

Saint Joseph's, Saint Anne's & Holy Family And Saint Patrick's
12th November 2023, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
 Served By The Discalced Carmelites
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1st Reading - Wisdom 6:12-16

12 Wisdom is pure and never fades away, and is easily seen by those who love her and found by those who seek her.
 13 She anticipates those who desire her, so that she first reveals herself to them.
 14 Whoever awakens early to seek her, will not labor, for he will find her sitting at his door.
 15 Therefore, by thinking about her, understanding is perfected, and whoever remains watchful for her, will quickly be secure.
 16 For she goes about seeking such as are worthy of her, and she reveals herself to them cheerfully in the ways, and meets them with all foresight.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

R. (2b) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2 O God, you are my God whom I seek;
 for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
 like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

3 Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary
 to see your power and your glory,

4 For your kindness is a greater good than life;
 my lips shall glorify you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

5 Thus will I bless you while I live;
 lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.

6 As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,
 and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

7 I will remember you upon my couch,
 and through the night-watches I will meditate on you:

8 You are my help,
 and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
 15 Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.
 16 For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord.
 18 Therefore, console one another with these words.

Or 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

13 We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Alleluia - Matthew 24:42A, 44

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
 42A Stay awake and be ready!
 44 For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

- 1 "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.
- 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise.
- 3 The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them,
- 4 but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.
- 5 Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.
- 6 At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'
- 7 Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
- 9 But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'
- 10 While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked.
- 11 Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!'
- 12 But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'
- 13 Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Saint of the Day:



St Josaphat is the Patron Saint of Ukraine

Date of Birth	1580
Place of Birth	Volodymyr Ukraine
Profession	Polish-Lithuanian monk and archbishop of the Ruthenian Catholic Church
Place of Work	Archeprarchy of Polotsk
Date of Death	12 th November 1623
Place of Death	Vitebsk, Belarus
St. Josaphat Feast Day	12 th November
Beatification	By Pope Urban VIII on May 16 1643 in Rome, Italy
Canonization	By Pope Pius IX on June 29 1867 in Rome, Italy
Patron Saint of	Ukraine

St Josaphat Life History

St Josaphat's family worshiped in the Eastern Orthodox Church where he was baptized. His family hailed from the Ruthenian (Ukrainian and Belarusian) nobility but his father was not rich.

His parents encouraged him to live a pious life. At school, he was an avid learner of the Church Slavonic liturgical language and memorized the Book of Hours used by the Eastern Orthodox Church. Because St Josaphat's father was not rich, he sent him to Vilnius, Lithuania as an apprentice to a successful merchant called Papovič. While in Vilnius, Josaphat met Josyf Veliamyn Rutsky who greatly influenced him to convert to Catholicism. Initially, Rutsky practiced Calvinism but later joined the Byzantine Rite after instructions from Pope Clement VIII. He shared with Josaphat his vision and passion for working towards enhancing the reunion with Rome. St Josaphat was very prayerful to the extent that Papovič, his boss was very displeased with him but as time progressed he became very fond of him. He offered much of his fortune and even her daughter's hand in marriage to him but Josaphat did not accept any due to his love for the religious life. In 1604, When St Josaphat was 24 years old, he entered the Church and monastery of the Holy Trinity in Vilnius, which belonged to the Order of Saint Basil the Great. This is the time and place where he acquired the religious name Josaphat. His piety at the monastery became known all over the region where all and sundry came to see this young monk. The monastery started receiving more and more novices due to Josaphat's growing influence. He never ate meat and fasted a lot. He slept on the floor and practiced self-flagellation until blood flowed from his body, a practice that his fellow Jesuits urged him to moderate. He was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1609 and thereafter became the hegumen (abbot) of several monasteries. St Josaphat became the assistant bishop of the Archeparchy (archdiocese) of Polotsk on 12th November 1617 and in March 1618, he became the archeparchy and began rebuilding the Saint Sophia Cathedral in Polotsk. During this time, In 1596, there was this call by the Orthodox Metropolitan of Kiev and five other Orthodox bishops representing the majority of the Ruthenians, for the unity of non-Catholics (both Protestant and Orthodox) and the Roman Catholic Church. The Union of Brest was formulated and the Eastern Orthodox Church was persuaded to ascend to the union. The Pope in Rome accepted this historic conversion from Orthodox to Catholic but under the condition that they continue to practice their Byzantine liturgical rites and traditions. There emerged two factions in the Eastern Orthodox Church, of those who agreed to the unity and those who declined. Those who agreed became Eastern Catholics and were referred to as the "Uniates" while those who delined remained as Eastern Orthodox and were referred to as "Disuniates". St Josaphat had an uphill task of convincing the population in his see to embrace communion with the Pope in Rome but he faced stiff opposition from monks and other clergy who feared that their Byzantine Rite would be diluted by the Latin Rite. Bishop Josaphat continued restoring the Churches by instructing the clergy on how the catechism would be taught, how to live a pious priestly life, and how the deacons would help in their service.

He also held numerous meetings (synods) in various places to strengthen the Church within his diocese. He continued living his life in piety as a monk and succeeded in winning many souls to Christ. A time came when those who had assented to the Union of Brest started to

resent the union of the Eastern Orthodox and the Roman Catholic Church. They started changing the names of the clergy in the Liturgy from those in Uniate to those in Disuniate. That is, replacing the name of Pope Paul V with that of Timothy II, patriarch of Constantinople, and that of Sigismund III Vasa, King of Poland with that of Osman II, sultan of the Ottoman Empire. This dissension was met with a heavy hand from the civil government who condemned the Disuniate leadership to death and changed the ownership of their Eastern Orthodox Church buildings and property to the Eastern Catholic Archeparchy of Polotsk. However, the Disuniates did not fade away but they organized a synod in Kyiv, Ukraine in 1620 and secretly elected and consecrated new Eastern Orthodox Church bishops to rival those of the existing Eastern Catholic Church.

Death

Tension and violence arose and the fight over the Church property escalated. In October 1623, Bishop Josaphat went to his residence in Vitebsk and ordered the arrest of a priest who was creating a public disturbance outside the residence and also holding Orthodox services in secret. When the residents heard of this, they were enraged and stormed St Josaphat's residence. They hit him in the head with sticks and an axe, dragged his body across the streets, tied heavy stones on his dead body, and sank it in the deepest part of river Dvina. St Josaphat's body was retrieved from the river and preserved in the cathedral of Polotsk. Later the body was taken to Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome and placed under the altar of Saint Basil the Great.

Beatification

St Josaphat was beatified by Pope Urban VIII on 16th May 1643 in Rome, Italy

Canonization

St Josaphat was canonized by Pope Pius IX on 29th June 1867 in Rome, Italy.

St Josaphat Feast Day

We celebrate his feast day on 12th November every year in the Catholic Church.

Churches Named After St Josaphat

St Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rochester, NY, United States

St Josaphat's Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, United States

St Josaphat's Parish of Bayside, Queens, New York, United States

St Josaphat's Cathedral and Ukrainian Elementary School in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

St Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church of Trenton, NJ, United States

St Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Parma, Ohio, United States

St Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

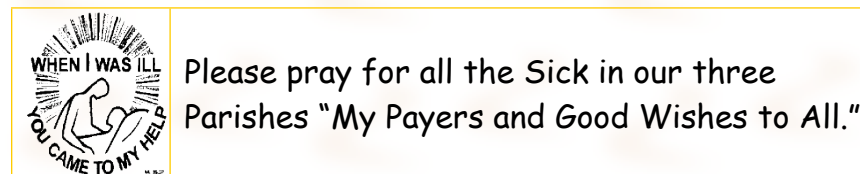
St Josaphat Roman Catholic Church, Chicago, Illinois, United States

St Josaphat Parish in Cheektowaga, New York, United States

St Josaphat Basilica, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Sunday Mass Readings Homily - 12th November 2023, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Today's November 12 2023 Catholic Sunday Readings Homily Theme: Parable of the Ten Virgins - Matthew 25:1-13 For The Sick People Of The Three Parishes:



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Saint Anne's & The Holy Family RC Church, Pennywell Sunderland

Saint Patrick's RC Church, Ryhope Sunderland

Saint Josephs RC Church, Millfield Sunderland

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