

This year has been proclaimed as a Year to St. Joseph. Pope Francis has invited us to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pius IX's proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Catholic Church. He offers us this year, in our parishes, our Diocese of Paterson and the universal Church, to draw closer to the one who loved Jesus "with a father's heart."

So at Mass we will begin to pray the Prayer to St. Joseph instead of the Prayer to St. Michael.

Prayer to St. Joseph  
Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary,  
be with us this day.  
You protected and cherished the Virgin;  
loving the Child Jesus as your Son,  
you rescued Him from the danger of death.  
Defend the Church,  
the household of God,  
purchased by the Blood of Christ.  
Guardian of the Holy Family,  
be with us in our trials.  
May your prayers obtain for us  
the strength to flee from error  
and wrestle with the powers of corruption  
so that in life we may grow in holiness  
and in death rejoice in the crown of victory.  
Amen.