

While Pope Pius IX proclaimed *Saint Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church* on 8 December 1870, most Catholics have yet to *meditate on* and *take to heart* the place that our patron is to have in our lives of devotion, his universal place alongside Jesus and Mary. To help foster an appropriate understanding and appreciation, I have, by God's loving providence, written the essay entitled *Saint Joseph's Place in the Earthly Trinity*. A card is used to *introduce* the basics of the truth that is elaborated on in the essay. SAINT JOSEPH: OUR PATRON provides this card and essay "so that **all may grow in devotion to the Patron of the Universal Church.**" (Pope John Paul II) This essay can be downloaded from the website or ordered by mail or phone. The card has all of the contact information that is needed to get the essay. If you are willing and able to freely receive and give away a number of cards, please inform me of your name, address and the quantity of cards. If you have access, tell others about the website by emailing a link to the web address (www.ourpatron.net). "***Freely have you received, freely give.***" (Matthew 10:8) From *What Will Be the Devotion to Saint Joseph in the Future?* by Fr. Francis L. Filas, SJ (1895-1989)

"Some of us might think of the devotion to Saint Joseph in the future in terms of asking whether novenas will come back in style, or how many prayers we will offer each day in honor of the saint. That is really not the correct ultimate outlook. Vatican II has officially said what older theologians of Saint Joseph had said: that the heart of devotion to the saint is *imitation of his example*. All the prayers in the world which we say in honor of the saint would mean little if we did not try to honor him by the truest form of devotion, which is imitation." "There, it would seem, lies the essence of the future devotion to Saint Joseph: that you and I and others attracted to the example of Saint Joseph would, in his footsteps, try to accept the will of God as it occurs in our lives, and to ask Saint Joseph's intercession that we might have the strength of grace to follow his example of complete consecration to the love of Mary, and through her to the ultimate love of Jesus our God."

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SAINT JOSEPH: OUR PATRON



*“...so that **all** may **grow** in devotion to
the Patron of the Universal Church...”*
- Pope John Paul II