

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, on this *Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Patron of the Universal Church*, may I wish you all every blessing and consolation.

The attached image of the Holy Family is one that has always delighted me as it depicts St. Joseph gently holding the new born Savior as Mary sleeps- it's essentially an ordinary family moment- one that is played out a million times each day across our world and yet one that reminds us that in the great mystery of the Incarnation, Jesus Christ, has come into our lives so that we might be part of God's eternal family.



At this time of great crisis and uncertainty, we need to remind ourselves that as brothers and sisters in Christ, we are one family and that we bear a responsibility and duty to support, care and assist each other. *So here are a few suggestions:*

- **The Holy Father, Pope Francis has asked us all to pray a rosary today, the Feast of St. Joseph, using the luminous mysteries.**
- **Give a phone call** to family, friends and neighbors who are on their own at this time. Ask if they need anything- how can we help? If you are a member of a small group or ministry at our parish and you know of another who is alone- give them a call!
- As you strive to keep life as normal as possible for you family, **please let prayer continue to be part of your daily life.** We need God's help all the more and prayer, especially family prayer, is a great way to achieve this. Remember you are in our prayers and thoughts here.
- **We continue to live stream many of our liturgies at:** <https://video.ibm.com/channel/when-necessary-use-words> and are constantly thinking of ways to continue to offer this important connection- so we have added the following:
  - On all Thursdays following our 9:15am Mass we will live stream our exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, until 7pm- including the rosary and other prayers for healing and for the needs of our community and world.
  - Beginning tomorrow (Friday) and for every Friday until this crisis has passed, join us for online Stations of the Cross at 7pm as we walk with Christ on the road to Calvary.

- On March 25, following our morning Mass for the *Solemnity of the Annunciation* we will recite the rosary- again reminding us of our family ties in Christ.

Remember to keep a watch out for emails from our parish. Once again please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

May St. Joseph continue to watch over us in fatherly way.

*Fr. James*

***Collect for the Solemnity of ST. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM***

*Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that by Saint Joseph's intercession  
your Church may constantly watch over  
the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation,  
whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.*