



Learning How to Die

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

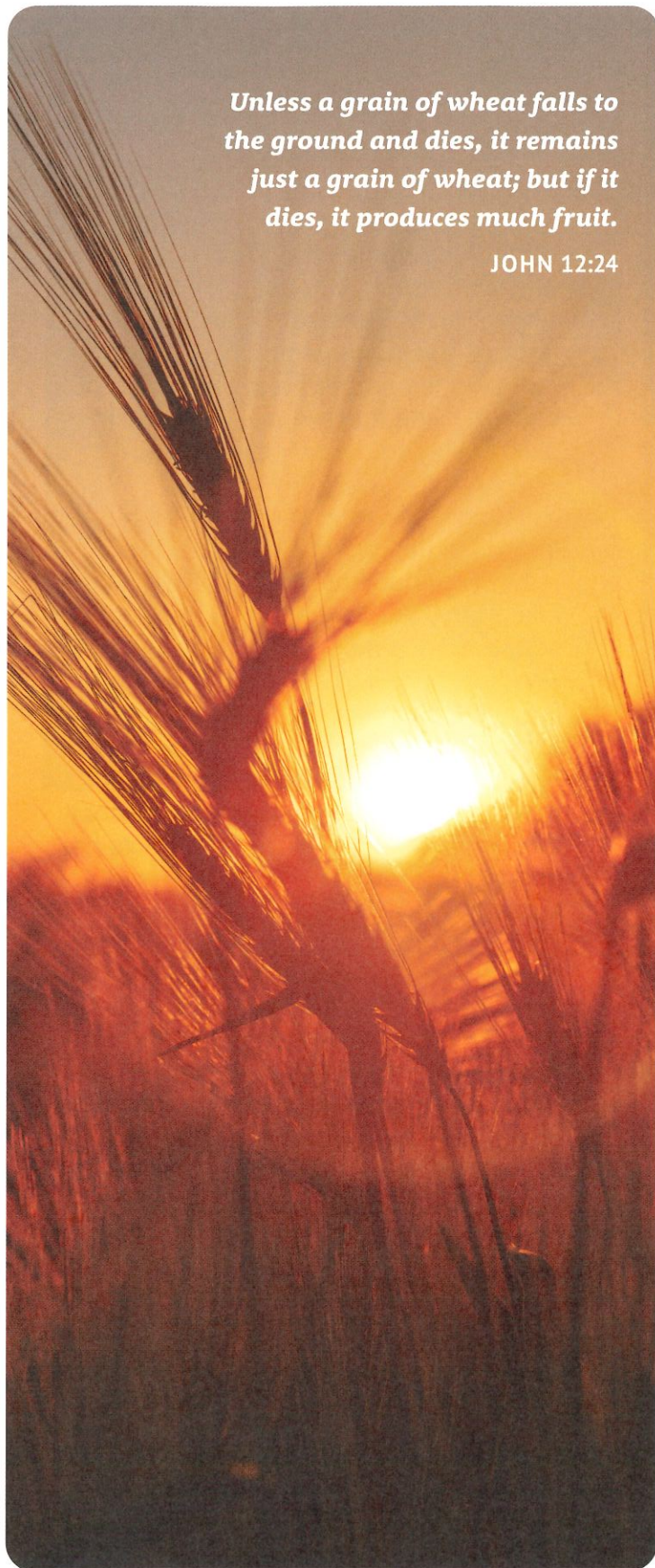
It has been pointed out that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well, that is, to go where we would rather not go, to love when we know it will cost, to offer ourselves even when we know we will be used. If we die a bit every day, sometimes with struggle and sacrifice in those situations that may call for such, then at our final moment we will be able to stand before that specter face to face and not run, simply because we have met before and have been able to walk away the victor.

Dying well does not mean we do so without fear. Courage blossoms when we stand in a field of fear. Even the Lord Jesus “offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears” to God, as the Letter to the Hebrews notes. Dying well does not mean we do so cleanly. Dying is often messy, and it is always an uprooting that disrupts and scatters everything nearby.

Nor does dying well mean we do so in control of the event. That is what is so devastating about death. It has complete and total control. At its best and at its worst the only way to die well is to say “yes” to it every time it demands our submission. And like the eye of stillness at the center of the hurricane, it is at the heart of death where we embrace resurrection and where the holy offers life. It is where we can have a deep encounter with the Lord Jesus. ●

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

JOHN 12:24



Reflect

Can you accept the little deaths along the way as preparation for the final passing from this life?

Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

sfvchapel@hotmail.com (817) 292-3274

Father Ken Robinson, Chaplain

REFLECTIONS

Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church

In the midst of our Lenten solemnity the Church introduces the joyful celebration of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The altar is decorated with flowers and white vestments that replace the somber purple of the Lenten season. And there is reason for celebrating, for rejoicing.

Saint Joseph is the spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and also the legal father of Jesus according to Jewish law. Like Mary, Saint Joseph is presented in scripture as a model of humility and obedience to God's will. He generously follows the plan of God presented to him in a dream, taking the pregnant Mary into his home when he could have rejected her because of that pregnancy through the Holy Spirit. He protects her and the child at the time of birth and subsequently takes his family into sanctuary in Egypt. After returning to Nazareth, Saint Joseph provides for his family as a carpenter.

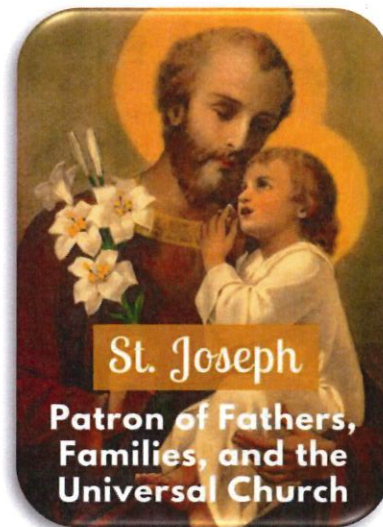
This feast, celebrated locally in some areas as early as the ninth century, was designated a universal feast in the fifteenth century at which time it was placed on the liturgical calendar. In 1870, Pope Pius IX named Saint Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church. As an aside, Saint Joseph is also considered the patron saint for carpenters, the dying, and workers in general. In fact, he is also celebrated on May 1st annually under the title Saint Joseph the Worker.

In March of 2014, our Holy Father Francis spoke of Saint Joseph in these words:

Being a guardian is the distinctive trait of Joseph: Being the guardian is his great mission. . . We look to Joseph as the model educator, who watches over and accompanies Jesus as he grows 'in wisdom, age and grace,' as the Gospel says. He was not Jesus' father: the father of Jesus was God, but he was a father to Jesus, he was a father to Jesus in order to help him grow. And how did he help him grow? In wisdom, age and grace.

As Mary is Mother of the Church, so likewise, Saint Joseph may be considered a father to the Church. Obedient to God's plan, he serves as an instrument making possible our salvation through Jesus, the Christ. May our reverence for Saint Joseph find expression in the way we likewise choose obedience to God's plan!

From Father Ken



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It is only one week from Holy Week. On Tuesday we celebrate the feast of Saint Joseph. Most of our information about Saint Joseph comes from the first two chapters of Mathew. Joseph was an ordinary man who did manual labor. He became the spouse of the Mother of God by Divine providence. His mission was to protect God's greatest treasures on earth - Jesus and Mary. Saint Joseph is invoked as Patron of the Universal Church, of the dying, carpenters, and social justice.

A Saint Joseph table will be set up on Tuesday March 19th, in front of the altar. Please consider bringing non-perishable food items for those in need on the Feast Day of Saint Joseph. A basket for cash donations will also be on the table.

Saint Joseph

Blessed among Bridegrooms.

Patron of Fathers,

Bountiful Provider
of the
Holy Family.

Bless our homes,

Bless our tables,

Bless our loves,

Bless our labors.



Don't forget our 40 cans of food for 40 days of Lent project. The donations are being used to resupply the Saint Francis Village Food Pantry. Thanks to all of you for your continued generosity.

Please join us for the last Lenten Lunch of the 2024 season, this Friday March 22 at 12:00 PM, in the PAX center.

I found a wonderful quote from Mother Angelica to share with you:

Did Jesus go on a mountain and yell I love you, I love you? No, he stretched out his hands, was nailed to the cross, and said 'I thirst', for what? water? No, he thirsted for your love.

May God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*God Give You Peace.
Mike Pierson*

Lenten Opportunities for Week of March 17, 2024

Sunday March 17th	Mass	10:00AM
Monday March 18th	Morning Prayers Mass Evening Prayers & Divine Mercy Chaplet	8:30AM 9:00AM 3:00PM
Tuesday March 19th	Morning Prayers Mass Evening Prayers & Divine Mercy Chaplet	8:30AM 9:00AM 3:00PM
Wednesday March 20th	Morning Prayers Mass Adoration Evening Prayers & Divine Mercy Chaplet	8:30AM 9:00AM 9:30AM 3:00PM
Thursday March 21st	Morning Prayers Mass Bible Study (Video Room) Evening Prayers & Divine Mercy Chaplet	8:30AM 9:00AM 1:00PM 3:00PM
Friday March 22nd	Morning Prayers Mass Stations of the Cross Adoration Confessions	8:30AM 9:00AM 9:30AM 9:50AM 11:30AM – 12:00PM
Friday March 22nd	Lenten Lunch (PAX) Evening Prayers & Divine Mercy Chaplet	12:00PM – 1:00PM 3:00PM
Saturday March 23rd	Morning Prayers Vigil Mass	8:30AM 5:00PM



Mass Intentions

March 17, 2024	Intention of all SFV Catholic Chapel Parishioners
March 18, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Rose Donahue By Pat Donahue
March 19, 2024	Fr. Bob Strittmatter
March 20, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Jack Parkhurst & Intention of Patty Parkhurst (Anniversary) By Patty Parkhurst
March 21, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Mable Groh By Jim Groh
March 22, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Joseph Purcell By Howard Herring
March 23, 2024	Intention of Carol Leiser (Health) By Jackie Barry (5:00 PM Vigil Mass)

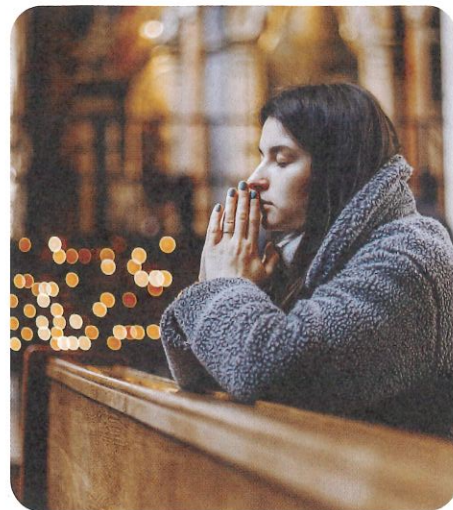
Dear Padre,

What is the difference between temptation and sin?

The temptations of Jesus, as they are recorded in the Gospels (Mark 1:12, Luke 4:1, and Matthew 4:1), give us the proper direction with regard to sin and temptation. Jesus was tempted three times, but he did not sin. More than that, Jesus put his trust in God during the temptations. Jesus' message is clear: if you feel tempted, call out to God!

The Church teaches that sin is a deliberative process. Temptation is something that happens to you without your consent: a thought or desire pops into your mind. For temptation to become a sin, you have to entertain that thought or desire, or plan to act on it, or do it. That's when temptation "turns a corner" and becomes sin.

Although the sacrament of penance is available throughout the year, the Church places a special emphasis on it during Lent. There may be a communal penance service in your area. Perhaps you can commit now to participating in the service. If it's been a while since you've been to confession or you're not sure what to do or say, just tell the priest. He will show you. ●



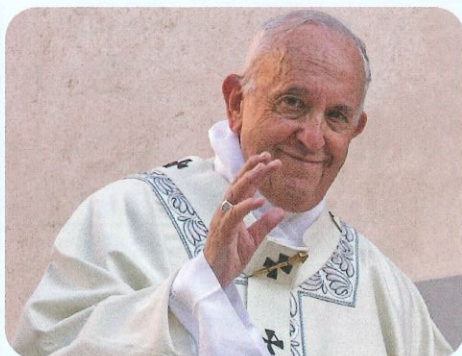
ANNA NASS / SHUTTERSTOCK

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 18 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 Jn 8:1-11	March 19 <i>St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a	March 20 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8:31-42	March 21 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59	March 22 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42	March 23 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56	March 24 <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i> Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We are called to take on the paschal law of losing life in order to receive it renewed and eternal. And what does losing life mean?... It means to think less about oneself, about personal interests and to know how to "see" and to meet the needs of our neighbors, especially the least of them.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 18, 2018