



Jubilee of Workers

3 - 4 May 2025

This weekend, we celebrate the Jubilee of Workers, giving thanks for the dignity, dedication, and contributions of all who labour in service to their families, communities, and society. We honour workers of every profession, recognising the value of their efforts and the role they play in building a just and compassionate world. Work is not only a means of sustenance but also a path of purpose and fulfilment, reflecting the Creator's own work in bringing forth life.

Today, we lift up our prayers for fair opportunities, safe conditions, and respect for all workers, and we renew our commitment to economic justice and dignity for all. May this Jubilee inspire us to support and uplift each other as co-creators in God's work on earth.

Prayers

Example prayers of the faithful

We pray for people who are not able to find jobs. We pray for their continued perseverance and determination. May God grant them what they need. **E te Ariki ...**

We pray for people who own companies, who lead companies, and who make decisions regarding safe work conditions and adequate wages. We pray that these leaders will act in the best interests of their labourers. **E te Ariki**...

We pray for workers across all professions who serve with diligence and integrity. May they find joy and fulfilment in their work, and may St. Joseph, who worked humbly as a carpenter, be their example and guide. **E te Ariki ...**

We pray for those whose work is undervalued or goes unseen, especially caregivers, domestic workers, and those working in difficult conditions. May their dignity be recognised, and may they receive just wages and respect. **E te Ariki ...**

Other prayers for Workers

A Worker's Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Carpenter of Nazareth,





You were a worker as I am.
Give me, and all workers, the privilege
To work as You did,
so that everything we do
will be to the greater glory of God,
and the benefit of our fellow men.

May Your kingdom come into our offices, our factories and shops, into our homes and into our streets. Give us this day a living wage, so that we may be able to keep Your law. May we earn it without envy or injustice.

To us who labour and are heavily burdened, send speedily the refreshment of Your love. May we never sin against You.

Show us Your way to work, and when our work here is done, may we, with all our fellow workers, rest in peace.

Amen.

From the Missionary Society of St Columban

Prayer for Labourers

Dear God,

Today, we honour the labourers in our country. Often, many workers are taken for granted, but they all bear Your image. They are valuable and worthy of respect.

Lord, bless all workers, helping them recognise their worth—not only for what they do but for who they are.

We pray for those who risk their lives, such as those maintaining vital infrastructure, working at heights, or servicing dangerous machinery. Protect them, Lord, and bring them safely home to their families each night.

We also pray for employers, leaders, and decision-makers—those who influence salaries and working conditions. May You guide them to make wise decisions, not driven by greed or worldly





values, but by fairness and compassion. We ask that You open their hearts to recognise that all their blessings come from the hands of those who work.

Thank You, Lord, for honouring workers throughout Scripture. Fill us with Your love for all people. Help us to celebrate them, not just in words but through how we treat them every day.

With gratitude and respect, we lift up this prayer for all workers. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Adapted from https://abide.com/blog/a-prayer-for-laborers/

Prayer to St. Joseph for Workers

Joseph, by the work of your hands and the sweat of your brow, you supported Jesus and Mary, and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.

Teach me to work as you did, with patience and perseverance, for God and for those whom God has given me to support. Teach me to see in my fellow workers the Christ who desires to be in them, that I may always be charitable and forbearing towards all.

Grant me to look upon work with the eyes of faith, so that I shall recognise in it my share in God's own creative activity and in Christ's work of our redemption, and so take pride in it.

When it is pleasant and productive, remind me to give thanks to God for it. And when it is burdensome, teach me to offer it to God, in reparation for my sins and the sins of the world. Amen.





Prayer for the Spirit of Work

God our Father, Creator and Ruler of the universe, in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others. With St. Joseph as our guide, help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised. Please grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

From https://www.stjosephshrine.org/Prayers-to-St--Joseph-For-Workers

Prayer for those seeking employment

Loving God,

You created the human race and know each one of us by name. Through Christ, You have chosen us to be Your sons and daughters, and to build up Your Kingdom on earth.

Grant us work so that we may share our talents with others and experience the dignity and satisfaction that You give through our labour.

Give us patience while You open doors and wisdom to see Your will.

Keep our families in Your care and provide for all our needs.

Never let stress diminish our love for each other, nor the desire for material things lessen our love for You.

With confidence and trust, we make this prayer through Jesus. Amen.

From the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington

Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own
 Offer prayers that honour the dignity of work, recognise the struggles and contributions of workers, and ask for God's guidance and protection over all labourers.
- Host a Mass or Prayer Service in Honor of St. Joseph the Worker

 Celebrate a special Mass on May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, to recognise the
 holiness of work and to seek St. Joseph's intercession for all workers.
- Invite a Speaker on Catholic Social Teaching and Workers' Rights

 Arrange a talk or discussion on the Church's teachings on labour rights, fair wages, and the dignity of work, tying in themes from St. Joseph's life as a model worker.
- Organise a Blessing of Tools and Hands
 Hold a special blessing for tools and the hands of workers, symbolising gratitude for the





gifts and talents used in various professions. This could include all kinds of tools used in fields from agriculture to healthcare.

• Pray for the Unemployed and Underemployed

Dedicate prayers to those seeking work or struggling with job insecurity, asking for St. Joseph's intercession to provide for their needs and guide them to meaningful employment.

• Promote Fair Trade and Ethical Labor Practices

Encourage parishioners to support fair trade products and businesses that honour workers' rights, as a practical way to respect and uphold the dignity of labour.