



## Session 17

# Meet Your Spiritual Father

## 2nd Greatest Saint

St. Joseph is the holiest Saint after Mary in history.

## The Sanctity of St. Joseph

### **Holiness**

A radical and heroic following of God's will.

TMIY

## Proper Devotion to St. Joseph

### **Protodulia**

First among the Saints after Mary.

\*A theological term designated to Joseph alone.

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## Proper Devotion to Our Lady

### **Hyperdulia**

The most exalted of creatures. Worthy of devotion that is unique both in nature and degree than all other Saints.

\*A theological term designated to Mary alone.

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## Your Spiritual Father

### **The Theology of St. Augustine**

What Joseph was for Jesus as head of the body,  
Joseph is to you.

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## The Shadow of the Father

No one (besides Jesus) resembles God the Father more than St. Joseph

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## The Grace of God

**The Principle of St. Thomas Aquinas**  
God always gives grace necessary for one's vocation.

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## The Annunciation of Joseph

“

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

- Matthew 1:18-22

”

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## He Did As Commanded

“

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

- Matthew 1:23-25

”

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## Obedience and Action

“

And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.  
- Matthew 2:14-15

And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.  
- Matthew 2:21

And being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth.

- Matthew 2:22-23

”

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## Ite Ad Joseph - Go to Joseph

“

When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do.”

- Genesis 41:55

”

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## The Father of Jesus

### **The Insight of St. Augustine**

St. Joseph was the true, though virginal father of Jesus.

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## The True Fatherly Authority of Joseph

### **The Insight of St. Thomas Aquinas**

God put a miraculous moral bond into the heart of Jesus and into the heart of Joseph.

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## A Powerful Intercessor

### **The Challenge of St. Teresa of Avila**

If you have not yet experienced the powerful intercession of St. Joseph, then put him to the test.

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## Session 17

- Why is St. Joseph a “true though virginal father of Jesus”?
- Have you taken the St. Teresa Challenge of invoking St. Joseph for something difficult? Is there any challenge presently in your life that would invite you to bring St. Joseph into the situation?