



St. Joseph's Table and Spaghetti Dinner

When: *Saturday, March 17, 2018 ~ Table will be blessed following the 4:00 pm Mass. Table only will remain open until 6:30 pm.

*Sunday, March 18, 2018 ~ Table and Spaghetti Dinner will begin following the 10:30 am Mass and remain open until 4:00 pm.

Where: Nativity of Mary Parish Hall

*Read more on the history of the St. Joseph Table on the backside of this flyer.

Spaghetti Dinner

- Menu includes spaghetti with the choice of Milanese or plain tomato sauce, a mixed salad, bread, dessert, and refreshments.
 - (Gluten free pasta will be available)
 - A minimum donation of \$5 per person is suggested.
- Tickets will be sold after weekend Masses. Tickets will also be sold at the door.
 - **All Dinner and Table proceeds** will benefit Catholic School education for families in need.

Donations Needed

What:

We are in need of desserts for the table and dinner. Desserts include, but are not limited to, cakes, pies, brownies, cookies, and goodies! We ask that cakes and pies remain whole, but desserts like brownies and cookies come pre-portioned and ready to sell. Please clearly label anything that may be peanut-free, gluten-free, etc.

We are also in need of monetary donations! These donations will be used to buy materials and food needed for the Table. Money may be sent in to the School or Parish offices.

When:

Donations may be brought to the **school or ministry center offices on Friday, March 16th** and/or dropped off in the **Parish Hall the morning of Saturday, March 17th before 11:00 am**. On Saturday, please ring the doorbell at the 40 Hwy entrance to the Parish Hall upon arrival.

Email Maria Milazzo at mmilazzo@nativityofmary.org with any questions.

Saint Joseph Table History

Feast Day: March 19th

Throughout the Catholic Church, Saint Joseph has always been regarded as the family protector. Although other cultures observe Saint Joseph's Day, the Sicilian version is the most elaborate. Several centuries ago, a severe famine in Sicily caused considerable suffering and starvation. The peasant farmers turned in prayer to Saint Joseph for help. The famine soon ended and, in gratitude, the farmers honored Saint Joseph by covering an altar with their most prized possession: food. Saint Joseph altars evolved into family open houses, offered in gratitude for special prayers that had been answered.

Today it is also used as a petition for favors, and for family and loved ones. In an effort to keep the tradition alive, and because of the geographical changes in the Italian community, most tables are prepared and planned by the "church family," led by those of Italian heritage.

The food placed on the Saint Joseph Table and served to guests has always been meatless because Saint Joseph's Day always falls within Lent. The majority of the dishes are prepared with grain products in keeping with the original donations of those Sicilian farmers. All proceeds from the Table are given to the poor and needy.