

Joseph, my Friend



A. Joseph! Make me your friend

Joseph!

You, the man with a heart as open as the breadth of God's heart,
You, on whom Mary can lean like a steadfast rock,
You, from whom Jesus learned how to make his disciples his friends,
You, protector, model and confidant for Brother André,
Make me your friend.

Joseph!

Be for me the friend who opens the door to hearing the voice of God in the tumult of this world,
Be for me the friend who teaches me to discern the light of God within the shadows of our existence,
Be for me the friend whose company transforms everyday irritations into a path of growth and life.

Joseph!

I want to be your friend, like Brother André was.
I know I can count on you, just like thousands of your friends of all nations, languages, cultures and religions throughout the ages.
With you beside me, my attention, my compassion and my concern for my sisters and brothers in need will deeply take root in the Spirit of the all-merciful Father.
Joseph! Make me your friend.

Amen!

B. Prayer to Obtain a Special Favour through the Intercession of Saint André Bessette

Saint Brother André, we celebrate your presence among us.

Your loving friendship with Jesus, Mary and Joseph makes you another son in the eyes of the Father.

Compassion carries your words straight to God's heart, and your prayers are answered with comfort and healing. Through you, from our lips to God's ear, our supplications are heard.

We ask to be made a part of God's work in a spirit of prayer, compassion and humility.

Saint Brother André, pray for us.

Amen.

C. Our Friendship with Saint Joseph

Good Saint Joseph, guide for the spiritual life, you accept Brother André's prayers with affection.

Animated by the blessing of God our Father, in heartfelt union, may the friendship between you last for an eternity of gladness. Greet us - your friends also - with that same affection, and keep us under your protection.

With Jesus and Mary as our companions, lead us in the footsteps of Brother André in the ways of the Kingdom.

Amen.

D. Responsorial Psalm

Father Nicolas Sengson, SVD

March 10 Remember the marvels the Lord has done. (Ps 105)

March 11 The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

March 12 If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

March 13 My soul is thirsting for the living God; When shall I see him face to face. (Ps 41)

March 14 Remember your mercies, O Lord. (Ps 25)

March 15 Praise the Lord Jerusalem. (Ps 147)

March 16 If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

March 17 I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice. (Ps 81)

March 18 It is steadfast love, not sacrifice, that God desires. (Ps 51)

March 19 His line shall continue forever. (Ps 81)

E. O Joseph Mighty Patron

O Joseph, mighty patron,
 your love and strength bestow.
 Upon a pilgrim people who are the Church below.
 You were the Father's image, great Prince of David's line;
 Obtain for us God's blessing that we may be His sign.

Great Saint, you cherished Mary,
 who loved and cared for you;
 You taught and nurtured Jesus,
 O teach us to be true:
 True to the Church He founded,
 until we form above A family
 united in bonds of lasting love.

F. Glory to God

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth
 peace to peo-ple of good will.

G. Response to the Psalm

The son of Da-vid will live for ev-er.

H. Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ, King of end-less glo-ry!

I. Holy Holy

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts.
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
 san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

J. When we eat this bread

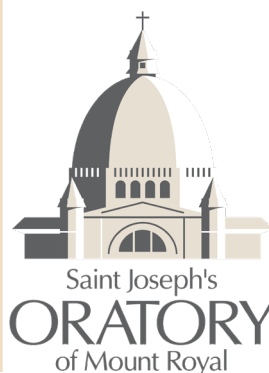
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-
 claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

K. Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
 world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.

L. Noble Spouse of Our Lady

Noble Spouse of Our Lady,
 Hero worthy of song,
 Jesus called you his father,
 Trusted, faithful and strong.
 Heal us, heed us come what may;
 Teach us, touch us on our way.
 You and Mary were pilgrims,
 Just as we are today.
 Help us all to find Jesus;
 He will teach us to pray.
 Hold us, help us in our need.
 Guard us, guide us, bid us Godspeed.



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