



## This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us particularly remember all the religious this month.
- Let us entrust the great problems within the families to st Joseph.

At the feast of the Empress, 22 May 2011, 11 other persons dedicated themselves to st Joseph and were received into the "Lay Community of st Joseph".

Summer has come and so will the summer holidays for a great many of you. I wish a pleasant rest to all who have the chance to go on holiday and many lasting experiences!

I am always with you in my thoughts. May the blessing of st Joseph accompany each one of you – wherever you may be.

With kind regards, I remain with you,

*Sister Paula*



July 2011

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### Praise to St Joseph

Every day, again and again, st Joseph stands in GOD's presence – each time in an ever greater splendour! He intercedes especially for those who pray with confidence. He has never been denied a request by his dear GOD, whom he served so faithfully.

The more we contemplate his greatness – the more we wish to praise his greatness – the more we are wandering in our minds through his life, the more we fail to find the proper words to express our feelings. We feel miserable and helpless! Holy should one be or with him in eternal bliss to fittingly honour and praise him. „Saint Joseph, let us at least live in Your shadow and thus imitate Your life of virtue.“

Joseph was such a great light in the world that he never ceased to be a mighty terror to hell and in this way weakened the power of the Evil One and blinded his wickedness. With an immeasurable love, humility, modesty, purity and abstinence in everything he served his GOD.

He was always filled with such an ardent desire to give everything to GOD, to serve Him, to do great things for Him, to be totally wrapped up in Him, continuously to live in His presence, to love His dear GOD.

## Appeal to St Joseph

Saint Joseph, You were so tireless in Your life, now also pray in our name to GOD that He may sanctify the families, that He may grant light and peace to the unhappy and those who are wandering from the truth, that He may clasp once more to his heart the many priests and bishops who have gone astray, that he may give His Church on earth the true helmsman in order that the distressed ship may find the safe harbour – in HIS Heart.

Joseph, Patron of the Church, let us greatly desire the salvation of the Church and the triumph of Your most pure Bride Mary as You have longed for the Messiah! Grant that we may strive to enhance the honour of Your foster Son with our thoughts, words and actions, and our hearts may be filled with the ardent desire to save souls!

Pour into our hearts the fear of offending GOD – the fear of losing His friendship and affection. Teach us true devotion that we can be at GOD's disposal according to His good pleasure. –

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## Great Dignity

Who can doubt that it is our duty to honour st Joseph, when the SON of GOD Himself honoured him with the name of father?

And indeed the Evangelists do not hesitate to give him that name. „His father and mother were wondering,“ says st Luke, „at those things which were spoken concerning him.“ (Lk 2,33) It is also the name the Divine Mother gave him: „Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you!“ (Lk 2,48)

If then the King of kings wished to elevate Joseph to so high an honour, it is right and just that we try to honour him as much as we can. „Which Angel or Saint,“ says st Basil, „has ever deserved to be called father of the SON of GOD?“ Joseph was more honoured by GOD than all the Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles and pontiffs. They have the name of servants; Joseph has the name of father.

So st Joseph as father is placed at the head of this little Family, small in number, but great by the two great personages it contains: the Mother of GOD and the only SON of GOD, made man. In this household, Joseph commands, and the SON of GOD obeys. „This subjection of JESUS CHRIST,“ says Gerson, „while proving to us the humility of the Saviour, shows us the high dignity of st Joseph. And what greater dignity, what higher elevation could there be than to command the One who commands all the kings?“ (st Alphonsus de Liguori)

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