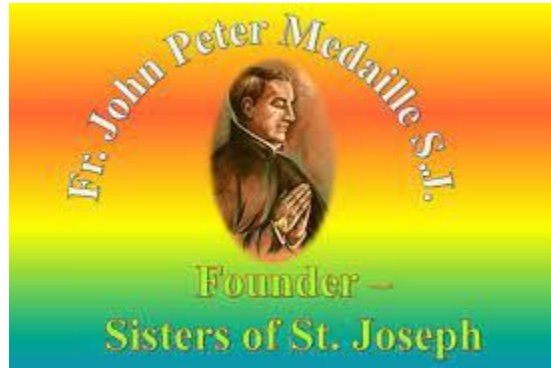


Prayer Service
Celebration of the life of Jean-Pierre Medaille, SJ
December 30th



Centring Song:

Let Your Beauty by Margaret Rizza

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmZ3RJobQ_o

Let your beauty shine in me, Lord.
Shine in my heart, my mind, my soul.
Let your beauty shine in me, Lord;
Shine and make me whole.

Reading:

More than three centuries ago, a Jesuit priest in the city of Le Puy, France, met a group of women who wished to serve God by living openly in the world and helping the poor. They wanted to combine the spirituality and piety of cloistered groups with a life of apostolic service. Father Médaille called this idea "The Little Design." The group founded with his guidance became the Sisters of St. Joseph. They spread from France across several continents and are still ministering today. We are part of this great movement in the Church.

Father Medaille expressed the founding grace of our Congregation with these core ideas:

Stimulated by the Holy Spirit of Love and receptive to the Spirit's inspirations, the Sister of St. Joseph moves always towards profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction from whom she does not separate herself and for whom, in the following of Christ, she works in order to achieve unity of neighbor with neighbor and neighbor with God directly in this apostolate and indirectly through works of charity: in humility-the spirit of the Incarnate Word; in sincere charity-the manner of St. Joseph whose name she bears; in an Ignatian-Salesian climate: that is, with an orientation toward excellence, tempered by gentleness, peace, joy.

- From the central ideas of Jean Pierre Médaille, SJ, as drawn from the Primitive Constitution

Prayer in the Spirit of the Two Trinities

God of Inclusive Love,
Christ of Outpouring Love,
Spirit of Communal Love,
breathe in us and among us,
Sisters of St. Joseph and Associates,

May we join together
with the zeal of Jesus,
a zeal marked by generous courage
and humble self-emptying love,

the fidelity of Mary
who was filled to overflowing
with every kind of grace,

and the cordial charity of Joseph
whose service was grounded
in relationship with God
and neighbor without distinction.

Rooted in the rich heritage
of the women who are our past,
seized by the same Love
that impelled them to be in relationship
with the reality of their changing world
and changing times,
inspired by their vision, integrity, and fidelity,
we enter into this our time together
with courage and hope.

Our God, the people of our world,
our Earth, and all creation,
call us to embrace
ever widening circles of communion.
May we be impelled by action,
action that stirs up Love,
is connective and inclusive,
and deepens our commitment
to be and become Your people.

Adapted from
Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston
-- based on The Règlements of Jean Pierre Médaille SJ
, to the Daughters of Joseph



Logo Design by Ann Marie Grady, CSJ

Prayer by Joanne Gallagher, CSJ

Concluding Prayer:

God of Great Love,

Your son, Jesus, was nurtured by St. Joseph.

May we look to Joseph as our model of justice,
gentleness, and humility.

May we, with Joseph, nurture the life of Christ
in our lives and in the lives of others

Uniting all people and all creation
with God and with one another.

May Joseph's life inspire us
to be a hopeful, healing presence
within our world.

Amen.

- **Joanne Gallagher, CSJ. © 1999**