Hymn to St. Joseph
(Tune: O God Our Help in Ages Past)

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Commissioned by Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

O Holy Joseph, you restored

King David’s house and line,

O guardian of King David’s Lord:

The Son of God divine.

When years at last their course had run,

And Mary’s “yes” was said,

God chose you for His only Son,

And by an angel led.

Like Joseph from of old you learned

In dreams God’s will to see.

From Egypt’s land His Son returned,

Fulfilling prophecy.

O most chaste spouse! O husband pure!

Whose name the demons dread!

You kept the infant Church secure,

In God the Father’s stead.

Make us true men to serve the Lord,

Obedient till the end;

Like you to give our lives outpoured,

Our guardian and our friend.

Like you to work with patient skill

To glorify God’s name,

Like you to do the Father’s will,

And hide from worldly fame.

O blessed guardian of the Church,

Direct us all our days.

Teach us to preach to those who search,

And lead God’s people’s praise.

O patron of a happy death!

When life at length is through,

May He be close at our last breath,

Who was so near to you.

To Father, Son, and Spirit be

All glory evermore.

St. Joseph, through eternity,

May we with you adore!