

September 9, 2021

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I would like to offer you a gift that you can share with your family, parishioners, and loved ones: An Act of Consecration to St. Joseph. Pope Francis has dedicated this year of 2021 to St. Joseph. May I invite you to share this spiritual preparation experience with me, which will culminate in a celebration on **All Saints Day, Monday, Nov. 1, 2021** at **5:15 PM.** The event will be available via the diocesan livestream: rcda.org/livestream and will take place at our Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. If you prefer, you could also lead the Consecration with those in your care at the weekend Masses.

Beginning on **Wednesday, September 29, 2021**, you and those who would be interested can enter into an easy-to-follow daily prayer and reflection opportunity. It's called *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*. As a good author, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, leads us step-by-step to the Consecration in his very readable book. For all of the resources you need, please visit our dedicated web page, rcda.org/JosephConsecration or email Renée, our Coordinator of Parish Services & Respect Life Ministry, at renee.morgiewicz@rcda.org.

I look forward to learning from your experience of this unique encounter with God's Mercy. My prayer is that this Consecration will deepen your own journey of faith, enrich the lives those with whom you share it daily, and animate the New Evangelization. Even when this consecration is culminated, St. Joseph's open heart will remain forever one of our holy doors to the Heart of Jesus!

Lovingly,

Edward B. Scharfenberger

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Bishop of Albany