



## This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- So many hearts have turned to stone – have withered and grown callous, no longer able to pass on true love. Let us pray st Joseph that he may instill new life into these cold hearts and warm them.

„Saint Joseph, let Your tender love to Your divine SON flow day and night into the families, into the workplaces, into the schools, into the Tabernacles in the whole world. Let Your love also flow onto the altars directly during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Pray complete our love and respect towards the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.“

With very kind regards and the blessing of st Joseph, I remain with you,

*Sister Paula*



August 2012

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### Happy Hour of Death

It is so important to have a good hour of death! On the last moment of life depends the whole blissful or unblissful eternity. Sacred Scripture says: „In the place where a tree falls, there it will lie“, i.e. in the condition in which a person dies, he will possibly remain eternally.

If you die in the state of grace, then your spirit, in the hour of death, will be completely directed towards GOD. If your will is far from GOD, directed towards the world and sin, and if you die without the Sacraments, then you will die in sin, in a state of dis-grace. Often man comes to repentance in the hour of death because someone has obtained by sacrifice this grace for him. Because the devil knows that he has no more time to waste when someone is dying, he will resort to trick and violence in order to divert the will of this person from GOD, and not to allow him to turn to GOD with confidence. The devil will try to tempt the dying person to pride, to have false self-confidence or to plunge him into despair. In this danger the dying person needs a powerful help. The best support in this decisive battle is st Joseph – the Patron of

the dying! Let us regularly pray for his help in the hour of our death – that he may be our lawyer.

St Theresa of Ávila who was a very great admirer of st Joseph said: „I cannot call to mind that I have ever asked st Joseph for anything which he has not granted.“

### A Holy Card Conversion

A Christian mother had a daughter whose behaviour was deplorable. This afflicted mother never went into church without kneeling down in front of an image of st Joseph, tearfully imploring the Saint to obtain the conversion of her daughter.

One day the thought crossed her mind: „If I were to give her a picture of st Joseph.“ When her child was out, she went into her bedroom. On a table lay a book; and what a book! „O st Joseph,“ said the mother, „forgive me for putting your picture here, but I must.“

On her return, the girl resumed her reading. „What is this,“ she said. „A picture!“ She turned it over and automatically read a prayer printed on the back. God’s grace awaited her there. She burst out crying and, filled with contrition, hurled the wicked book into the fire. She was converted – a miracle of st Joseph.

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### St Joseph with Depth

Joseph was a deep soul, accustomed to thinking a lot. Not vain, fleeting thoughts occupied him, he did not make selfish plans, but he gladly submerged in GOD with his thoughts, words and acts. To him prayer was not a constant battle against distractions. St John-Marie Vianney, the holy parish priest of Ars, rightly says: „Mosquitos go into cool or luke-warm water, but never into hot water.“ GOD’s love inspired and enraptured st Joseph so much, he was so highly delighted with the bliss of being allowed to listen to GOD’s voice that while praying his soul grew red-hot.

What remains motionless with lukewarm prayer will only melt in the hearts aglow with devotion, in the fervour of love of GOD. In such a condition lived Joseph and was therefore able to perceive in Mary her loving intimacy with GOD despite her normal and in no way conspicuous nature. It must have filled him with enthusiasm beyond all measure to be able to admire in Mary a soul which was even more filled with GOD than he was. GOD Himself spoke out of her plain words; in them there is an incredible amount of wisdom. Mary was able to point out the unspeakable beauty beyond all telling in his deep silence, a heavenly silence to an extremely sensitive soul.

Very soon Joseph and Mary must have been getting on very well with each other, and JESUS’ word has miraculously come true with them: „For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.“ (Matt 18,20)

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