



“அவர் உங்களுக்குச்
சொல்வதெல்லாம் செய்யுங்கள்” 2:5

(FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY)

DIOCESAN NEWS LETTER VELLORE

Vol. 17

JANUARY - 2021

No. 01

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters

As we have begun the New Year let us thankfully remember the year 2020 for all that had happened: joys and sorrows, success and failures, fulfillments and disappointments and joyfully welcome the New Year 2021 that our hopes and dreams be realized, our search and longings be fulfilled, our goals and plans be enhanced, our mission and vision be enriched and enlivened. Wish you all a

PROSPEROUS AND BRIGHT NEW YEAR 2021

As we have started the New Year with the Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, let us entrust ourselves and our diocese to her so that she may intercede for us and keep us under her benevolence care and protection.



Pope Francis while declaring the Year of St. Joseph on 8 Dec. issued a decree launching a special year dedicated to St. Joseph coinciding the anniversary of his declaration as Patron of the Catholic Church, elevating him as a model of fatherhood and a key intercessor in modern times. This was published on Dec. 8, 2020 in commemoration of the 150 anniversary of *Quemadmodum Deus* by Pope Pius IX which declared St. Joseph patron of the Catholic Church that will run until Dec. 8, 2021.

The document, signed by the head of the Vatican's Apostolic Penitentiary, Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, said the year would be an opportunity for faithful to follow St. Joseph's example and "daily strengthen their life of faith in full fulfillment of God's will".

"All faithful will thus have the opportunity to commit themselves, with the help of St. Joseph, head of the heavenly family of Nazareth, comfort and relief from the serious human and social tribulations which today afflict the contemporary world," it said.

According to the document, a plenary indulgence will be available under the following conditions :

- To those who meditate on the Our Father prayer for at least 30 minutes or take part in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph.



- To those who perform a corporal or spiritual work of mercy.
- To families or engaged couples who recite the rosary together.
- To those who entrust their daily work to St. Joseph and those who ask St. Joseph to intercede for the unemployed.
- To those who recite a prayer to St. Joseph (the litanies of St. Joseph in Latin rite, or Akathistos to St. Joseph in the Byzantine rite, or any other prayer to St. Joseph) for the relief of Christians persecuted both inside and outside of the Church.

To faithful who recite “any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph,” with an encouragement to do so on the March 19 and May 1 feasts of St. Joseph, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Byzantine celebration of St. Joseph’s Sunday, and on the 19 of every month and on every Wednesday, which has been dedicated to St. Joseph in the Latin rite.

I kindly ask all the parish priests and the religious to explain this to all our faithful and make the Year of St. Joseph a meaningful and fruitful one in which ever way it is possible. We will plan out to celebrate this Year of St. Joseph in the diocesan level. Meanwhile the prayer card is distributed to all the parishes, kindly pray with the people the prayer to St. Joseph every day after mass.



To all the religious of our diocese I extend my sincere thanks to you for your generous contribution to the diocese as your Christmas gift. Those who have not yet contributed kindly do so.

Since the Pandemic situation continues I ask all our priests and religious to take care of you and keep good health. Kindly be assured of my prayers to you and keep praying for our diocese.

God bless,
Yours in Christ

Very Rev. Msgr I John Robert

Diocesan Administrator