



SAINT JOSEPH AND THE NAME OF JESUS

Joseph, son of David, you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Cf. Matt.1:21

In a dream, Joseph was told that Mary had conceived a child by the Holy Spirit and the Angel messenger solicited his consent to God's plan: "She shall bring forth a son, and you shalt call his name Jesus." Thus, Joseph was privileged to be the first to publicly announce his name, Jesus. Jesus gave his disciples the privilege of speaking his name with authority. Can we, who believe in him, learn from Saint Joseph the qualities necessary to pray, 'in the name of Jesus' and receive the promises Jesus made to those who do?

Experiencing his own Annunciation, Joseph conceived the Christ Child in his heart. This according to Saint John Chrysostom was the Father's purpose in giving Joseph the privilege of naming his Son:

You shall be the first to call him by his name; and though he is not your bodily son you will not fail always to show him a father's love and care. I would have you name him yourself, that he and you may be more closely united.

St. John Chrysostom quoted by Fr. Hugh Barbour, O. Praem.; Dad Gets to Name the Kids, 3/25/2021

Therefore, at the boy's circumcision on the eighth-day, when asked by the Rabbi, "What name do you give to your son?" Joseph, by his God-given paternal authority said, "His name is Jesus." *REDEMPTORIS CUSTOS*, Apostolic Exhortation of Pope John Paul II promulgated on August 15, 1989, 9&12

How can a 'name' have power?
Saint Joseph with the Christ Child by Guido Reni. 1635 version Hermitage Museum Wikipedia Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License 4.0 Modification Color added.



*Him Who was foretold
by the Law and the Prophets
you did circumcise on the
eighth day, as a man; and you
gave Him the name Jesus,
which was preserved in the
Counsel of the Trinity, like a
precious pearl brought forth
from the treasures of Heaven
for the revelation of all people,
O Joseph; whereby having
astonished the angels, made us
glad, terrified the demons and
rendered the whole world
fragrant as with sweet-smelling
myrrh, you cried out to God:
Alleluia!*

Akathist Hymn to The Righteous Joseph,
The Betrothed of the All-holy Virgin Mary
The Sunday following the Nativity of Christ -
Kontakion VI

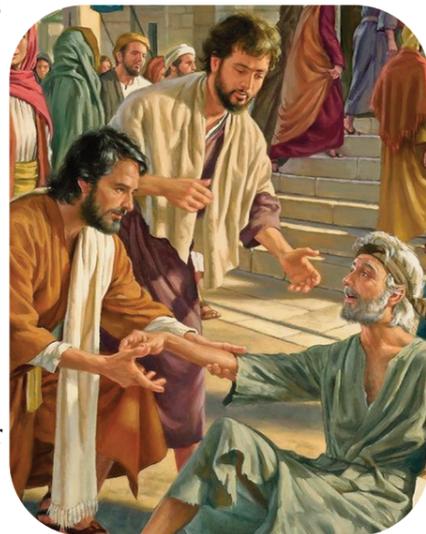
uaocamerica.com/liturgics/the-akathist-hymn-in-honor.html

In our modern world, we don't think much of names. They are functional, but not much else. But in the ancient world, it was understood that a name fundamentally represented the person, and knowing a person's name gave you some level of control over that person, the ability to call *on* that person. This is why, when asked by Moses for his name, God simply responds, "I am who I am." *Exod. 3:14* Unlike the pagan gods, the one true God was not at the beck and call of men. He was in total control.

From the burning bush the Eternal One refused to give Moses His personal name. Yet with the Incarnation, we see God humbling himself even to be given a name and, in a sense, placing himself at our beck and call. "If you ask anything *in my name*, I will do it." *John 14:14* God didn't become a generic "man," but a specific man: Jesus of Nazareth. By doing so, he infused the name Jesus with divine power. Then the Son of God taught us, that united to him, *as sons in the Son*, we could call the God of the Burning Bush, "Abba-Father."

In his public ministry Jesus manifested his Divine Authority over infirm bodies, sin sick souls, demons and Nature itself. Then, he entrusted the power of his Name to his Disciples sending them out two by two ahead of

him. He instructed them: "Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; whoever rejects me rejects Him who sent me." The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your Name." Luke 10: 1,9,16,17



In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter and John were arrested for healing a man crippled from birth and they were asked, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" The Rulers of the people and elders understood that names have power, and they wanted to know what name had the power to heal. Peter boldly told them, "this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead." Then Peter went even further by telling them that *salvation itself* comes from this Name and that "by no other name may one be saved." Cf. Acts 4:8-12

At our Baptism, we were entrusted with the Name of Jesus for the same reason that the Father entrusted his naming to St. Joseph, "that the two of you may be more closely united." By the outpouring of his Holy Spirit, we were made one with Christ. The Lord Jesus gave us his name and accompanied it with promises: "Where two or more are gathered together in my name I am in your midst." Matt. 18:20 And, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you



wish in my name, and it will be done for you." Cf. Jn. 15:7

Like Saint Joseph, as Christians, we have been called to speak Jesus' name. However, Joseph possessed two more qualities for us to emulate: humility and docility to the Father's Plan. When the disciples prayed, 'in the Name of Jesus,' they knew that the power did not come from their words but from his Person - from the infinite merits of his Incarnation, Passion and Resurrection.

Ultimately, any prayer prayed, in the Name of Jesus is spoken to our Heavenly Father. To pray in the Name of Jesus is to pray as Jesus prayed: "Father, not my will, but thine be done." Lk. 22:42 By his 'yes' to the Father's Plan, Saint Joseph became the first to call His Divine Son by name.



With the fatherly support of Saint Joseph, may we be able to hear Jesus' Plan for us to pray in his Name and receive His promises.

You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father *in My name* He may give to you. Jn. 15:12, 16-17



THE LAY DOMINICAN FRATERNITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT MONASTERY
Growing the Dominican Family by Ed Shea, OP

As Dominican Laity we are men and women who seek a richer and deeper spiritual life while living in the world. Dedicated to liturgical prayer, study of Sacred Truth and zeal for the salvation of souls, ours is an active response to the Gospel message. In word and deed, we aim to contradict the evils of the age by preaching the Truth of Christ.

As Lay Dominicans we make promises to follow *The Rule of the Lay Chapters of St. Dominic* and the *Directory of the Province of St Albert the Great*.

On November 11, 2023, in the Chapel of the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament, Mr. William Loeber, OP made Perpetual Profession and Mr. Christopher Sas, OP made Temporary Profession to the Order of Preachers witnessed by the Nuns, Extern Sisters and Members of the Lay Fraternity in the presence of Fr. David Santoro, Monastery Chaplain.



In addition, Ms. Rocio Hopkins and Mr. Zachary McAllister were received into the Order as Novices.

Our Fraternity is very blessed and grateful to be able to call the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament

our Dominican home. The Dominican Laity are the largest branch of the Dominican family joining the Friars, Cloistered Nuns, Extern Sisters, and Apostolic Sisters. Together, as family, we share one commitment to the spirituality of our Holy Father, St. Dominic – *to Praise, to Bless, to Preach*.



On left the Provincial President, Ms. Gwen Weinberger joined us, for the celebration. *Left to Right:* 1st row: Ms. Maria Dyer, OP, Gwen, Ms. Cheryl Beckman, OP, 2nd row: Ms. Brenda Hayes, OP, Ms. Rocio Hopkins, Mr. Zachary McAllister, Mr. William Loeber, OP, Mr. Christopher Sas, OP, *Back row:* Ms. Vyvian Gorbea-Oppliger, OP, Ms. Patricia Shea, OP, Ms. Ellen Licavoli, OP, Ms. Christine Hoeft-Loyer, OP, and Mr. Edward Shea, OP.



Congratulations

- Newly Received:
 - Ms. Rocio Hopkins
 - Mr. Zachary McAllister
- Perpetual Professed:
 - Mr. William Loeber, OP
- Temporary Professed:
 - Mr. Christopher Sas, OP



HOW DO I BECOME A LAY DOMINICAN?

An individual interested in becoming a Lay Dominican can be received into the Order after a six-month period of discernment and initial formation. The "novice" then enters a one-year program of further formation and discernment prior to making temporary profession to live according to the Lay Dominican Rule for a three-year period. During this period, the "temporary professed" engages in more detailed formation as he/she continues to discern the call to Dominican life. Finally, after successful completion of formation and discernment, the individual is invited to make perpetual profession to the Order. "Perpetually professed" wear the Dominican scapular (see photo) as a sign of this lifetime commitment to live as Dominicans according to the Rule. *If you are an active Catholic adult in full communion with the Church and are interested in learning more about becoming a Lay Dominican, check out our website at laydominicansfh.org.*

FOR DOMINICANS, A HABIT OF PRAYER IS A HABIT OF JOY ~ see our video at opnuns-fh.org
"How great is the joy and prophecy proclaimed to the world by the silence of the cloister!" Vultum Dei quaerere



Each morning an Extern Sister opens the front door to the chapel welcoming the public in for the 7:15 AM Mass. Sister Faustina Marie explains, "an Extern serves the Community as a liaison with the public. We work to maintain an environment which allows the Nuns to lead their Life of withdrawn from the world."



An Extern Sister is a woman who sees clearly how important our witness is to the life of the Church. A witness of a life of love, filled with joy, and with vitality and enthusiasm for the Gospel. Wearing the Dominican habit constantly reminds me to live a way of life and a behavior that radiates God's love. It's an invitation for people to approach and talk - a silent 'preaching'. I love proclaiming that I love Christ. To me the habit says, "I love God!"



Cloistered Nuns are said to be the beating heart of the Church.

To understand our vocation in this day and age is to understand the truth that enclosure doesn't close us in. Enclosure protects us. Just as every beating heart needs a rib cage to protect it, our life of Silence & Solitude needs the Enclosure.



I am a Dominican Contemplative Nun. The Dominican charism is monastic and it's contemplative. And for his Order of Preachers, Saint Dominic added the study of sacred Truth. By prayer and study the Nuns become women of the Word. Women of Truth. Seven times a day, in Choir, they 'preach' the Word which will not return void.



It's a Monastic tradition that Monks in choir are like knights in the list jousting with the Enemy for souls. The Dominican charism as a whole, very much like the Armor of God in Eph. 6, fits me to do the battle that I do in Choir – for the Glory of God and the Salvation of souls.



*My soul, wait in silence for God alone
 For my hope is from Him. cf. Ps. 62:5*

How do you know you are called to live for God alone in the Cloister?



You just get a sense. You get an interior nudge - "this is where I need to be." The Call is something that God puts in you and once you find the right place you're like, "There it is!"

I always wanted to be like a marine or a navy seal or rescue people who were in danger and I realized that in this life I am doing that, just not the way I thought of doing it.



If you have a calling to the cloistered life and you ignore it and you try to do something else with your life, even something heroic, it doesn't fit. Nothing that you do in life seems fit. When you have a calling and you actually respond to it then everything just clicks.



From the beginning, as I learned to live in the Contemplative Life, I really enjoyed the silence and solitude. But Dominican Nuns live in Community and as they say, "one finds 'oneself' wherever one goes." As human beings, we have differences in our opinions. The joy of our way of life is, that although we may have a disagreement, by the end of the day we are one. We say, 'Sorry'. We smile at each other. We don't even recall that we had any disagreement. You know it is this joy that gives all of us the strength to continue in this beautiful Life.



When a woman is called by the Lord, she's drawn by her heart. She falls in love. When you're in love you have to follow your beloved. And when you're in love you want to be alone with the One you love. That's our Cloistered life. *Jesus, our Love, is the cause of our Joy!*

“SIGNORE, TI AMO” ~ LORD, I LOVE YOU Pope Benedict XVI
The last words of our Holy Father as he gazed upon a replica of the Miraculous Veil



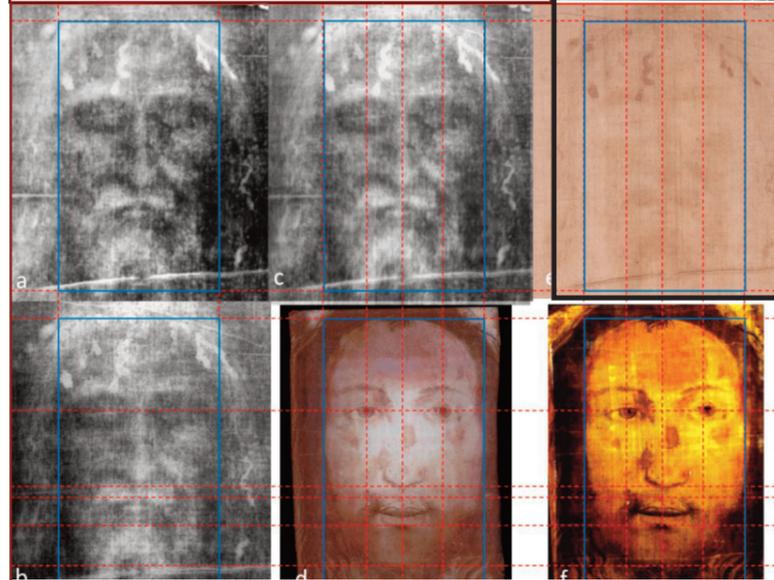
Original images:
 the transparent Veil of Manoppello over the face on the Shroud of Turin.



Pope Benedict XVI contemplates the image of Jesus in the Veil of the Holy Face in Manoppello.

(Photo Paul Badde/EWTN) <https://illuminadomine.com/>

Benedict was the first Pope after more than four hundred years to bend the knee before this “true image” or *Veronica* of Christ - the Veil of Manoppello. By his visit, Pope Benedict catapulted the Holy Image, out of its hiddenness in the silence of the isolation of Abruzzo, Italy and into the consciousness of the whole earth, “omnis terra”...but also into a technologically changed world where new possibilities of digital comparisons of images of the Holy Face could, as never before, identify it in a definitive and concise way as the “Crown Relic of the Resurrection.” Paul Badde



A Comparison between the Face of the Veil of Manoppello and the Face of the Shroud of Turin - Attribution CC by MDPI This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Authots: Liberato De Caro Emilio Matricciani and Giulio Fanti Acknowledgments: Paul Badde took the original photographs of the Manoppello face shown in Figure 1; G. B. Judica Cordiglia took the UV original photo and G. C. Durante took the visible light photograph of the Turin Shroud Man's face analyzed in the paper.

2024 DISCERNMENT RETREAT JULY 19th ~ 21st

**Single, Catholic women
 ages 18 to 35**

**Please, spread the news
 and pray for those the
 Lord is inviting.**

**Contact: Vocation Directress
 at dnfvocations@gmail.com**



*When I
 found Him
 Whom my
 heart loves
 ... I would not let him go!*

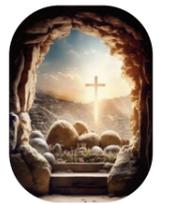
Song of songs



*Presented by our Vocation team
 with Fr. Jordan DeGuire, OP.*



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES
EASTER SUNDAY ~ THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
MARCH 28TH ~ 31ST



HOLY THURSDAY	4:00 pm MASS; Doors open 8:00 am; Gift Shop closes 2:30 pm
GOOD FRIDAY	3:00 pm Veneration of the Cross with Communion Service Doors open 8:00 am; Gift Shop Closed All Day
HOLY SATURDAY	8:00 am Doors open until 2:30 pm; Gift Shop open until 2:30 pm
EASTER -	
VIGIL MASS	11:00 pm Doors open 10:45 pm
MORNING MASS	9:30 am Doors open at 9:00 am and close at Noon

Intentions: _____

 _____ **Please check here if no acknowledgment needed**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

2023 SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Shortly after Mass on Thanksgiving Day, 2023, Our Prioress, Sister Mary Peter, assisted by Sr. Mary of the Compassion, who drew a winning ticket for the for this years Sweepstakes.

The winners were :

First Prize of \$1,000.00: Delores Budnik, West Bloomfield, MI

Second Prize of \$500.00: Rev. Richard Perfetto Westland, MI

The five *Third Prize* winners of \$100.00 were:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Patricia Kangas | Rochester Hills, MI |
| Jane Tozer | Waterford, MI |
| Russell Callahan | Bloomfield, MI |
| John McGuire | Manchester, NJ |
| Margaret Sienko | Saginaw, MI |



We rejoice with these winners, and we offer our sincere thanks to them and to all who so graciously partook of the sweepstakes.

We ask our dear Lord to bless a hundredfold the generosity of one and all.

The total amount that was donated was \$16,518.00.

WEB ADDRESS: www.opnuns-fh.org
Donate on-line via PayPal or "Givng"
Prayer Line: 248-626-8253



SEE IN THIS ISSUE:

JOSEPH AND THE NAME OF JESUS page 1

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES page 7



Please, share this Echoes with your friends.

Please, donate on-line by going to www.opnuns-fh.org, click on **Giving Tab** - And please consider remembering us in your will.

NOVENA OF SAINT JOSEPH ~ MARCH 11TH~ 19TH

Ite Ad Joseph - Go to Joseph! - St. André's powerful mantra, a call to Faith and Hope.

St. Joseph, man of prayer, help us to stand with you before God, humble, attentive, faith-filled, awaiting the loving mercy of His providence. Teach us to pray as you did, with the inner simplicity and trust of silent prayer and the purity and strength of worship in union with our brothers and sisters.

The whole world is your child, Joseph.

Be protector and advocate for the searching and the sorrowing, the struggling and the straying, for all of us who long for peace and the fullness of life.

Take our lives, our times, our needs into your fatherly care, so that we may follow Christ Jesus down pathways of holiness and wholeness. Enfold us and those we love in your prayer, father Joseph.

Obtain for us the daily bread of grace we need for this life, so that we may come at last in your company to the eternal joy of Heaven. Amen.

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The whole world is your child, Joseph.