ceasing.

The aspiration *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* is a golden book, an inexhaustible

fountain. It awakens a piety which is sweet and strong, wide, deep and full of meaning. And yet, how short and clear, how simple and wonderful is its form! It is the golden key to the hearts of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph*. It is a precious gem of piety. Already here on earth, but especially in heaven, this prayer will effect an intimate union of the soul, a jubilation, a true fire of love.

The aspiration *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!* is an inexhaustible subject for meditation. The thoughtful repetition of these names, *Jesus, Mary and Joseph*, so full of love and light, causes us to meditate, and from the beginning this meditation appeals to us, charms us, affects us, leads us to God and submerges us into Him. We find in these names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, a power that urges, uplifts, stimulates, impels and quickens. Meditation on these holy names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, fills the heart and mind, excites sublime thoughts and leads one to self-sacrificing resolutions. This method of meditation may constitute the bliss of a theologian even as it enraptures the soul of a little child. It permits all, without exception, to penetrate into the vast domain of our holy Religion and to meditate at the same time on the articles of faith, the commandments, virtues and sacraments. Like a bee that flies about in an immense garden, where perpetual spring reigns, drawing sweet nectar from bud and blossom, so we may gather heavenly thoughts and graces.

May these blessed names, *Jesus, Mary, Joseph*, be often on our lips during life, and may we with our dying breath sigh: *Jesus, Mary, Joseph!*

†††JMJ†††

Praised be Jesus, Mary, and Saint Joseph, now and forever!

The first Sunday after Epiphany we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph, while we commemorate the first Sunday after Epiphany. Who are your three best friends here on earth? If you have a real close friend, do you like to be in that friend's presence? Do you like it when your friends show that they care for you? Are you grateful when your friends provide you with something? If you have friends that are the benefactor of everything you have, is it not just that you do everything they ask of you? If you have friends who are very influential and extremely powerful and all wise and all holy do you feel very secure and confident that they could help you, provided you do your part?

Do you know that a good way to avoid sin, and at the same time obtain a high degree of sanctity for eternity, is to live continually in the presence of God? Of the billions or trillions of people that have lived on earth, which two people spent the most time with Jesus when He walked on earth? Who can teach us how to know, love, and serve Jesus better than his holy mother Mary and his foster father St. Joseph?

Surely you have heard the saying, “A man is known by the company he keeps.” Do you keep company with Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph? No really, how often during every day do you recall their presence? Do you visit with them frequently during the day? Do you go into their company if troubles come your way? Do you share your joy and jubilation with them throughout the day? Do you ask yourself such things as: what would Jesus, and/or Mary, and/or St. Joseph say in these circumstances? What would they do if they were in my circumstances? How would they treat my neighbors? Would they do the same thing I am doing as an example for everyone who sees me?

How many of God’s commandments would I break if I vividly recalled that Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph were there with me? Would I ever take part in non-Catholic services? Would I serve idols such as the world? I can only serve one master, which one am I serving? Would I ever curse, swear, or use God’s name in vain? Would I do unnecessary servile work on Sunday, buy unnecessary things on Sunday, and not keep Sunday as a holy day with extra prayers, alms deeds, and good works? Does the television, love of sports, and entertainment, take up more of my time on Sunday than keeping union with God by prayer, meditation, and recollection of His presence? Would I be disobedient to parents, or lawful authority, and disrespectful? Would I become angry, quarrel, argue, fight, and commit slow suicide by putting preservatives and other poisonous-unhealthy food in my body, or by smoking, taking drugs, and drinking excessively? Would I look a second time at immodestly dressed people, and other immoral things? Would I commit sins of impurity with myself or with others if I recalled that Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph were right there watching? If I recalled that someday everyone will stand before Jesus and be judged before the rest of the world? Would I ever steal anything from anyone, knowing that Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph were watching? Would I steal anything remembering that everything must be paid back and restitution be made before I can go to heaven? Would I ever commit the sins of backbiting, slander, and saying evil things about my neighbor? Would I covet my neighbor’s wife or covet my neighbor’s goods?

Yes, let us live in the continual presence of God, and keep company with Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph at all times. There are many things to help you do so. Go to WWW.JMJsite.com and find many such important things.

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I pray that you will live in such a way that the Good God will always constantly Bless you while He keeps you from all sin. May Jesus, Mary, and Saint Joseph obtain for you every grace you need.