



ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

1 November 2022

Dear faithful and friends of St Joseph Shrine,

It is with great joy and profound gratitude that I announce the beginning of a Year of Jubilee in preparation and thanksgiving for the 150th Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Joseph Church. With great ceremony and dignity, St. Joseph was dedicated on 16 November 1873. On that date, His Excellency Bishop Caspar Henry Borgess, third Bishop of Detroit, consecrated the main altar. Over the nearly 150 years that have passed since then, St. Joseph has stood as a stronghold of Catholic faith, weathering many seasons and serving countless souls, even to this day, as both its parish community and its astonishing structure undergo a historic renewal.

At its Dedication in 1873, St. Joseph was the largest church in Detroit, and the center of parish life for many families. Since the Institute of Christ the King arrived and received the responsibility to administer the parish on October 16, 2016, St. Joseph has once again become a vibrant spiritual home for a growing number of souls drawn to St. Joseph's devotional and sacramental life. So significant is the parish's service as a place of pilgrimage, and so great is the abundant availability of the sacraments, that I granted the title of Archdiocesan Shrine to St. Joseph on 8 March 2020.

Accordingly, the spiritual life of St. Joseph continues to blossom since its erection as an Archdiocesan Shrine, bringing forth plentiful graces.

- Partial indulgences are granted to the Faithful who, having fulfilled the usual conditions, invoke St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the Shrine with a duly approved prayer (e.g. *Ad te, beate Joseph*).
- A plenary indulgence is granted to the Faithful who, under the usual conditions, visit the Shrine on 19 March, 1 May, or on any day when participating in a group pilgrimage to the Shrine and invoke St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the Shrine.

In addition, we have witnessed firsthand numerous tangible examples of the Lord's grace in action through many joyous milestones, including the registering of over 40 additional households this year as parishioners, and the fast-approaching completion of the \$1.9 million church stonework project—the largest project undertaken since the church was constructed. So then, this Year of Jubilee recognizes not only the Church's flourishing in Detroit at the time of St. Joseph's founding, but also St. Joseph's role in the continuing revitalization of the Catholic faith in Detroit today.

The Year of Jubilee will begin with Solemn Vespers at 6:00 P.M. followed by a Solemn High Mass on **Wednesday, 16 November 2022**, and will continue until **Thursday, 16 November 2023**, when Mass will be held in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Joseph.

I pray that during this Year of Jubilee, the Holy Spirit will awaken in our hearts a deeper gratitude for the abundant graces that the Lord has mercifully bestowed upon us and continues to provide to us here at St. Joseph, and will invigorate within us a holy zeal for our duty to unleash the Gospel and promote the reign of Christ the King in all spheres of our lives.

**UNLEASH THE GOSPEL**

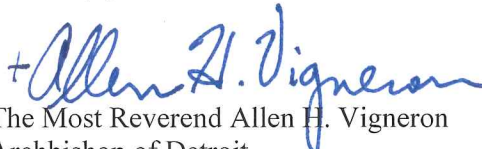
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Let us pray that this Year of Jubilee for the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Joseph will be a fruitful time for all of us in the Archdiocese of Detroit—a time of renewal, and especially a time of renewed commitment to become incarnations of the Institute’s motto, “Living the Truth in Charity” (Eph 4:15).

I entrust you all to the care of St. Joseph, our spiritual Father. May he obtain for us all a new love for Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and may he lead us to a new awakening of the faith in our times.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, as I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron  
Archbishop of Detroit