

*Meditations in preparation for the Solemnity of St. Joseph  
Institute Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará*

**Meditation: Day 2 (February 19<sup>th</sup>)**

*"God the Father Almighty"*

*Have mercy on us.*

*In the Gospel of St. Matthew we find these words that define the First person of the Holy Trinity:  
You have but one Father in Heaven (Mt 23:9)*

*Our Lord Jesus Christ spent his life on earth speaking of God the Father as provident (Mt 6:32),  
who forgives, listens, blesses, gives generously, a Father in whom we abandon everything to...*

*St. Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his  
fatherhood. It is precisely in this way that, as the Church's Liturgy teaches, he "cooperated in the fullness  
of time in the great mystery of salvation" and is truly a "minister of salvation."<sup>1</sup> His fatherhood is  
expressed concretely "in his having made his life a service, a sacrifice to the mystery of the Incarnation  
and to the redemptive mission connected with it; in having used the legal authority which was his over the  
Holy Family in order to make a total gift of self, of his life and work".<sup>23</sup>*

*We can ask ourselves:*

*Do we trust God as a Father to us?*

*Are we sure He will give us what we need to live every day?*

*Let us look at Joseph as an example of fatherhood and ask him for the grace to carry out the role  
of parenthood in the Family.*

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<sup>1</sup> St. John Chrysostom, In Matth, Hom. V,3 PG57- 58 in Spanish Edition

<sup>2</sup> Paul VI, Allocution (March 19<sup>th</sup> 1966): Insegnamenti, IV (1966), p. 110 in Spanish Edition

<sup>3</sup> St. John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation Redemptoris Custos, August 15th 1989, n. 8 in Spanish Edition