

Dear Parish Families,

I went to Catholic School in New Jersey just outside of New York City before my family moved to California in 5th Grade. I can still remember some of the cultural and religious traditions from those early days. The two Saints we will celebrate this week remind me of my time in New Jersey. At that time, there was a strong Irish Catholic community and an equally strong Italian Catholic in the neighborhood I grew up in. The Irish had St. Patrick and the Italians had St. Joseph. Of course, each community recognized both but each placed special emphasis on “their” saint. I would like to share two wonderful prayers associated with each of these great saints.

Prayer of St. Patrick

*Christ be with me, Christ within me
Christ behind me, Christ before me
Christ beside me, Christ to win me
Christ to comfort me and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger
Christ in hearts of all that love me
Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.*

Prayer of St. Joseph

*O Blessed Saint Joseph,
faithful guardian and protector of virgins,
to whom God entrusted Jesus and Mary,
I implore you by the love which you did bear them,
to preserve me from every defilement of soul and body,
that I may always serve them in holiness and purity of love.
Amen.*

Both wonderful saints that any of us can turn to in prayer. Happy St. Patrick’s Day (March 17th); Happy St. Joseph Day (March 19th).

Sincerely,



Michael Cantu
Principal