



Paula Schneider Bergstrasse 52 CH-9038 Rehetobel

e-mail: lgs@laiengemeinschaft-des-hl-josef.com internet: www.laiengemeinschaft-des-hl-josef.com

prayed with his wife and beloved daughter. In response to his prayer GOD granted him love for his family and a purified heart. After that, as a good Christian and a happy father, he bid farewell to bad company and found his delight in family life.

Exerpt from "The Glories of Saint Joseph"
Published by Traditions Monastiques (F)

Our Intentions in This Month

- Let us remember all the needy people in our prayers, especially during the Christmas season.
- May st Joseph somehow help them and bring them the peace of Christmas – and if it is done by man it will be most valuable.

I will be united in a special way with all of you at the feast of the Nativity of our Saviour. I wish each one peace for themselves and for others, the long-desired peace of the heart. Indeed, we must keep aiming at this peace. It often takes all our strength. Let us not forget that st Joseph is beside us – behind us – before us and above us. – He is simply there and he is not idle. One glance at his spouse Mary, one glance at his JESUS in Heaven is enough – they understand each other.

Neither let us forget to talk with st Joseph at least once a day.

Now I say goodbye again with kindest regards in these days before Christmas and with the blessing of st Joseph, your

Sister Paula



December 2010

Lay Community of St Joseph



Happy **C**hristmas

Who will be able to explain the feelings of st Joseph aroused by the thought of not only being the bridegroom of the Creator's Mother but also the thought of her serving him as a humble maidservant knowing that she outshone the highest Seraphim in holiness and dignity and that she was only below GOD. What a fullness of blessing must GOD have granted to st Joseph entrusting him with the true and living Ark of the Covenant; indeed, the Law-giver Himself who was enclosed within her! Unrivalled were the happiness and bliss of Joseph because he guarded in his home the Ark of the New Covenant, the Altar, the Sacrifice and the Temple in a worthy manner like a "faithful, wise servant, whom the LORD appointed over His Family". May all nations, all generations recognize him because unto no one the Most High has done what He did unto Joseph.

(Mary of Agreda)

The Spouse of the Holy Virgin Mary

He is a righteous man, a man of righteousness. This one word, which the gospels tell us about st Joseph, expresses the whole abundance and depth of his personality. The true dignity of a person cannot be gauged by the tinsel of beguiling success but by inner order and good will.

Who is a righteous person? A righteous person is one who respects the rights of others, but above all the rights of GOD. A righteous person is one who will become a perfect observer of GOD's Commandments. To be righteous means to be truly genuine, truly pure and unadulterated, truly sincere without a taint of deceit. To be righteous means to avoid passing a rash, unfair judgment on anyone, neither in words nor in thoughts. To be righteous means that the other can rely on one's word, it means having a straight and resolute, firm and solid disposition without swaying to and fro between the prevailing opinions of the day. To be righteous means feeling connected with the truth, being oriented towards the

truth and following it with confidence. All this means being righteous. And all these things st Joseph did. He was righteous because he constantly tried to fulfil the law of love.

(Pope John XXIII, from a radio message)

The Marvels of Evening Prayer

In a humble house in Bordeaux, France, in the last century, lived a young woman whom people pitied with good reason for her sad and lonely life. Her husband, influenced by bad company, deserted the family home and only returned to curse its poverty and the privations awaiting him there. His wife wept and prayed, but did not complain. To console her she had a young daughter whose angelic tenderness compensated for the loneliness caused by her husband's absence. In the evenings, during the long hours she spent alone, the poor mother taught her daughter prayers before she put her in the cradle. She would then lull her to sleep by repeating the sweet Names of JESUS, Mary and Joseph.

One day, her husband, having failed to meet his pleasure-loving friends, decided to return home for the evening. As he was about to open the door, he stopped. He heard his wife's voice. „Whom can she be talking to?“ he thought to himself, his heart already tormented by unjust suspicions. He gently pushed the door open. What a sight met his eyes! The young woman was on her knees with her daughter in her arms finishing her evening prayers. Let us pray now, my dear child, for your father whom I love so much and whom I know you love, as well. Let us commend him to st Joseph, his patron saint. The little girl pressed her crossed hands more tightly to her chest and repeated this prayer with her mother: „O my GOD, O st Joseph, bless him!“ Moved by this scene, the husband could not resist. He knelt down beside the cradle and