



## This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- That we may grow in our veneration of st Joseph.
- Only in this way are we able to pass on our enthusiasm.
- That we may take seriously his holy silence.

„Saint Joseph, now I place our Lay Community in Your hands and before our souls depart from this life, we ask You for Your blessing just as JESUS and Mary did at Your death.“

Let us start our novena on 9 September with the festival day of st Joseph in mind, a novena going with Confession and Communion like every novena. Each may have his own thoughts before and afterwards.

With kindest regards and the blessing of st Joseph I say goodbye again, your

*Sister Paula*



August 2011

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### „Saint Joseph, Keep Us Safe under Your Protection!“

The Holy Family in Nazareth was really the house of GOD, the SAVIOUR's greatest and most beautiful property, His heaven on earth. – Assigned by divine orders, Joseph not only sheltered them under his protecting wings, he also acted with wise consideration, enabled by his loving heart.

It was not because of his human wisdom and care that GOD chose st Joseph, but GOD saw the silent and strong virtue, the humble patience and unwavering faithfulness of st Joseph and took great delight in it.

In mysterious ways GOD's Providence gave him a share in the work of Redemption. GOD directed the chaste mind, the pure heart of st Joseph to the purest lily of Nazareth. In the same way he granted the Virgin Mary a unique love for and trust in st Joseph. He joined both chosen souls to the holy covenant of self-sacrificing devotion to Him – He chose Saint Joseph as the spouse of the bride of the HOLY SPIRIT, the Virgin Mother of His

eternal SON and in this way made him Protector of the Holy Family.

Let us thank GOD TRINITY on behalf of humankind for the immeasurable mercies. May He give us the grace and understanding so to venerate His beloved Joseph as is due to him and to place ourselves under his mighty protection just as Mary always venerated him and entrusted herself with her divine Child to his guidance. Every single day the Holy Family experienced the help and protection of st Joseph. If we truly venerate st Joseph and follow his example, it will be the same with us.

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## Saved from the Flood

„The heavy rains which had fallen since morning caused floods in the early afternoon in a southern quarter of a city in the United States. Rivers overflowed, sewers were blocked up, so much so that the water inundated the streets – transforming them into rivers – and invaded the cellars; families had to evacuate their homes. The electricity and telephone lines were cut until the next day; the airport had to be closed.

In the street in front of our apartment the water reached a height of 36 inches. In our apartment the cellar was flooded and, for safety reasons, the elevators were put out of service. Once again, st Joseph responded to our confidence: shortly after placing his statue outside and another on the windows-

ill with a small candle at his feet, the water level began to recede ... and finally the rains ceased.“

Brief but touching, this letter demonstrates how much the “Little Sisters of the Poor” know how to be grateful towards their powerful protector, trying by his means to transmit their faith to the humble souls who confide in divine grace rather than in their own strength.

Excerpt from “The Glories of Saint Joseph”  
Published by Traditions Monastiques

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Let us speak with st Joseph: „Had I but more than one heart to love you, my good GOD! Had I but the hearts of all people to consecrate them to You! You are my FATHER, who created me with so great a love. You preserve my life so that I may continually return Your love. But where is my love? How is it that Your creatures can even forget You – since they are the work of Your hands!”