

# St. Joseph Altar

*Faith ♦ Family ♦ Food*



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**Bryan, Texas  
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# Welcome to the Feast of St. Joseph<sup>1</sup>

Our journey began with a simple phone call: “*Circe, your mother told me you were going to be Poggioreale for the St. Joseph’s Altar in March. Guess what? We’re going to be there, too,*” Vancie said. And so it was that three generations of Sicilian Texans, all related to one another, ended up traveling together last March to Poggioreale, a small hill town in Western Sicily where our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents originated. My husband, daughter, and I were there at the invitation of the commune (town) to screen an ethnographic film we had made several years ago. *Texas Tavola: A Taste of Sicily in the Lone Star State* traces the migration of food, religion, and identity from Sicily to Texas, with a focus on the elaborate rituals associated with the *Tavola di San Giuseppe* (or St. Joseph’s altar). The altar of the film, the same one we celebrate today, is a complex expression of religious devotion and folk creativity, a holy banquet to feed the poor, and a Lenten feast to celebrate our blessings for a crowd that can swell into the hundreds in Sicily and Texas alike. Bringing the film to Sicily was a long-awaited opportunity to share our version of the tradition with our Sicilian kinfolk. With Italian subtitles in place and the film now accessible to an Italian audience, we wondered if Sicilians would recognize Sicilian-Americans and our versions of these traditions as their own? If they would get past the Texas accents to care about distant relatives they had never met? That’s what we had come here to find out. And quite by accident, the same group us that had appeared in *Texas Tavola*—Vancie Todaro and her sister, Angelina, Vancie’s daughter, Graceanna, her son, Ross Todaro Jr., and his wife, Geneva, my daughter, Miranda Sofia Lewis, husband, Randolph Lewis and myself—were all converging on our ancestral home at the same time. This was the first of many miraculous coincidences that had us thinking that St. Joseph’s had a hand in bringing us together.

We had a powerful screening in Poggioreale—for us as a family, as Catholics with a special devotion to St. Joseph, as descendants of Poggiorealese, as filmmakers and, I think, for our audience. What we had done was relatively simple: we had recorded the ancient rituals of a small town thriving in a faraway place. But for this small act of attention to the improbable flow of culture, the community of Poggioreale was effusively grateful, presenting us bouquets of flowers, equally florid speeches, and a generous luncheon with the Mayor and his administration. The mayor spoke, the deputy mayor spoke, even the “baby mayor” spoke with impressive authority (he is a 12 year old who wears a Italian tri-color sash to indicate his official role as a junior politician). The Sicilians marveled that Texans still constructed altars in the old ways. The Vice Mayor singled out Vancie and Angelina for their devotion to St. Joseph and for their hard work in carrying on the beautiful tradition of our forefathers. One bystander said what was happening in Texas was “like something from Sicily 200 years ago.” Old people cried and shook our hands like we had found a long lost relative, which, in a modest sense, we had.

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<sup>1</sup> Preface written by Circe Sturm and Randolph Lewis.



We experienced many beautiful interactions during our stay. One of the most moving was when an elderly man began to recite a verse in honor of St. Joseph before the main community altar beneath the Church. In a stunning coincidence, that we agreed was surely the work of St. Joseph yet again, the poet's daughters, Vancie and Angelina, were standing in the same room. Visiting from Texas, these sisters were experiencing the *Tavola* in the town where their father, John Palasota, was born and raised and continued to be a local literary hero. Having lived their whole life in Bryan, Texas, Vancie and Angelina still pray in Sicilian in the manner their father taught them to do and lead altars that have fed more than 800 people. Now, in the basement of a small church, they were crying and embracing a man who knew their father in the 1940s and still remembered his powerful poem to St. Joseph. They also found their father's poem hanging on the wall next to the altar and learned that his poetry was displayed proudly in the local museum. Meanwhile, small children milled about, curious about the treats. Rosalinda Fazzino, a sweet young woman who works in the Mayor's office invited us to her mother's altar, proud that her family had created a vast display of bread and flowers along with a meal for 100 people. At another altar, done in the traditional style from many years ago, a 95-year-old woman in a black dress walked over and joined us in conversation—she was as lucid and able as anyone in the room. She, too, remembered Vancie and Angelina's father, as did the former Mayor, Mr. Maniscalco, who later invited Vancie and Angelina to his home to share documents and stories about their father that he had gathered. This fusion of religion, nation, art, and family was powerful and we all felt moved by the experience. Something unusual was happening, the full import of which we did not yet fully understand.

The following day was just as extraordinary. Everyone toured the altars that were built in the town hall, the church, and private houses. Older people were obvious enthusiasts, but so were children and teenagers, who approached the tradition with a remarkable degree of respect and enthusiasm. For all of us, there was a sense of mutual recognition that the St. Joseph Altar was "our thing" as a community, as a people, whether we were raised in Texas or Sicily. This special devotion to St. Joseph, this focus on faith, family and feasting, shaped all of us. Just as it is in Texas, at the culmination of the feast day in Poggioreale, when we gathered to eat at Rosalinda's house, the altar was broken apart in a joyous feeding frenzy of cake, bread, and cookies, not to mention the vast piles of pasta, beans and vegetables that had already been served from steaming cauldrons. We were reminded not to thank the hosts for food as it was handed to us. Doing so takes away from the real host: St. Joseph.

That night we walked in a three-hour procession through the streets of this rural village, 500 souls walking in an ancient ritual through the modernism of the new town. Movingly, the prayers that were sung to St. Joseph during the procession were the exact same ones that we sing during the rosary in Texas. The Sicilian women and men who were walking next to their Texas cousins immediately recognized that we knew the words and were delighted, nodding their heads at us with a smile. This sense of mutual connection grew so strong that at one point the local men who were



members of the St. Joseph Altar Society honored their Texas *cugino*, Ross Todaro Jr., by inviting him to help them pull the enormous wooden platform that held the illuminated statue of St. Joseph. The Sicilians told us that Sicilian Texans are possibly more religious, but we all experienced the same sense of devotion, fervor and intensity as we walked through the dark streets, passing town elders who stood in the windows, watching in silence, stopping the procession from time to time to bless the local infirm. We walked together late into the night, not getting a chance to eat until almost midnight. Even then we were still going: the charming young waiter at the local Pizzeria asked to sit with us, curious about Texas Sicilians and their altars.

What we learned on our trip to Sicily was that we were part of something much bigger than ourselves—we are connected to a very specific community and its' unique religious and cultural history, and our special tradition of honoring St Joseph reflects not only our devotion to the Saint, but also how we as Sicilian and Sicilian-American people exude faith, hope, kindness, and endurance in the face of the absurdities and joys of life. St. Joseph blessed our trip and brought us together for a reason, so that we could carry the message of our experience in Poggioreale back to all of you, and so that we could inspire future generations to continue this tradition that makes us who we are. This altar is a both an offering and a blessing, the work of many generations in an extended family to inspire us all to continue to honor our past while looking to the future. Enjoy!



### **MAY ST. JOSEPH ALWAYS SMILE UPON YOU**

Graceanna Todaro Smith, Geneva & Ross Todaro Jr., David Todaro,  
Circe Accurso Sturm, Angelina Palasota Krolczyk, Ross & Vancie Palasota Todaro



## ***Memorare to St. Joseph***

**Remember, O most illustrious Patriarch Saint Joseph,  
On the testimony of St. Teresa, thy devoted client,  
Never has it been heard that  
Anyone who invoked thy protection  
Or sought thy mediation has not obtained relief.  
In this confidence I come before thee,  
My loving protector,  
Chaste spouse of Mary,  
Foster-father of the Savior of men  
And dispenser of the treasures of His Sacred Heart.  
Despise not my earnest prayer,  
But graciously hear and obtain my petition.  
AMEN.**





## ***History of the Saint Joseph Altar***

The celebration of the St. Joseph's Altars on or near March 19 dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is an ancient Sicilian/Italian tradition that immigrants from Southern Italy brought to the United States. To this day, it is still one of their more celebrated Church holidays. Reasons vary for this devotion. Some to fulfill a promise, some to give thanks for a favor granted, such as the safe return of a loved one from the war, some for healing the sick, for a happy family or for success in studies or business. This tradition is about faith, feasting and family, the three values at the heart of the Sicilian way of life. This feast comes two days after the feast of St. Patrick and is a feast in both senses of the word: it is a religious celebration that consists of a rosary in Italian as well as a Mass. It is also a banquet with an abundance of food and decorative ethnic desserts, and provides an opportunity for the people to share.

Legend has it that the first table was offered when prayers to St. Joseph resulted in the end of a period of drought and famine. Their prayers were answered with much needed rain. The harvest of their staple crop, the fava bean, was abundant and the farmers, in thanksgiving constructed a three tiered altar representing the Holy Trinity, draped it white and adorned it with flowers and laid upon it their finest grain, fruits, vegetables, seafood and wine. The poor were invited to share in the prayers and festivities. St. Joseph has been revered as the patron of carpenters, widows, unwed mothers and orphans. He is also considered the protector of Sicilians and the guardian of poor people.

The first generation of Sicilians instructed their children to continue giving tables as a duty of faith and a way to thank St. Joseph for their prosperity. The tradition was continued in the United States beginning in 1910 and the 1920's in the Italian sections of areas where they had settled after coming to America. Most of the Sicilians coming to America were poor and brought with them some clothing, very little money and a fava bean for good luck.

Families desiring to honor St. Joseph will get together with family and friends weeks ahead of time of the feast day to begin cooking and preparing the traditional foods. Many hours are spent shaping and designing the elaborate cookies, which decorate the altar. Quite a number of these items are symbolic. These foods consist of large golden bread loaves, (cuccidatti) formed in the shapes of wreaths, representing the crown of thorns, hearts symbolizing the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary, the Cross, representing the crucifixion, the Chalice for water and wine, a Monstrance containing the Host, St. Joseph's staff, palms representing those strewn in Jesus' path, fig-filled cookies elaborately decorated, cookies (biscotti) in various colors and flavored with almonds, lemon, anise, and other spices, aneli (small rings), pastry kernels (pignolatti) molded with caramelized sugar into pyramids

representing the pine cones Jesus played with as a child. On the feast day, a Italian spaghetti dinner is served to all the guests who are in attendance. Since this holiday usually falls during Lent, there is no meat served. Pasta e sugo (spaghetti with sauce) with grated toasted bread crumbs (mudica) representing the sawdust for St. Joseph the Carpenter, and hard boiled eggs (suggesting new life.) Pupa cu l'uova, (colored eggs in sweet bread) foretell the coming of Easter. Also, called by the same name, are braided breads baked with whole hard-boiled eggs that have been colored and set into dough. Often there will also be cannoli and sfingi (Italian-style beignet) as well as baccala (fish), frittata (omelets cooked with vegetables) and carduni (stem of the artichoke plants.)

During the week actually preceding the Feast Day, a novena and prayer service is held each evening for 9 days during which the Holy Rosary is recited and often sung in Italian. On the day before the Feast Day, a Mass is offered in thanksgiving and anyone is invited to attend. After the Mass, the Priest blesses the altar and all the food that will be served to those attending the following day.

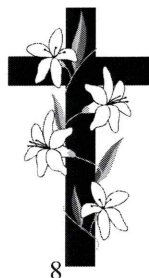
In her planning, the hostess chooses a designated number of persons to represent different saints, including an honored pair representing Joseph and Mary and a child to represent the child Jesus. On the morning of the Feast Day after the Rosary has been sung, Joseph, Mary and the Child will lead a precession to portray the journey to Bethlehem where they will knock at three doors, the "tupa tupa" ritual of knocking to ask for food and shelter. They will be turned away at the first two and invited in at the third door for food and hospitality. They will take their place at a special table to preside over a festive meal along with other people representing saints that have been chosen to enjoy the meal with the Holy Family. St. Joseph sits at the head facing the altar; alongside him is his staff. The Madonna sits at the right of St. Joseph, and the Infant Jesus on his left is seated on a white satin cushion in the place of honor with the other saints sitting all around. The child portraying the infant Jesus will bless the Altar with Holy Water and a sprig of fresh mint. No one is allowed to eat until these guests have been served a several course meal beginning with a slice of orange and ending with desserts. The courses consist of fried vegetables, fruits, spaghetti, fish, stuffed artichokes (which are a major attraction), bread, wine and desserts. Tradition has it they are to eat a bite of each food item on the altar.

Before the guests leave the table, the hostess will wash the hands and feet of the Holy Family and the chosen representing the saints just as Christ did to the disciples before the Last Supper. Once the Holy Family leaves the table, a spaghetti dinner is served to everyone in attendance, followed with the serving of many cookies, pastries, etc. The food that remains will then be distributed to various charities and those less fortunate. The only item that remains with the host and hostess is the monstrance.

A small glass of wine is offered to each guest as a token of friendship. Any guest may request a portion of the St. Joseph's Bread to be taken home and to be kept in the house all year to protect the occupants from starvation. The bread is also believed capable of diverting storms that are headed towards one's property. A fava bean is also given to each guest to be kept in his or her coin purse reflecting the belief that the lucky bean will keep the owner from going broke.

The faith behind the St. Joseph Table expresses itself in feasting and creating the atmosphere of family and friends. On St. Joseph Day, there are no strangers, only family and friends we haven't yet met. The values of Sicilian life are faith, feasting and family and are the same values behind St. Joseph's Table and the Lord's.

There is much levity and joyful exchanges of camaraderie. The age-old expression is frequently used, **"May St. Joseph always smile upon you."**





## ***The Ceremony of the Saints***

One of the features on the day of the St. Joseph Altar is the re-enactment of the Bethlehem story. Some children and adults are chosen to represent Jesus, Mary and Joseph, favorite saints and angels.

As Joseph sought shelter for Mary by knocking on doors many years ago, the “saints” in a procession fashion knock (tupa-tupa) on three doors. At the first two doors, they are turned away, but at the third door they are extended warm greetings with the following words, “Whatever I have is yours. Come and eat at my table.” The “saints” represented are then led to the altar table which is set with beautiful linen, china, silver and crystal. They are then reverently served and the children and visitors remain silent during this contemplative period.

Jesus then opens the ceremony by cutting the bread that is to be eaten by the “saints”. St. Joseph is always served first, and the tradition denotes the order in which the courses are presented. With the exception of the pasta, there are always three portions of the same food on each plate, symbolizing the Three Persons in the Blessed Trinity and the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Orange fruit segments and other fruits begin the feast, followed by bread, pasta with mudica (bread crumbs), seafood, vegetables, cookies, desserts, as well as water and wine. Before the “saints” begin eating each one of the courses, they must listen for the words “Mangiate, santi dolci.” (Eat, sweet saints.)

At the close of the ceremony, the saints are given one of the symbolic breads to remind them of their participation. Jesus takes the cross, the rosary goes to Mary, and the staff to Joseph. The altar is then “broken” and all guests are then invited to partake of this special meal.

***This Saint Joseph Altar will be Blessed on Saturday, March 21, 2015.  
You are encouraged to kneel and pray for your own intentions.***

# ***The Saint Joseph Altar Customs***

## THE ALTAR

The altar is constructed in three tiers, representing the THREE PERSONS in the Blessed Trinity. A statue of St. Joseph or a picture of the Holy Family is always placed on the top tier of the altar surrounded by flowers, greenery and fruit.

## THE BLESSING OF THE ALTAR

A priest blesses all of the items that are placed on the altar—the food, candles, medals, holy cards and fava beans—in a special ceremony the afternoon/evening before the altar is “broken.” That evening people may visit to pray and to leave petitions.

## THE FRESH GREEN BRANCH

At the place or close to the place where the altar is erected, a fresh green cedar branch is placed over the door and at the road when appropriate. This is indicative of welcoming the public to be involved in the ceremony and to share the food.

## THE BREAD OF ST. JOSEPH

A specially prepared bread is blessed and then is distributed at the altar. It may be eaten, but is often times saved. During a storm or inclement weather, a small piece is thrown out and prayers are said in hopes that the storm will pass.

## THE MEAL WITHOUT MEAT

There are several speculations as to why meats are never served at a St. Joseph's Altar. First of all, the St. Joseph's Altar occurs during the Lenten season, and this meal also serves as a reminder of the Last Supper. But research reveals that the Sicilian's ancestors ate mostly bread, vegetables, and some fish.

## A “BROKEN” ALTAR

The term “broken” in reference to an altar means that the beautiful, decorative food is served to the families and friends gathered at the ceremony.

## MINT

The Saint representing Jesus blesses the altar with a sprig of mint doused with holy water and says “I Bless this Altar in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.”

## PANE GROSSO (Big Breads)

Devotional breads are wreath-shaped and each represents the saints. Friends request to have a bread on the altar in a special petition in Thanksgiving to a saint for an intercession or answered prayer. These breads are decorated with cookies, candies, and special fig cookies intricately shaped and sculpted....that are also called cuccidatti.

## WASHING OF THE FEET

A ceremony performed by the host and hostess of the altar in which the feet of the people representing the saints are washed and kissed by those who choose to do so. This is an act of humility.



# ***The Saint Joseph Altar Symbols***

MONSTRANCE	Holds the Sacred Heart
CROSS	Crucifixion of Christ
DOVE	The Holy Spirit
LAMB	Jesus, The Lamb of God
FISH	Christian Symbol of Christ
BIBLE	Large Cake that is one of the focal points of the Altar
HEART	Sacred Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary

## **OTHER SYMBOLS**

**Mudica** - browned and seasoned breadcrumbs sprinkled over the Pasta, representing the sawdust of Joseph, the Carpenter.

**Pignolatti** - fried pastry molded into the shape of pinecones representing the pinecones that Jesus played with as a child.

**Whole Fish** - represents the miracle of the loaves and the fishes.

**Pupa Cu L'uova** - baked bread filled with dyed Easter eggs symbolizing the coming of Easter.

**Wine** - miracle of Cana: the Blood of Our Savior.

**Grapes** - vineyards of Sicily

**Fig Leaves** - represent the fig orchards of Sicily; and the dried figs used to make cuccidatti

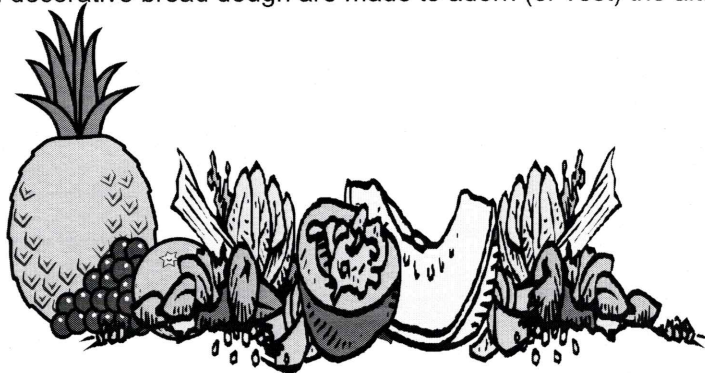
**The Fava Bean** - The gift of a blessed bean is the most well-known of the customs associated with the St. Joseph's Altar. During one of Sicily's severe famines, the fava bean thrived while other crops failed. It was originally grown for animal fodder, but because of its amazing resilience, it became the sustaining food of the farmers and their families. The fava bean also is a taken of the St. Joseph's Altar, and a reminder to pray to St. Joseph.

**Burro (donkey)** - the transportation of Joseph, Mary and Jesus.

**Citrus Fruits (Orange/Lemon)** - Abundance of the Earth

**Cuccidatti** - these breads are decorated with cookies, candies and special fig cookies intricately shaped and sculpted.

**Le Vastede** - small decorative bread dough are made to adorn (or vest) the altar



# ***Novena & Rosary in Honor of St. Joseph***

***March 22, 2015***

This altar is being offered in honor of St. Joseph, and in thanksgiving for prayers answered for our family.

## ***CHAPLET OF ST. JOSEPH ROSARY***

Chaplet of St. Joseph: The white beads symbolize St. Joseph's purity and the purple beads his saintly piety.

***"IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT – AMEN"***

***(PURPLE BEADS) – "PRAISED AND BLESSED BE JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH"***

***(WHITE BEADS) – A MYSTERY OF THE ROSARY, AND TWO "HAIL MARY'S"***

**THE CHAPLET IS ENDED WITH THE FOLLOWING PRAYER:**

**LEADER: "PRAY FOR US, O HOLY ST. JOSEPH"**

**RESPONSE: "THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE PROMISES OF CHRIST"**

## **MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY**

### **JOYFUL**

ANNUNCIATION  
VISITATION  
THE BIRTH OF JESUS  
PRESENTATION OF CHILD JESUS  
FINDING JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

### **SORROWFUL**

AGONY IN THE GARDEN  
SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR  
CROWNING WITH THORNS  
CARRYING OF THE CROSS  
THE CRUCIFIXION

### **GLORIOUS**

RESURRECTION  
ASCENSION  
DESCENT OF HOLY SPIRIT  
ASSUMPTION  
CORONATION

### **LET US PRAY**

O GOD, WHO PREDESTINED ST. JOSEPH FROM ALL ETERNITY FOR THE SERVICE OF THINE ETERNAL SON AND HIS BLESSED MOTHER, AND MADE HIM WORTHY TO BE THE SPOUSE OF THIS BLESSED VIRGIN AND THE FOSTER FATHER OF THY SON, WE BESEECH THEE, THROUGH ALL THE SERVICES HE HAS RENDERED TO JESUS AND MARY ON EARTH, THAT THOU WOULDST MAKE US WORTHY OF HIS INTERCESSION AND GRANT US TO ENJOY THE HAPPINESS OF HIS COMPANY IN HEAVEN THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD... AMEN.





### HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

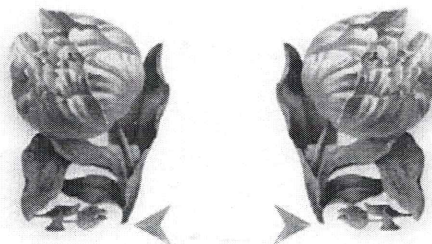
O JESUS, only begotten Son of the Eternal Father, well beloved Son of the Blessed Virgin and foster Child of St. Joseph, we most fervently implore Thee, through Mary Thine ever blessed Mother and St. Joseph Thy foster father, take our children under Thy special charge and enclose them in the love of Thy Sacred Heart. They are the children of Thy Father in Heaven, created after His own image; they are Thy possession, for Thou hast purchased them with Thy Precious Blood; they are temples of the Holy Ghost, Who sanctified them in Baptism and implanted in their hearts the virtues of faith, hope and charity.

O most loving Jesus, rule and guide them, that they may live according to the holy Catholic Faith, that they may never waver in their confidence in Thee and that they may ever remain faithful to Thy love.

O Mary, Blessed Mother of Jesus, grant to our children, a place in thy maternal heart! Spread over them thy protecting mantle when danger threatens their innocence; keep them firm when they are about to stray from the path of virtue; and should they have the misfortune of falling into mortal sin, oh, then raise them up again, reconcile them with thy Divine Son and restore them to Sanctifying Grace.

And thou, O holy foster father St. Joseph, do not abandon our children! Protect them from the assaults of the wicked enemy and deliver them from all dangers of soul and body.

O dear parents of the Holy Child Jesus! Intercede for us parents also, that we may bring up our children in the love and fear of God and one day attain with them the Beatific Vision. Amen.



# ***Prayers offered in Thanksgiving to Saints***

## **ST. JOSEPH**

***(Patron of a Happy Death & of the Universal Church)***

**Feast Day, March 19**

BLESSED ST. JOSEPH, HOLY GUARDIAN OF JESUS AND MARY, ASSIST US BY YOUR PRAYERS IN ALL THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE. ASK OF JESUS THAT SPECIAL GRACE WHICH HE GRANTED TO YOU TO WATCH OVER OUR HOMES AT THE PILLAR OF THE SICK AND THE DYING SO THAT WITH MARY AND WITH YOU, HEAVEN MAY FIND OUR FAMILIES UNBROKEN IN THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS. AMEN

## **JESUS**

**Feast Day, Dec. 25**

O DEAR JESUS, WE PRAISE YOU AND THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR ALL THE MANY BLESSINGS THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN TO US HERE ON EARTH. O JESUS, IN UNION WITH YOUR PRECIOUS BLOOD Poured OUT ON THE CROSS AND OFFERED IN EVERY MASS, WE OFFER YOU TODAY OUR PRAYERS, WORKS, JOYS, SORROWS AND SUFFERINGS FOR THE PRAISE OF YOUR HOLY NAME AND THE DESIRES OF YOUR SACRED HEART; IN REPARATION FOR SIN, FOR THE CONVERSION OF SINNERS, THE UNION OF ALL CHRISTIANS AND OUR FINAL UNION WITH YOU IN HEAVEN. AMEN

## **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

***(Mother of God)***

**Feast Day, January 1**

REMEMBER, O MOST COMPASSIONATE VIRGIN MARY, THAT NEVER WAS IT KNOWN THAT ANYONE WHO FLED TO YOUR PROTECTION OR IMploRED YOUR ASSISTANCE OR SOUGHT YOUR INTERCESSION WAS LEFT UNAIDED. INSPIRED WITH THIS CONFIDENCE, WE FLY UNTO YOU, O VIRGIN OF VIRGINS, OUR MOTHER, TO YOU WE COME...BEFORE YOU WE KNEEL, SINFUL AND SORROWFUL. O MOTHER OF THE WORD INCARNATE, DESPISE NOT OUR PETITIONS, BUT IN YOUR CLEMENCY HEAR AND ANSWER THEM. AMEN.



**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
*(Patron of the Poor)*  
**Feast Day, June 13,**

OH HOLY ST. ANTHONY, GENTLEST OF SAINTS, YOUR LOVE FOR GOD AND CHARITY FOR HIS CREATURES, MADE YOU WORTHY, WHEN ON EARTH, TO POSSESS MIRACULOUS POWERS. MIRACLES WAITED ON YOUR WORD, WHICH YOU WERE EVER READY TO SPEAK FOR THOSE IN TROUBLE OR ANXIETY. ENCOURAGED BY THIS THOUGHT, WE IMPLORE OF YOU TO OBTAIN FOR US OUR PETITIONS. AMEN

**ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL**  
*(The Protector of the Catholic Church)*  
**Feast Day, Sept. 29**

ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL DEFEND US IN BATTLE, BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL. MAY GOD REBUKE HIM WE HUMBLY PRAY; AND DO THOU, O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST, BY THE DIVINE POWER OF GOD, THRUST INTO HELL SATAN AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS WHO WANDER THROUGH THE WORLD SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS. PRAY FOR US.

**GUARDIAN ANGEL**

ANGEL OF GOD, OUR GUARDIAN DEAR, TO WHOM GOD'S LOVE ENTRUSTS US HERE. EVER THIS DAY BE AT OUR SIDE TO LIGHT AND GUARD, TO RULE AND GUIDE. AMEN

**SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

OH SWEET JESUS, BE NOT OUR JUDGE, BUT OUR SAVIOR. MAY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS BE ADORED, GLORIFIED, LOVED AND PRESERVED, THROUGHOUT THE WORLD NOW AND FOREVER. SACRED HEART OF JESUS, PRAY FOR US,

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
*(Patroness of the Americas and Protector of the Unborn)*  
**Feast Day, December 12**

O HOLY MARY, VIRGIN MOTHER OF GOD, WHO AS OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE DID AID IN THE CONVERSION OF MEXICO FROM, PAGANISM IN A MOST MIRACULOUS WAY. WE NOW BESEECH THEE TO BRING ABOUT IN THESE OUR TIMES, THE EARLY CONVERSION OF OUR MODERN WORLD FROM ITS PRESENT TO THE ONE HOLY, CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF THE DIVINE SON, JESUS CHRIST, STARTING IN THE AMERICAS AND EXTENDING THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WORLD. AMEN

## **PADRE PIO OF PIETRLCINA**

WE HUMBLY BESEECH YOU TO GLORIFY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH, BLESSED PADRE PIO, WHO GENEROUSLY PARTICIPATED IN YOUR SUFFERINGS, AND WHO LOVED YOU SO MUCH AND LABORED SO FAITHFULLY FOR THE GLORY OF YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER AND FOR THE GOOD OF SOULS. WITH CONFIDENCE WE BESEECH YOU TO GRANT US THROUGH HIS INTERCESSION, THE GRACES OF WHICH WE SO ARDENTLY DESIRE. AMEN

## **INFANT OF PRAGUE**

*(The Child Jesus)*

O MOST GRACIOUS INFANT JESUS, WE OFFER OUR MOST FERVENT THANKS FOR BLESSINGS THOU HAS BESTOWED UPON OUR FAMILIES. AMEN

## **ST. ANNE**

*(Patroness of Housewives)*

**Feast Day, July 26**

O GOD, WHO DIDST VOUCHSAFE TO ENDOW BLESSED ANNE WITH SUCH GRACE THAT SHE WAS FOUND WORTHY TO BE THE MOTHER OF MARY WHO BROUGHT FORTH THINE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, GRANT IN THY MERCY, THAT WE WHO KEEP HER FESTIVAL, MAY BE AIDED BY HER INTERCESSION WITH THEE THROUGH OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, THY SON WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH THEE IN THE UNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, GOD WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN

## **ST. DYMPHNA**

*(Patroness of Nervous Disorders)*

**Feast Day, May 15**

WE BEG YOU LORD TO HEAR THE PRAYERS OF ST. DYMPHNA ON OUR BEHALF. GRANT ALL THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM NERVOUS AND MENTAL ILLNESS FOR WHOM WE PRAY, PATIENCE IN THEIR SUFFERINGS AND RESIGNATION TO YOUR DIVINE WILL. PLEASE FILL THEM WITH HOPE, AND GRANT THEM THE RELIEF AND CURE THEY SO MUCH DESIRE. AMEN



**ST. JOHN OF GOD**  
*(Patron of Hospitals & Heart Patients)*  
**Feast Day, March 8**

O, GOD, YOU ENABLED SAINT JOHN, WHO WAS INFLAMED WITH LOVE OF YOU, TO WALK UNHURT THROUGH FLAMES, AND BY HIM YOU ENRICHED YOUR CHURCH WITH A NEW RELIGIOUS ORDER. GRANT THROUGH THE HELP OF HIS MERITS, THAT OUR VICES MAY BE HEALED BY THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE, AND THAT WE MAY RECEIVE REMEDIES WHICH WILL HELP US REACH ETERNAL LIFE. THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

**ST. FRANCIS**  
*(Patron of Catholic Action)*

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE  
WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE;  
WHERE THERE IS INJURY, YOUR PARDON LORD,  
WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH,  
WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE  
WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS ONLY LIGHT AND  
WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.

O DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK TO BE CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE; TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND; TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE; FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE; IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE PARDONED AND IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE.

**ST. ROSALIA**  
*(Patroness of Palermo)*  
**(Feast Day, September 4)**

St. Rosalia, O glorious confessor and virgin, we pray to God for our families and friends. Through your powerful prayers, may we obtain health, life, and eternal salvation. We also pray today for this special need and intention of your people. O glorious St Rosalia, we promise henceforth to remember and follow your example of faith and love. Pray for us and ours. Amen.

**ST. CLARE of ASSISI**  
*(Patroness of Sore Eyes)*  
**(Feast Day, August 11)**

O, Glorious St. Clare! God has given you the power of working miracles continually, and the favor of answering the prayers of those who invoke your assistance in misfortune, anxiety, and distress. We beseech you to obtain from Jesus through Mary, His Blessed Mother, what we ask of you, if it be for the greater honor and glory of God and for the good of our souls. Amen.

**ST. PEREGRINE**  
*(Patron of Cancer Patients)*  
**Feast Day, May 2**

WE SEEK YOUR MERCIFUL AID, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE AFFLICTED OR THREATENED BY CANCER, BY ANY AILMENT OF THE LEG OR BY ANY INCURABLE DISEASES. PLEASE HELP US TO FIND A CURE FOR CANCER AND A REMEDY FOR ALL OUR HUMAN INFIRMITIES OF SOUL, MIND AND BODY. YOU WERE CURED INSTANTANEOUSLY OF CANCER BY GOD'S GRACE AND UNCEASING PRAYER. IN YOUR GRACIOUS KINDNESS, PLEASE ASK GOD TO HEAL US, ST. PEREGRINE, PRAY FOR US.





## ***Prayer Intentions***

In thanksgiving to St. Joseph on his feast day and all the saints represented on the Altar, and for answered prayers, blessings received and special intentions.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For the special prayer intentions listed in the intention box and those kept silent within your hearts.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and the wonderful people whose friendship, concern, loyalty, dedication, mean so much to us as individual and out families, we ask God's blessings on each one of you.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For the deceased members of the Todaro, Palasota, Accurso, Ruffino and Krolczyk Families, especially Michael Todaro, infant son of Ross & Vancie; John & Annie Palasota, parents of Vancie and Angelina; and Jasper & Grace Todaro, parents of Ross; Dillion Davis, son of David and Pam Todaro; Josephine (Accurso) Everitt and T. B. Everitt, grandparents of Circe Sturm; and Virginia (Accurso) Ruffino, Aunt and Great Aunt to us all; Albin and Helen Krolczyk parents of David Krolczyk.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For those who are less fortunate, those who suffer from illness, drug addition, aids, mental & nervous conditions and so many other afflictions and diseases.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For the deceased grandparents of Vancie and Angelina, Marion & Vancie Palasota, Joe & Angelina Stratta, and the grandparents and great grandparents of Ross, Ross Jr., Graceanna, David and Circe, Joe Accurso, & Lula Ferrerri, Ross & Kathryn Todaro.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For our parents, & grandparents who shared their love and gave us strong Christian values and brought the cherished traditions from our Italian heritage to hand down to their children, our children and future generations.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For Msgr. John Malinowski, who is a dedicated, devoted priest and a very special friend of the Todaro and Krolczyk families. Msgr. John has helped us to realize the importance of our Italian heritage and traditions and has been caring enough to help us continue them. Also for Father Patrick Ebner, Pastor of St. Anthony's Church as he guides his people at St. Anthony.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For the President of the United States and all the world leaders that they can keep Christ in their hearts so that God will lead them to make wise and important decisions for our country and the world. We especially pray for an end to war in all countries and for peace in the world.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For our children, grandchildren, siblings and their families, and in special gratitude for the miracle granted in the healthy birth of Miranda Sofia Lewis.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

For all of you who have given your support, prayers, donations, and the many hours of labor to help us express our thanksgiving for answered prayers to St. Joseph and the saints represented on this Altar.

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*

*Please add your special intentions at this time.*

*V. We Pray to the Lord. R. Lord, Hear our Prayer.*





# The St. Joseph Rosary in Italian

## **POGGIOREALESE VERSION**

SAINT DOMINIC AND ST. CATHERINE OF SIENNA HELP US TO REPRESENT THE FIVE DECADES OF THE ROSARY SO THAT WE CAN OBTAIN THE GRACE TO PRACTICE PENANCE WITH A GENEROUS HEART AND TO KEEP UNSPOTTED THE PURITY OF OUR BODIES AND OUR HEARTS.

### **APOSTLE CREED**

I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH; AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD, WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILOT, WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED AND WAS BURIED. HE DESCENDED INTO HELL; THE THIRD DAY HE AROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD, HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD. I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY AND LIFE EVERLASTING...AMEN.

OUR FATHER....

HAIL MARY (3 TIMES)

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER...

SING ON EACH OF THE MYSTERIES

#### **Poggiorealese Dialect**

San Guiseppusi N' Fustivu Padre  
Fustivu virgini comu la mati  
Maria e la rosa, Guiseppi lu ggigghu  
Dattini aiuta, repani consigghiu  
Scura oi e giorno dumani  
La Pruidenza n' avita mannari  
Prima De L' Armi E Poi di lu corpu  
San Guiseppusi repani comfortu  
Comfortu chi vurria di salvadi l' alma mia  
Patriarca Immacollato  
Di Gesu Custodi amoto  
Costu spuso Di Maria  
Pruteggete l'alma mia  
E l'punti de l'me morte  
Voi Sarita La Mia Sorte'  
E l'ultima agonia, Voi Salvati' L'alma mia

#### **Translation**

Dear Sweet St. Joseph, you were a Father  
you were a virgin, like the Mother  
Mary is the rose, Joseph the lily;  
Give us help, refuge and counsel.  
today ends and tomorrow dawns  
Send us providence and life,  
First of the spirit and then the body  
Dear Sweet St. Joseph give us comfort.  
I need comfort to save my soul  
Immaculate Patriarch,  
Beloved custodian of Jesus  
Gentle Spouse of Mary  
Protect my soul  
and at the point of my death  
You know my destiny  
In my ultimate agony, you will save my soul.

OUR FATHER ....

HAIL MARY ....

Say the following ten times in place of the Hail Marys:

**(Leader)** Di vi sarvi San Guisseppi, tutto chinu di purita.  
(God hail you, St. Joseph, all full of purity.)

**(Response)** Aiutatinni le bisogni, a l'estreme necessita".  
(Help us in our needs and in the extreme necessities)

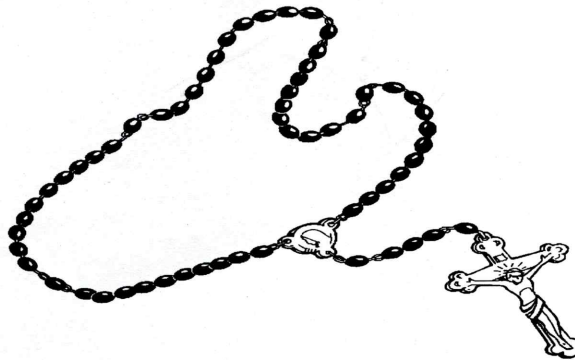
GLORY BE TO THE FATHER .....

### HAIL HOLY QUEEN

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN, MOTHER OF MERCY. OUR LIFE, OUR SWEETNESS AND OUR HOPE. TO THEE DO WE CRY, POOR BANISHED CHILDREN OF EVE. TO THEE DO WE SEND UP OUR SIGHS, MOURNING AND WEEPING IN THIS VALLEY OF TEARS. TURN THEN, MOST GRACIOUS ADVOCATE, THINE EYES OF MERCY TOWARD US; AND AFTER THIS OUR EXILE SHOW UNTO US THE BLESSED FRUIT OF THY WOMB, JESUS. O CLEMENT, O LOVING, O SWEET VIRGIN MARY.

V: PRAY FOR US O HOLY MOTHER OF GOD.

R: THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE PROMISES OF CHRIST.





## **LET US PRAY**

O God, who in your ineffable providence did vouchsafe to choose Blessed St. Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother. Grant we beseech thee that we may be made worthy to have him for our intercessor in Heaven, whom on earth we venerate as our protector. Who lives and reigns world without end. AMEN.

## **IN HONOR OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

O God, Heavenly Father, it was part of your eternal decree that your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, should form a Holy Family with Mary, His Blessed Mother, and his Foster-Father, Saint Joseph. In Nazareth home life was sanctified and a perfect example was given to every Christian Family. Grant, we beseech you, that we may fully comprehend and faithfully imitate the virtues of the Holy Family so that we may be united with them one day in their heavenly glory. Through the same Christ Our Lord. AMEN.

**OUR FATHER.....**

**HAIL MARY.....**

**GLORY BE.....**







## ***The Divine Praises***

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be His most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary Most Holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most Chaste Spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires.

O St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms. Humbly, I approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, Patron of departed souls, Pray for us.

Viva, Viva lu Patriarcho Di San Guisseppi.  
(Hail, Hail, to St. Joseph, the Patriarch)



## ***Saints Represented for the St. Joseph Altar***

***March 22, 2015***

### **SAINTS**

ST. JOSEPH  
INFANT JESUS  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
ST. ANTHONY  
GUARDIAN ANGEL  
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL  
ST. ROSALIA  
INFANT OF PRAGUE  
PADRE PIO  
ST. CLARE OF ASSISI  
ST. PEREGINE

### **REPRESENTED BY:**

Msgr, John Malinowski  
Damien Ross Smith  
Miranda Sofia Accurso Lewis  
Richard Ruffino  
Amanda Breeden  
Sailor Todaro  
Skye Todaro  
Sara Todaro  
Josh Moody  
David Krolczyk  
Vancie Ruffino  
Patricia Scarmardo

## ***Breads Promised For TheAltar***

ST. DYMPHNA  
SACRED HEART OF JESUS  
ST. JOHN OF GOD  
ST. ANTHONY  
ST. ANTHONY  
ST. ANNE  
ST. DYMPHNA  
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
ST. PEREGINE  
ST. JOSEPH

Kathy Court  
David Krolczyk  
Angelina Krolczyk  
Mary Jo Lindsay  
Dottie Wilson  
Circe Accurso Sturm  
Pearl Robertson  
Vancie Todaro  
Circe Accurso Sturm  
Betty Tanner (In memory of  
Katie & Charlie Cash)

We ask for answered prayers and petitions for these seeking. AMEN.





**ROSARII DEL SAN GUISEPPI**  
**ITALIAN ROSARY AS RECITED BY JOHN PALASOTA**

Nel nome del Padre, del Figliuolo e dello Spirito Santo. Così sia.

**SIMBOLO DEGLI APOSTOLI**  
**The Apostle Creed**

Io credo in dio Padre onnipotente, Creatore del cielo e della terra, io credo in Gesu' Christo, unico Figliuolo suo Signor nostro, il quale fu concepito per virtu' della Spirito Santo, nacque da Maria Vergine, patì sotto il governo di Ponzio Pilato, fu crocifisso, morto e sepolto. Il terzo giorno risuscitò da morte, Sali' al cielo, siede alla destra di Dio Padre onnipotente, di là ha da venire a giudicare i vivi ed i morti, Io Credo nello Spirito Santo, la Santa Chiesa Cattolica, la Comunione dei peccatori, la risurrezione dei morti, la vita eterna. Così Sia.

**PADRE NOSTRO**  
**The Lords Prayer**

Padre nostro che state in cielo, sia santificato, il vostro nome; venga il vostro regno, sia fatta la vostra Divina volontà come in cielo, così in terra. Dacci oggi il nostro pane quotidiano; e perdonate e noi i nostri peccati come noi perdoniamo ai nostri nemici e non ce fate cadere in tentazione, ma liberaci da ogni male. Così Sia.

**AVE MARIA**  
**Hail Mary**

Dio ti salvi o Maria, piena di grazia, il Signore è con voi, voi siete benedetta fra tutte le donne e benedetto è il frutto del vostro ventre, Gesu'. Santa Maria, Madre di Dio, pregate per noi peccatori e nell'ora della nostra morte. Così Sia.

San Guiseppusu n' fustivu Padri, fustivu Virgini como la Madre, Maria e la rosa Guiseppi lu gigghiu, dattini aiuto repani consigghiu. Scura oi e giorno dumani La Pruvidenza n'avita a mannari. Prima de l'armi e poi de lu corpu, San Guiseppusi repani comfortu. Comfortu chi vurria di salvadi l'alma mia. Patriarco Immacollato, Di Gesu custodi amoto. Costu spusodi Maria, pruteggete l'alma mia. E l' punti di l' me morte, voi saritro la me sorte' and e l'ultima angonia, voi salvdti l' arma mia.

Repeat the The Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary

Di vi sarvi San Guiseppi, tutu chinu di purita. (Leader)  
Aiutatinni a li bisogni, a l'estrimi necessita. (Response from group)



**GLORIA PATRI**  
**Glory Be**

Gloria al lu Padre, e lu Figlio, e lu Spirito Santo, come state cumsara' pi tutti l' eternal n'ta. Cosi' Sia.

(Repeat from San Guiseppusi through Glory Be 4 more times)

**SALVE REGINA**  
**Hail Holy Queen**

Dio vi salve, O Regina, Madre di misericordia, vita, dolcezza e speranza nostra, salve. A voi ricorriamo esuli figli di Eva; Avoi sospiriamn piangendo e lagrimanod in questa valle di lacrime a su via dunque, Avvocato nostra voltate a noi gli occhi vostri misericordiosi e mostraci dopo questo esilio nostrate a noi Gesu' frutto del vostro ventre, o clemente, o pietosa, O Dolce Vergine Maria. Cosi' sia.



Traditional St. Joseph Altar, Assoc. Poggioreale Antica, Poggioreale, March 2015



## **ITALIAN LITANY**

Kyrie Elesion  
Christie Elesion  
Christe audi nos  
Christe exaudi nos  
Padre de caelis Deus  
Fili Redemptor mundi Deus  
Spiritus Sancte Deus  
Santa Trinitas, unus Deus  
Sancta Maria  
Sancta Dei Genitrix  
Sancta Virgo Virginum  
Mater Gesu' Christi  
Mater Divinae Gratiae  
Mater Purissima  
Mater Castissima  
Mater Inviolata  
Mater intermerata  
Mater Amabilis  
Mater Admirabilis  
Mater Boni Consilii  
Mater Creatoris  
Mater Salvatoris  
Virgo Prudentissima  
Virgo Veneranda  
Virgo Praedicanda  
Virgo Potens  
Virgo Clemens  
Virgo Fedelis  
Speculum Justitiae  
Sedes Sapientiae  
Caus Nostre Laetitiae  
Vas Sprituale  
Vas Honorabile  
Vas Insigne Devotionis  
Rosa Mystica  
Turris Davidica  
Turris Eburnea  
Domus Aurea  
Foederis Arca  
Ianua Caeli  
Stella Matutina  
Salus Infirmorum

Refugium Peccatorum  
Consolatrix Afflictorum  
Auxilium Christianorum  
Regina Angelorum  
Regina Patriarcharum  
Regina Prophetarum  
Regina Apostolorum  
Regina Martyrum  
Regina Confessorum  
Regina Virginum  
Regina Santorum Omnium  
Regina Sine Labe Originali concepta  
Regina Sacratissimi Rosari  
Regina Pacis

Angus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Parce Nobis, Domine

Angus Dei, qui tollis peccat mundi, exaudi nos, Domine

Angus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Miserere nobis.

**LODI DIVINE**  
The Divine Praises

Dio sia benedetto.

Benedetto il suo santo Nome.

Benedetto Gesu Cristo vero Dio e vero Uomo.

Benedetto I Nome di Gesu.

Benedetto il Suo Sacratissimo Cuore.

Benedetto Gesu nel Santissimo Sacramento dell'altare

Benedetta la gran Madre di Dio Maria Santissima.

Benedetta la sua Santa ed Immacolata Concezione.

Benedetta la sua Gloriosa Assunzione.

Benedetto I Nome di Maria Vergine e Madre.

Menedetto San Siuseppi suo castissiom Sposo.

Benedetto Iddio nei suoi Angeli e nei suoi Santi.

O Maria chi Madri sitti, di li afflitti peccatori, l'affetti di l'amore' vu datti a Gesu'. E voi Gesu' mio, vero Uomo e vero Dio, Chi l'amore' di Maria, Madre vostra e Madre mia. E chi vui indegniate, mi Gesu' perdunati li notro peccatti. E ogni punti e oino momenta sia ladatti ingratiato lu Santissimo Sacramento. E sempre viva la Madre di Dio. Nta, Pura, Conceptha senz maechia de li peccatti originally.

## VIVA, VIVA, LU PATRIARCHA DI SAN GIUSEPPI

### Poetry by Giovanni Palazzotto (John Palasota)

Vancie's and Angelina's father, John Palasota, wrote this poem when he was a young man growing up in Poggioreale, Sicily. This poem is still remembered by the Sicilians who are in Poggioreale today and is recited annually over their own community altar, as we were all lucky enough to witness last year in March of 2014. Even though John Palasota wrote many poems and is still referred to in Poggioreale as their "poet laureate, this poem is special to us because it continues to so powerfully link our communities in Texas and Sicily together.

#### ORZAIONE AL PATRIARCA SAN GIUSEPPI

O Summu Patriarca gluriusu,  
Specchiu di Santita' d'allegru visu:  
Patri di l'Armi nostri ginirusu,  
Patruni siti di lu Paradisu.  
Lu peccaturi nni mori cunfusu,  
Chi s nni penti d'avirivi uffisu:  
Pirdunatilu Vu' Patri amurusu  
Chi di tutu l'Arcanu siti 'ntisu.

E siti'ntisu pe tutu l'Arcanu  
Chi siti Patri di lu Nassarenu,  
E Patri ancorad'ogni Christianu  
E d'orni peccaturi c'havi frenu.  
L'avita fattu un viaggiu luntanu  
Cu Maria Santa c'avia a Criistu 'n senu:  
'Resta ammiratu ogni Chritianu,  
Gesu'Christu nasci tra la pagghia e fenu.

Naciu Gesu' Christu e l'aduramu  
E tutti quantu a li so pedi semu:  
Cu fidi pura nni cci addinucchiamu,  
Di Le notri piccati nni pintemu.  
Pirdunu, miu Gesu", Vi 'ddumannamu  
Vu' siti Patri e nu' li figghi semu;  
D'accantu Vostru cchiu' 'un nni distaccamu  
Picchi lu Paradisu pritenemu.

Patri di Pruvidenza Vi Chiamamu,  
'nta tutti li bisogni a Vu" curremu;  
'nfini di morti tutti Vi priamu...



Assistinini Vu'ogni puntu "stremu.  
Di li pocu pitanzi chi truvemu  
Nu' oggi a pranzu Vostru li mittemu;  
A li 19 Marzu V'ammitamu  
Picchi a 'stu jornu gran fidi cci avemu.  
E V'ammitamu cu pane ed aranci,  
Cu pignulati, cu cassateddi e sfinci,  
Cu diversi pitanzi ed atri ranci;  
C'ogni poviru divotu si sustrinci.  
Quali armunia chi portanu st'aranci,  
Chi ci nesci lu sucu si si strinci!  
Chissu e' lu peccaturi chi nni chianci,  
Cu li piccati so l'arma si tinci.

L'addavuru Vi l'uffremu nu' p'aduri  
Chi lu truvati 'nta qualunchi artari,  
Balacu biidittu ed atri sciuri  
Chi su la maravigghia di guarderi;  
Mennuli e nuci cu li scorci duri  
Chi cu li petri si ponnu scacciari;  
'Ccussi e' lu cori di lu peccaturi,  
Vu' sulu lu putiti arrimuddari.

A tavula Vi offremu nu' lu vinu  
E di pani di cena unu sanu,  
Unni si cunsagrau Christu Divinu,  
P'alimentu lu lassau a ogni cristianu.  
O peccaturi lassa lu caminu...  
Di lu piccatu statti luntanu,  
Cerca d'd'aviri a Christu vicinu  
A lu Re di li Re nostru Suvrano.

Cerca di fari tu la via ghiusta,  
Lassa iri lu munnu ch'e 'ntimpesta;  
Dispisati di la terra e di la frusta  
Picchi' a la morti nenti ti nn'arresta.  
Anzi l'affari qualchi opira ghiusta  
Chi San Micheli la valaqnze presta...  
L'arma ti pisa e s'un si trova ghiusta  
A satana la duna a fari festa.

O Patricaraca quant'atu suffrutu  
Pi libbirari a nu' dilu piccatu;  
D'egittu a Nazzari Vi nn'avita jutu  
Dunni pi strata fustivu arrubbatu.  
Nni fustivu di l'Ancilu avvirtutu

Di essiri d'Erode ricercatu:  
Maria Santa a Christu ha scumparutu;  
Christu un nazzu di ciuri ha divintatu.

Christu turnau un ciuri assai galanti  
Quannu vitti ad Erodi dda' presententi;  
Prestu calaru l'Ancilli e li Santi  
P'adurari a Cristu Onnipotenti.  
Erode ch' 'era lu cchiu prutistanti  
Di la fidi di Dio 'un nni cridie nenti;  
Cummertiri 'un si' vosi lu birbanti,  
Fici fari l scanna a li nnuccenti.

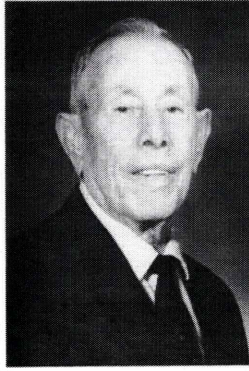
O Vergini Maria L'Addularate,  
Assistiri aviti a nu' 'npuntu di vita;  
Lu cori Vi fu trafitta cu'na spate,  
Gran sangu Vi nisciu di la firita.  
Matri di li peccaturi ed avvucata  
Di grazzii, di bunta Matri 'nfinita...  
Dati a 'ssu vostru mantu 'na sparmata,  
Sarvati qualche pecura smarrita.

Ed ora Patriarca a Vu ritornu  
Picci lu sintimentu assi custernu;  
Quali alligrizza chi provu 'stu jornu  
Di parlari cu Vu' munti Spernu!  
O Peccaturi di tutu cc'attornu;  
Tu Chi 'Bistemi d' estati e d'invernu,  
Cu ammita, a San giuseppi lu so jornu  
Havi lu Paradisu pi n'eternu.

Eternu lu Paradisu a tutti duna;  
Termina Palazzottu in poesia,  
Scogghi la lingua, grida ogni pirsuna:  
E viva Gesu, Giuseppi e Maria!

- End -

Prayer written in early 1900s by our local poet laureate, Giovanni Palazzotto (John Palasota), born in Poggioreale on December 4, 1884



## ***Recipes***

### **Italian Bread Crumbs (Mudica) Mary Agnello**

Use hamburger buns or stale bread. Grind in food processor until the crumbs are fine.

Then fry in an iron skillet (or you can put in a baking pan) about 4 cups of crumbs in two tablespoons of olive oil. Season crumbs with garlic salt, sugar and pepper and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of olive oil. Pour over the crumbs and work it in, stir well.

Bake in 400 temperature oven until light brown or fry in an iron skillet.

### **Green Bean Patty (Sis Sandone)**

2 cans Cut Green Beans  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cups Progresso Italian Bread Crumbs  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup grated Parmesan Cheese  
1 beaten egg (it may take 2)  
2 Green onions cut very fine ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup)  
Salt and Pepper to taste

Mix thoroughly and fry in deep fat, patty style. You can also put in oiled 9' pie pan and bake at 350 until set. Cut into wedges like a quiche.

### **Cabbage Patties (Sis Sandone)**

4 cups Cabbage  
1 Egg

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup Flour  
Salt and Pepper to taste





Mix dry ingredients together, and then add Crisco as in pie dough. Make a hole in center of dry ingredients and add beaten egg yolks, milk, and vanilla. Mix well; let stand. Roll 1 ½ inches long. Bake in oven for about 10 minutes. Do not over bake.

Icing:

2 lbs. of Powder Sugar – enough milk to make soft icing (approximately ¾ cups)  
1 stick of Butter  
1 ½ tablespoons Lemon Extract or Vanilla

**Stuffed Artichokes**  
(In memory of Jobey Ruffino)

6 Medium Artichokes  
4 cups Bread Crumbs  
2 cups Celery – Chopped  
1 cup Onion – Chopped  
4 tablespoons Garlic – Chopped (optional)  
1 cup Parmesan Cheese  
1 cup Olive or Butter or other oil  
1 cup Water  
1 cup Mozzarella Cheese  
Salt and Pepper to taste

Cut the pointed ends off artichokes, wash and thump upside down to help spread the leaves so they will be easy to stuff with crumb mixture. Boil the artichokes in water with enough water to cover artichokes for 20 minutes.

**Bread Crumb Mixture:**

Mix the breadcrumbs with salt and pepper to taste. Sauté' the celery, onions and garlic in oil or butter. Garlic goes in last to keep from burning. Add this to the crumbs. Mix well. Add Parmesan cheese and mix again. Pour ½ cup water into bottom of baking dish and sprinkle the other ½ cup over the stuffed artichokes along with oil or butter. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese, and if desired, grated mozzarella cheese on top after artichokes are finished. Bake at 300 degrees for 2 hours or until the goodie at the bottom of the leaf is tender.

**Rings**  
(In memory of Annie Palasota)

1 cup Crisco  
8 cups Flour

3 Eggs  
1 teaspoon Vanilla

2 cups Sugar  
3 teaspoons Baking Powder

1 cup Milk

Mix together well and then roll and shape into rings. Bake at 350 degrees until light brown.

Icing:

2 lb. box of Powdered Sugar (4 cups)  
10 tablespoons Milk

1 teaspoon Vanilla  
2 teaspoons Lemon Extract

**SCARDALENE**

(In Memory of Annie Palasota)

1 / 2 Cup Water

3 Cups Sugar

Cook until it boils twice, than add 3 cups of whatever it takes of flour. Make a well with flour and pour the hot water and sugar mixture into the well. Mix and roll out immediately. Let stand until dry. Then cut into 2 inch pieces and bake in the oven until slightly brown.

**SCARDALENE**

(Lucy Vacante)

1 Box White Powder Sugar

1 / 2 Cups of all purpose flour

1 Tablespoon Crisco

1 / 2 Cup Milk

1 Teaspoon Vanilla

Mix flour and sugar. Add Crisco, milk, and vanilla. Mix well. Roll in long strips. Cut in 1 1/2" pieces (cut at a slant). Let dry 3 days. Bake until brown.

**CAULIFLOWER FRITTERS**

(In Memory of Rosalie Scarmardo)



1	20 oz. Bag Cauliflower	2 / 3	Cup Water
2	Cups Bisquick Baking Mix	2	Eggs
1 / 4	Cup Romano or Parmesan Cheese		Pinch of Oregano

Cook cauliflower in salted boiling water for 5 minutes, and drain. In a medium size mixing bowl, put the baking mix, cheese, oregano, and add slightly beaten eggs and water. A dash of black pepper may be added to the batter. Pour 1 / 2 cup of oil in a 10-inch skillet and heat. Add the cauliflower to the batter, and drop by tablespoonful into hot grease and brown on both sides.

### **SFINGE**

(In Memory of Lena Degelia)

6	Cups Flour
2	packages dried yeast
2	Cups Water

Stir together with a spoon and let rise to double in size. Drop by tablespoon into a deep fryer until golden brown. Sprinkle powdered sugar on them and enjoy while hot.

### **SFINGE**

(In Memory of Grace Todaro)

3	Cups Flour
2	Cups Ricotta Cheese
4	Eggs
3	Tablespoons Sugar
1	teaspoon Vanilla

Beat Ricotta cheese, eggs, sugar, flour and vanilla in a bowl until creamy. Set in refrigerator for 3 hours. If batter is firm, roll into balls. If not drop by teaspoonfuls into hot oil and deep fry until golden brown. Roll in white powdered sugar.

## TAY TU'S CHOCOLATE BALLS

(In Memory of Rosalie Scarmardo)

5	Cups Flour
1	Pinch of salt
1	Teaspoon Baking Powder
1	Teaspoon Baking Soda
1 / 2	Cup Sugar
4	Eggs
1	Teaspoon Cinnamon
1 1 / 4	Cups Crisco
1	16 oz can Hershey Syrup
1	Cup Pecans
1	Teaspoon Cloves


Beat eggs. Add shortening and sugar. Mix dry ingredients together. Add syrup to beaten eggs. Add flour and nuts. Roll into small balls. Bake 8 minutes at 375 degrees. Ice with cookie icing.




# Evviva La Croce

## 7. EVVIVA LA CROCE In Tempo di Penitenza


Mosso:




Ev - vi - va la Cro - ce la



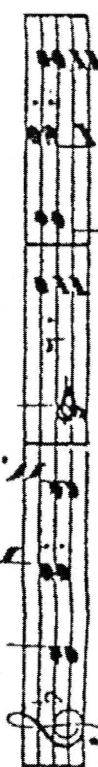
Croce sempre Ev-vi-va Ev-vi-va la



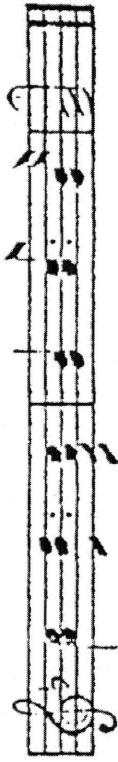
Cro - ce la Cro - ce sempre Ev -



vi-va Ev-vi-va la Cro-ce e



chi la por-tò - Ev-vi-va la



Cro-ce e chi la por-tò.

POPOLO: *Evviva la Croce,  
La Croce sempre evviva,  
Evviva la Croce  
E chi la portò.*

Evviva la Croce  
Sorgente di gloria,  
Eterna memoria  
Del mio Redentor.

Beato quel core .  
Che sempre sta fisso  
In Dio crocifisso  
Che tanto l'amò.

O anime elette,  
Venite allo Sposo,  
Che dolce riposo  
In Croce trovò.