



house with the same intention but were unable to enter the house even though they hit the doors and windows like mad. It was only natural because they were the two nights before the feast of st Joseph as protector. – On top of everything, in spite of the fact that our food supply was cut off during the siege, we did not go hungry.

In deepest gratitude we celebrated the feast of st Joseph as protector in front of the Most Blessed Sacrament exposed in the Monstrance!“

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us make sacrifices and pray for good priests and religious persons especially this month – also for all those who stand alone having this great ideal.



With the blessing of saint Joseph I am always with you and with kind regards to every single one of you, your

Sister Paula



August 2013

Lay Community of St Joseph

Lifting up Our Hands towards Heaven

Oh, how many people on earth are weighed down with worries, fear and poverty. How many hearts are unable to cope with tragic blows and are floating around like driftwood on a river. If only one could call out to these people to lift up their hands towards Heaven – that up there Above is such a great friend in need. Heaven is always open to a faithful prayer.

So many people are living on quicksand as they have no firm footing. They do not live in the light and in the grace of GOD with the holy Sacraments. Many people are ignorant, others no longer believe in JESUS CHRIST, that He died for them on the Cross. The day will come that we have to admit what a meaningless life we have lived. So many people are becoming depressed, and the suicide rate is high. I would like to call out to people: „Go to Joseph, all of you!“, for he knows worries, needs and fears from his own experience.

What great poverty has st Joseph gone through – in Bethlehem there was only a miserable stable to provide shelter for his Family. There was nothing which he



could have used to make it homely. What fear swept over him on hearing that Herod wants to kill the Child. GOD's Angel urged him to flee without delay. The flight was risky and arduous – fraught with danger. Cold and hunger gave his Family a hard time. Severe poverty and coldness of heart assailed him in Egypt. He was constantly pining for green Galilee. But he would not despair! He looked up to Heaven and had faith.

So now st Joseph is more than willing to help ill-fated people. He does not only help in physical needs, but also in mental and spiritual needs. In my opinion the mental and spiritual poverty today is much greater than the physical one.

So much physical suffering is mainly due to lack of harmony of the soul with GOD. If the soul is ill, the body will also suffer. The soul is longing for GOD and His grace. A lukewarm man having lost his faith refuses to give his soul this food.

Let us often pray st Joseph that he may not let us leave this world without the assistance of a priest!

In Great Danger during War

The Mother Superior of a convent writes:

„We will always remember 19 March of the year 1945. At

that time, enemy aeroplanes continually raided us and every new day was full of horror and disaster. Our comfort was our good Father Joseph. We entrusted our whole property and ourselves to him, and he did not let us down. Although many bombs, whooshing by over our house, came crashing down in close proximity to it, and we had to see the shocking destruction again and again, our house as well as our courtyard and garden remained entirely undamaged.

His protection was even more striking when the hostile army occupied Vienna and our convent, too, was forced to welcome enemy soldiers on a daily basis. To this day it remains a mystery to us that these fellows after searching our house left everything untouched except for some small things, whereas they ransacked other houses as some peo-

ple told us later. In some cases they already held our valuables in their hands but then put them back in their place again. Time and again our sisters who were often exposed to great personal danger were miraculously saved.

We will always remember two nights of horror. In the first night the soldiers forced their entry into our house and chased after the sisters, but were unable to harm even one of them. In the following night they approached the

