



This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us spiritualize our love for those whom we love most.
- Let us give them our affection for love of GOD and not out of selfishness.

Let us increase our prayers to the Patrons of the Lay Community for their help that the Lay Community may grow – inwardly and outwardly. Let us also try to win at least one member each year – that would be nice.

Prayer of pope Pius X: „Most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, saint Joseph, foster-father of Jesus, pray for us daily to the same JESUS, the SON of GOD, that we, being strengthened by the power of His grace and striving faithfully in life, may be crowned by Him at the hour of death. Amen.“

With more very kind regards and the blessing of st Joseph, your

Sister Paula



June 2012

Lay Community of St Joseph

He Who Trusts Confidently, Will Receive Abundantly

St Theresa of Ávila had left Valladolid to found a monastery at Veas, in Andalusia, when, while crossing the Sierra Morena, the wagon drivers lost their way in the passes. Foolishly, they advanced along a path so narrow that they could soon go neither forward nor backward. The carriage with Theresa and her companions were left hanging over precipices and cliffs, down which they could all fall at the slightest movement.

„My daughters,“ said the Saint, „let us pray to God that, by the intercession of st Joseph, he may deliver us from this danger.“ At that moment, the powerful voice of an old man shouted to them: „Stop! If you go any further, you are doomed!“ – „But how can we get out of this terrible situation?“ they asked. – „Lean your wagon to the left side,“ came the reply, „and turn back.“

These directions were followed, and to their great surprise, the guides at once found themselves on an excellent road. Full of gratitude to their deliverer, they ran to

thank him to the place from which the voice had spoken. Theresa watched them and, seeing them running at full speed searching in vain, said to her daughters: „Really, I do not know why we let these good men go on running, for what we heard was the voice of my father st Joseph, and they will not find him!“

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

Back Home Safe and Sound

During the Franco-Prussian war (1870), after the bloody battle of Patay, an unhappy mother, whose son was a soldier in the French army, went into a church. Her husband had just told her the bad news: the Prussian Army had refused a pass to a lady they knew who wanted to visit the battlefield in order to collect her husband’s remains. „Alas,“ said the poor mother, „if our child should die, we won’t even have the consolation of giving him a decent burial.“ The anguished mother came in tears to kneel before the Immaculate Virgin Mary. After a few moments of prayer, she got up and went to the altar of st Joseph, where she knelt and again shed many tears. All of a sudden, with the bravery and hope that a mother’s love inspires, she took her son’s picture from her pocket and slid it behind the statue of the holy Patriarch. „Bring him back to me, st Joseph,“ she cried.

Jesus’s foster-father heard the cry of the devoted mother. On March 19, 1871, the young man came home, safe and sound, to his family. In fulfilment of a sacred vow, the mother of this young man protected by st Joseph had a

white, marble votive tablet placed in the chapel where she had wept and prayed, with these words on it: „Glory to good st Joseph, who preserved a beloved son for his family during the war of 1870 and brought him back safe and sound on March 19, 1871.“

That is how st Joseph, having himself experienced sorrow in his life on earth, knows how to console the grieving hearts who implore his protection.

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