

## Reflection Wednesday Week 2 of Lent St Joseph 2025

This feast of Saint Joseph was established in the 10<sup>th</sup> century to honour the man entrusted with the care of Jesus and Mary. Remarkably, none of the Gospels record any words spoken by Joseph, yet his eloquent silence speaks volumes about his character! He was a man of love, care, obedience, humility, and discretion, working quietly in the background, qualities we would all want.

Joseph's life was not without its challenges. He experienced deep worry when he discovered that Mary, his betrothed, was pregnant. Yet, upon receiving the angel's reassurance in a dream (that the child was conceived through the Holy Spirit) Joseph responded with trust and obedience, taking Mary into his home as his wife. He embraced the role of father with a heart full of love and responsibility. Joseph was not only a contemplative but also a man of action: finding a stable when no room was available at the inn, fleeing to Egypt to protect his family, and guiding them safely back to Nazareth. He was actively engaged in God's plan, performing ordinary tasks with extraordinary faithfulness.

Joseph's example encourages us to serve God wholeheartedly, trusting that small acts of obedience can play a part in God's greater purpose.

*Rejoice! Honoured offshoot of the root of Jesse!*

*Rejoice! You who were adorned within with royal majesty!*

*Rejoice! By lack of earthly things, you acquired spiritual wealth!*

*Rejoice! Through obscurity you obtained everlasting glory!*

*Rejoice! You who are far more glorious than kings!*

*Rejoice! You who are more righteous than the patriarchs and forefathers!*

*Rejoice! O righteous Joseph, ready helper and intercessor for our souls!*