

Sending in your Petitions

You are invited to send in your petitions, which will be placed at St Joseph's Altar during the Novena to be remembered in the Masses and prayers. If you would like to have your deceased relatives and friends remembered or if you have any special intentions, please list them on the enclosed slip and return to me before the start of the Novena. Thank you so much for supporting our missionary work in previous years with your prayers, your letters of encouragement and your contributions.

All donations towards our work are gratefully received. Could I please ask you to make cheques payable to 'St Joseph's Missionary Society'. Thank you.

Requesting a Booklet

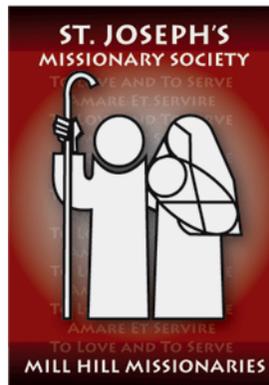
If you would like me to send you a Novena Booklet by post to enable you to join us from home by praying the daily Novena, please write to me, enclosing a stamped self addressed envelope if possible.

Novena Director
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For more information on Mill Hill Missionaries, visit
www.millhillmissionaries.co.uk
Registered Charity Numbers 220690 & SC039809

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Mill Hill Missionaries

NOVENA NEWS

by Fr Liam Cummins MHM, Novena Director



National Novena to St Joseph

10 - 18 March 2018



58 Cookham Road
Maidenhead
SL6 7HT

*Warmest greetings
from Fr Liam*

We don't know a lot about Joseph. We know that he was the husband of Mary. We know too that he was a carpenter and that he lived in Nazareth. The Gospel tells us that he was an upright man and a man of principle.

We also know that he was a righteous man who followed the law: he observed religious law. We know he went to Jerusalem for the Jewish festivals. He also followed civil law: he went to Bethlehem for the census. We know too that Joseph had dreams: God spoke to him in his dreams and he followed his dreams.

He was a man of action: he does what the angel tells him; he takes Mary as his wife; he goes to Bethlehem; he finds a place to stay for the night; he takes his family to Egypt... He is a man of action – not a man of words.

He was a man after God's will. He longed to know God's will and searched to see how he fitted into the Father's plan. And just like God had a plan for Joseph, God has a plan for each one of us. God gives us dreams and speaks to us in our dreams.

Let us pray to St Joseph: let him guide us and help us open our hearts to God's plan; that we may be upright and righteous; that we may be men and women after God's will; that we may be able to pray, "*Father show me how I fit into this plan of yours.*" And dream. Let God speak to you in your dreams, then get up, and do as the angel of the Lord directs you. God has a great plan for everyone.

Part of our dream, as the Mill Hill family, is that people continue to be drawn to God by our witness and prayers.

Through this Novena, we continue to praise God for the wonderful things he has done for us. We give thanks for the many healings and petitions that have been granted. We give thanks for the many young men and women who continue to come forward to present themselves for service as Mill Hill Missionaries and Associates.

Indeed, the Mill Hill Missionaries extend a heartfelt thanks to you all for making this dream become a reality. At the same time, we have many catechists that are being trained in proclaiming the Word of God to people who are hearing it for the first time.

Thank you all for your generosity, your prayers and support over the years, through your participation in the National Novena of St Joseph and also for promoting the Mill Hill Missionaries in your homes and parishes.

Let us all continue, like St Joseph, to be people of action and continue to do something wonderful for another through a prayer, a gift, a visit, empowering and encouraging others.... At the same time, we continue to dream dreams of a better world where violence, isolation and fear give way to peace, inclusion and hope.

We are, and can continue to be, authentic gifts to each other.

*May you be blessed and let this Novena of 2018
be a wonderful experience in your life.*

Fr Liam Cummins MHM
Novena Director