

## Listening to those gone before us

Based on the prayer to St. Joseph by Jean-Marie de la Mennais inserted in the Rule of Life of 1825



“Saint Joseph, our model by your faith your purity, your laborious and hidden life, and your tender love for Jesus and Mary, grant us your paternal protection ; pray for us now and at the hour of our death ; obtain for us the grace to imitate your virtues here below in order to share blessed eternity with you. ”

(Time of silence)

- **Magnificat** : *Ant.* : The beloved Son of the Most High was called the son of Joseph.
- **Intercession** : Shared Prayer  
*Response* : Saint Joseph, Father in tenderness, intercede for us.
- **Our Father...**

### Prayer to Saint Joseph for the vocations



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his Son ;  
In you Mary put her confidence.  
With you Christ became man.  
Oh Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us generous vocations  
of Brothers and of Lay Mennaisians  
so that the children and youth may continue to  
know and love better Jesus Christ.

AMEN !



## PRESENCE AND HOPE Joseph, Father in tenderness

Vespres - 3 February 2021

For the vocations of Brothers and Lay Mennaisians in  
the Province of Saint John-Baptist

### O Blessed St. Joseph

(Fr. Roderick William Faber 1814 - 1863)

*Melody* : Triet Gesangbauk (1872)

*Or any appropriate hymn to St. Joseph.*

- 1- O blessed St Joseph how great was your worth.  
The one chosen shadow of God upon earth,  
The father of Jesus —ah then you then be,  
Sweet spouse of our Lady, a father to me.
- 2- For You to the pilgrim are Father and Guide,  
And Jesus and Mary felt safe by Your  
side;  
Ah, Blessed Saint Joseph, how safe I  
should be,  
Sweet spouse of our Lady! if You were  
with me!
- 3- When the treasures of God were  
unsheltered on earth,  
Safekeeping was found for Them both in Your worth:  
O Father of Jesus, be father to me,  
Sweet spouse of our Lady! and I will love Thee.



## **Psaume 103 (102)**

**Ant.** As the father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has tenderness on those who fear him.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
All my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
And never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
Who heals every one of your ills,  
Who redeems your life from the grave,  
Who crowns you with love and compassion,  
Who fills your life with Good things,  
Renewing your youth like an eagles's.

The Lord does deeds of justice,  
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses  
And his deeds to Israel's sons.

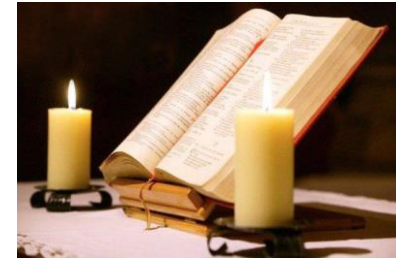
The Lord is compassion and love,  
Slow to anger and rich in his mercy.  
His wrath Will come to an end;  
He Will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
Nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
So strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
So far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,  
The Lord has pity on those who fear him.

## **Word of God : Hosea 11 : 1.3-4**

*“When Israel was a child I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt. I myself taught Ephraim to walk, I took them in my arms; yet they have not understood that I was the one looking after them. I led them with reins of kindness, with leading-strings of love. I was like someone who lifts an infant close against his cheek; stooping down to him I gave him his food...”*



**(Time of silence)**

## **Pope Francis : Patris Corde**



Joseph saw Jesus grow daily “in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favour” (*Lk 2:52*). As the Lord had done with Israel, so Joseph did with Jesus: “he taught him to walk, taking him by the hand; he was for him like a father who raises an infant to his cheeks, vending down to him and feeding him”

(cf. *Hos 11:3-4*).

In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God: “As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him” (*Ps 103:13*).

Even through Joseph's fears, God's will, his history and his plan were at work. Joseph, then, teaches us that faith in God includes believing that he can work even through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses. He also teaches us that amid the tempests of life, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course. (n° 2)

**(Time of silence)**