**Announcement**

**LAUNCHING cEREMONY**

**MEN OF ST JOSEPH - Philippines (MOSJ-P)**

**December 8, 2021**

AN OFFICIAL CATHOLIC LAY ASSOCIATION OF MEN

COMMITTED TO JESUS CHRIST AND CONSECRATED TO ST. JOSEPH

**Introduction**

Today we grateful to announce that the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines has given its blessing to launch the Men of St. Joseph- a Catholic Association of Men Committed to Jesus Christ and Consecrated to St. Joseph. The institution of the Men of St. Joseph is the Philippine Church’s response to the call of Pope Francis as contained in his Apostolic Letter - Patris Corde, encouraging us to reflect upon the role of St. Joseph in caring and loving our Savior… with the Father’s heart.

The Oblates of St. Joseph, a religious congregation devoted to our spiritual father St. Joseph humbly accepted the honor of being the Men of St. Joseph’s propagator and spiritual guide.

Here are the envisioned objectives and commitments of the Men of St. Joseph

MOSJ-Objectives:

 1) To help Catholic men to open their lives more to the workings of Holy Spirit through a deeper commitment to Jesus by means of promoting the devotion to St. Joseph, to increase our love for him and to imitate his virtues

2) To encourage us to implore his intercession and protection

3) To provide opportunities which foster growth in human character, holiness and Christian fatherhood in the family and in the community, following the qualities of St. Joseph.

4) To sanctify work and promote the dignity of labor in society

5) To serve the needs of the Church and society through corporal and spiritual works of mercy

MOSJ Members’ commitments (min. 72 hours per year) are express through:

1. Daily Prayer to St. Joseph

2. Monthly meetings (2 hours each)

3. Yearly conference on St. Joseph to build national unity and propagate the MOSJ -P through a yearly conference (6 hours), and

4. Yearly retreat to deepen our commitment to the Lord and His Church, and promote deeper devotion among the members to St. Joseph (42 hours).

The Men of St. Joseph encourages its members to:

1) A life of daily personal prayer

2) A deeper realization of the personal love of God the Father,

3) A personal relationship and commitment to Jesus as Lord,

4) An experience of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and openness to all His gifts,

5) A frequent participation in the sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation,

6) A regular study and daily reading of the Word of God,

7) A marked faithfulness to one’s roles and responsibilities in life, within the family, the workplace and to society.

8)A deep love for and loyalty to the Catholic Church, the pope and their local bishops.

The movement is now open to all men in the parishes who wish to be consecrated to St. Joseph and become an active member.

For more details on how to organize a group in your parish, you may contact the Oblates of St. Joseph or the Episcopal Commission on the Laity.