

# OLV Rel. Ed. Newsletter



Vol. 2, Issue No. 7

March 2024

Easter comes early this year, as we celebrate it on March 31. In this month of St. Joseph, St. Joseph provides a holy example of how to celebrate God in the Easter season, and always, with true devotion. We often quote others or read their words to gain a sense of who they were, or to share their wisdom with others as we live out our own ministries. Meanwhile, St. Joseph is the rare figure known not for what he said, but for what he did. There are no quotes from St. Joseph in the Bible, which recounts his deeds. We hear that St. Joseph was a “righteous man,” and we see that in how he honored Mother Mary and Jesus, serving them as a gentle, attentive father figure, a guardian protecting and guiding them, mirroring the role of God the Father. Angels appeared to St. Joseph, and he listened to what they guided him to do. St. Joseph could be a steady guide, a reliable presence, because he relied on God. Silent though he may have been, his life was a song of praise for God. In the weeks of Lent leading up to Easter, we do not sing the “Alleluia” at Mass. We may think of Lent as a somber, solemn time, a time to be serious and sorrowful as we humbly remember Jesus’ Sacrifice for us, thinking of how we may turn away from sin to better reciprocate God’s love, as His faithful servants. The silence of Lent, however, prepares us for the song of Easter. St. Joseph served God with a quiet joy, seeking to point to Jesus, rather than to direct attention to himself. He readied himself for the reward of Heaven, where the angels and saints sing praise to God for all time. When we sing the “Alleluia” again at Easter, may we think of St. Joseph, and shape our hearts to be like his, so that, we, too, with our prayerful songs, may draw others to listen to Christ, and the glory He speaks through all He has done, the greatest of which is the Resurrection we recall on Easter Sunday.

May God bless your Easter with much joy!

In praise to God,

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## \*March Dates to Remember\*

- Mar. 1: First Friday
- Mar. 2: First Saturday
- Mar. 3: Feast of St. Katharine Drexel
- Mar. 10: Fourth Sunday of Lent
- Mar. 17: Fifth Sunday of Lent, St. Patrick’s Day
- Mar. 19: St. Joseph’s Day
- Mar. 21: Rel. Ed. Class 7, First Confession Rehearsal
- Mar. 24: Sixth Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday
- Mar. 25: Feast of the Annunciation
- Mar. 28: Holy Thursday
- Mar. 29: Good Friday
- Mar. 30: Holy Saturday
- Mar. 31: Easter Sunday

# Easter Prayer

“Heavenly Father, our hearts are so full of joy today. You feel so near to us on this most special celebration of Easter. May the love we feel this morning stay with us the rest of the day and always. Amen.”

*-Hallow*



Song of the Month:  
“Litany of St. Joseph”

Scripture Spotlight:  
“Sing praise to Him,  
play music;  
proclaim all His  
wondrous deeds!”  
-Psalm 105:2



## Saint Spotlight: St. Katharine Drexel

St. Katharine Drexel's feast day is celebrated on March 3. Growing up, St. Katharine Drexel was very fortunate to have many resources and an excellent education. She was born into a wealthy family that was very loving and faithful to Christ. Her parents taught her to share generously with people in need, and to devote her time to prayer, especially in thanks for God's many blessings. St. Katharine Drexel became a nun, using her education to give back to others. She felt called to serve as a missionary, and founded schools for students of all ages that would bring Jesus to marginalized communities in the United States. St. Katharine had a special devotion to the Eucharist. Her heart's dream was for the souls of others to be fed by Jesus' love, just as hers was. She used her fortune to help minority groups, including Native Americans, and started a religious order for people of color. A true Easter saint, St. Katharine brought a spirit of joy and hope to her service, showing that the ultimate teacher, Jesus, can uplift each of us.