



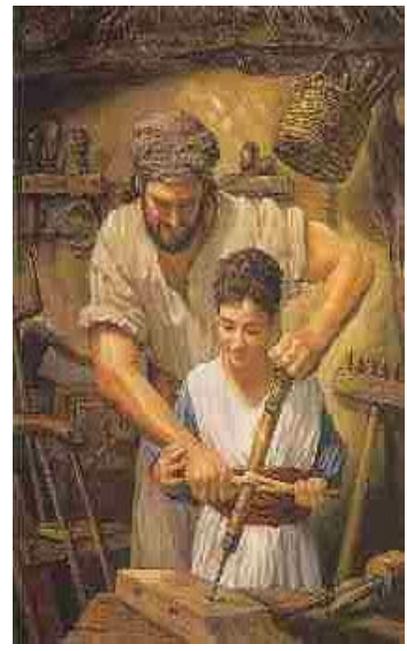
# THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

St. Stephen, Martyr

What a different world it would be if more men dedicated themselves to holiness and embraced their role as their family's spiritual leader. What if St. Stephen, Martyr Parish community was full of men like this?

## Purpose Statement

The Men of St. Joseph International is an association of Christian men, united under the Catholic Church, who meet **One Saturday per month** at St. Stephen, Martyr Catholic Church from 7:00-8:00am to pray together using both scripture and the catechism, encouraging one another while building accountability to be spiritual leaders to our families. Our common goal is to instill holiness and facilitate spiritual leadership in family and community life.



### Men of St. Joseph Prayer

**“St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to Gods commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God’s will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family’s salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey.”**

**St. Joseph, Terror of Demons, Pray for Us.**

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **WHO ARE THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH INTERNATIONAL?**

We, the Men of St. Joseph International, are an association of lay Christian men, united under the Catholic Church, dedicated to becoming the spiritual leaders of our families by strengthening our faith and being “real world” examples of Jesus. Our group bolsters discussion of faith and prayer life specifically for men, giving men new ways to reflect upon their lives and be better servants to God and their family. To become “saints.” The result is nothing less than a revived culture, the same culture that Pope John Paul II called the Culture of Life.

## **WHAT IS YOUR MISSION?**

Our mission is “To put the family in the hands of the Father.” We believe it is time for men to “man up” and take a leadership role in guiding their families, friends, parishes and their communities towards Christ and the fullness of His Catholic Church.

## **WHEN AND WHERE DO YOU MEET?**

Men of St. Joseph International meet as parish based groups, or chapters, once per month. At St. Stephen, Martyr, we meet the 2nd Saturday per month from 7am to 8am in classrooms 3-4. See calendar for details and/or changes.

## **WHAT DO YOU DO AT A MEN OF ST. JOSEPH MEETING?**

The hour-long meetings are simple. The meetings begin with the St. Joseph Prayer, followed by a structured lesson (Signposts 52-week lesson book). We support and encourage one another by reading sacred scripture and from The Catechism of the Catholic Church. We weave a few “key” videos from Catholic leaders, the Pope and other lay and clergy. Simply put: read, pray and discuss.

## **DO I NEED TO BRING ANYTHING TO THE MEETING(S)?**

Yes! Please bring a Bible (preferably Catholic). If you have a copy of The Catechism of the Catholic Church, please bring it as well. Finally, we have a small breakfast at each meeting. You are welcome to (no commitment) bring fruit/bowl, eggs/quiche, donuts and or breakfast bars, along with any type of juice for the men to eat.

## **ARE YOU A “SMALL-GROUP BIBLE STUDY?”**

No, Men of St. Joseph is not a “small-group” organization. It is common to start a group with 5 or 6 men, but depending on parish size, chapters grow to 20, 30, 40, or more men. Growth is encouraged. During the discussion portion of meetings, though, some of the larger groups do break out into smaller groups, to facilitate discussion.

**DO YOU HAVE TO BE A PARENT TO BE IN THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH?**

No, not at all. Men of St. Joseph are made up of men in all states of life, single, married, widowed, and divorced. We have opened our fellowship to young men as well (12 and older)..

**DO YOU HAVE TO BE CATHOLIC TO ATTEND MEN OF ST. JOSEPH MEETINGS?**

Catholics and non-Catholics alike are welcome. The structure and mission itself are fully Catholic in nature, adhering to all the teachings of the Catholic Church.

**ARE YOU A SERVICE OR FUND RAISING GROUP?**

No, the Men of St. Joseph is not a civic group, nor a service group, nor a fund raising group. We are a spiritually oriented group of Catholic men. It is all about growing in prayer to become “saints.”

**HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH?**

You become a member of the Men of St. Joseph by attending the MONTHLY Men of St. Joseph meetings at your parish. In the near future, The Men of St. Joseph International will have a commitment ceremony during Mass (post-homily). This will be a “signed” contract to be placed on a wall in our homes. It will reflect a commitment to God, family and parish that we will take our rightful role as prayer warriors as the head of our domestic church.

**HOW DO I FIND OUT IF MY PARISH HAS A MEN OF ST. JOSEPH CHAPTER?**

Contact Scott David Turbitt – Adult Faith Formation Coordinator and Facilitator of The Men of St. Joseph International at St. Stephen, Martyr Catholic Church – Chesapeake, Virginia. [scott@ssmrcc.org](mailto:scott@ssmrcc.org)

**HOW DO I START A MEN OF ST. JOSEPH GROUP AT MY PARISH?**

Contact: [donturbitt@gmail.com](mailto:donturbitt@gmail.com) (Country and International Coordinator Of The Men of St. Joseph International).

**HOW IS THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH ORGANIZED?**

An approved private Catholic men's association of the lay faithful in accordance with the Code of Canon Law (cc.299 section 3; 300-301),

**IS THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH A TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION?**

Yes; in the United States the Men of St. Joseph is listed in the Official Catholic Directory, under the Archdiocese of Mobile, and is thus recognized as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

\*Magnificat is a monthly Catholic publication containing daily prayers for morning and evening, the official text of the daily Mass, and daily meditations and devotions. [www.magnificat.com](http://www.magnificat.com)

# **THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH INTERNATIONAL PRAYER**

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**“St. Joseph, help me to be like you.  
Help me to be obedient to the teaching of the  
Catholic Church and faithful to God’s  
commands. Help me to patiently endure my  
cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness  
and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to  
embrace God’s will and I accept the challenge  
to work tirelessly for my family’s salvation.  
Be my guide and companion on this journey.”**

**ST. JOSEPH, TERROR OF DEMONS, PRAY FOR US.**

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# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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- **Vatican: The Holy See**
- **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**
- **Study Aids for Sunday's Readings**
- **New American Bible**  
The New American Bible on-line from the USCCB
- **Mass Readings**  
Today's Mass Readings from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- **Liturgy of the Hours**  
The Catholic Church's daily prayer
- **Litany of St. Joseph (with mp3 audio link)**  
Terror of Demons, pray for us
- **Dynamic Catholic**  
Home for info on one of the world's best Catholic "evangelists".
- **Catholic TV - view here, on-line**
- **Catholic News Agency**  
Up-to-the-minute news affecting the Universal Church
- **Catholic Education Resource Center**  
Online resource library for Catholic faith and culture.
- **Catechism of the Catholic Church**
- **Aletia - Seekers of the Truth**  
Aleteia is the first multi-lingual and multimedia online community that offers Questions and Answers about the Catholic faith, life and society.
- **A link to many prayers and devotions to Saint Joseph**