



This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us remember all families in our day's work, especially the broken families and those affected by war and disasters.
- Let us also remember the young people, especially the deceived ones that they may not lose love and faith and may never give up hope.

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The suffering in this world is like a mighty flood overflowing its banks, drowning people and washing them away. Only GOD can stop it, no one else. Let us go to st Joseph that he may ask, together with Mary, the immaculate Spouse of the HOLY SPIRIT, that GOD will grant us all the HOLY SPIRIT in order that people, in their suffering, sorrows and fear, may seek His great heart which comforts them, eases their pain and gives them strength. He is the great hope of the suffering human race.

I wish you all a lot of success!

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

Sister Paula



February 2013

Lay Community of St Joseph

The Flight into Egypt

„The Holy Magi having notified Herod of the birth of the King of the Jews, that barbarous prince gave orders to kill all the male children up to two years old in the vicinity of Bethlehem. As GOD wished for the time being to preserve His SON from death, He sent an Angel to warn st Joseph to take the Child and His Mother and flee into Egypt.

Consider here the prompt obedience of st Joseph, who, even though the Angel had not set a time for his departure, made no difficulties either about the time or about the manner of such a trip or where he would stay in Egypt, but made ready to depart. He immediately told Mary.

What must have been the grieve of Joseph on this journey when he saw his beloved spouse, not used to so much walking, suffer so, carrying in her arms that dear Child, in constant apprehension of meeting Herod's soldiers at every turn of the road. What had they to eat during the trip? A piece of bread they had brought with



them or whatever they might receive as alms.

At night they had no place to rest except some wretched hut or an open field under the stars with, at best, a tree for shelter. St Joseph was indeed resigned to the will of the eternal FATHER, which was that His only SON should suffer even from infancy to expiate the sins of the human race, but it broke Joseph's tender and loving heart to hear JESUS cry because of the cold and the damp and the arduousness of the trip.

Finally, consider how much st Joseph had to suffer during his several years he spent in Egypt, in the midst of a barbarian and unknown nation which worshipped idols. He had neither friends nor relatives to help him. St Bernard says that st Joseph had to work day and night to provide food for his spouse and for the divine Child who Himself provides food for all men and for all animals on earth." (St Alphonse de Liguori)

„The Angel ordered Joseph to set out immediately and to take our Lady and her beloved Son into Egypt. He set off at once and unquestioningly. By the sweat of his brow he earned the living of his poor family. The Holy Family was not only in a foreign country, but in one unfriendly to the Israelites; for the Egyptians had not forgotten how their departure

had been the cause for which, having gone in pursuit, a large part of the Egyptians were drowned in the Red Sea.

You can imagine how eager st Joseph was to return to his country. He always remained meek, calm, true to his mission and perseverant in his submission to the will of GOD, trusting in His guidance and always pleasing Him. Since he was just, he had always subjected his own will to GOD's, in union and conformity with it.

To be just is simply to be in perfect union with the will of GOD and to conform to it in all events, in prosperity or adversity. No one can doubt that st Joseph was perfectly obedient to GOD at all times and occasions. See how the Angel ordered him around, telling him to go to Egypt and he went. He told him to come back, and he came back." (St Francis de Sales)

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