



This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us often ask our Guardian Angel this month that he may arrange for us to meet people who can be made enthusiastic for st Joseph.



I want to make an urgent appeal: please remember to read the articles of the Lay Community from time to time.

How can I imitate the virtues of st Joseph if I am not aware of them, if I do not know anything about his life? – The book of the Abbess Maria Cecilia Baij: 'The Life of Saint Joseph' (ISBN-10: 1890137014) gives us such a deep insight into his poor, hidden life.

Pride wipes out every virtue – humility prepares us for wisdom.

Let us live this day as if we were to stand tonight before the Judgment seat of GOD. –

With kindest regards and united with the blessing of saint Joseph,

Sister Paula



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Lay Community of St Joseph

Mighty Help of St Joseph

As a child of a wealthy family she did not think about the serious side of life, even less so about the concern for her immortal soul. It is unknown whether she owned a prayer book; novels, however, she had by the hundreds. When the conversation turned on Sunday Mass, she sighed pitifully and said she would have difficulty breathing in the church. With stage plays, which took three times as long, she had no suffocating feelings whatsoever. She felt most comfortable in a restaurant with a good meal and nice music. The sermon was replaced by a liberal-minded newspaper. People seriously feared for the salvation of her soul.

However, there was one religious exercise she clung to. Where she lived, there were nine Devotions on Wednesday every year around the feast of st Joseph. She never failed to visit them whatever happened. Precisely on the last of these Wednesdays she decided to go to Confession – probably after a large number of years. – Two days later she went home to her Creator, well prepared. To whom else than to st Joseph did she owe her salvation.



My Hour of Death

Death will surely come – also to me. To me it means going home – entrance into eternity. If I enter through the wrong door I will surely come to the wrong place. Going back is not in GOD's plan. „Like your Sunday, like your dying day!“ It is not a proverb as such, it is a fact.

If I live in a state of sanctifying grace, a good hour of death will lead me to eternal bliss – a bad death in a state of death-bringing sin will lead me to eternal pain. I am facing this two-way choice in my life. What a longing in me to die well – otherwise my life would have been in vain, and in vain JESUS CHRIST would have died for me on the Cross.

Every human being can make provisions for a good hour of death. As you bed, so you lie. A Christian life according to GOD's Commandments is required. CHRIST Himself says: „If you love me, you will obey my commands ...“ (John 14,15) – „You are my friends if you do what I command.“ (John 15,14) – „Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood [Holy Communion] remains in me, and I in them.“ (John 6,56)

But a true child of Mary and a true child of Joseph will not perish! St Joseph is a very mighty Patron Saint of the dying because he has been granted the most wonderful hour of death. Mary and JESUS were physically present at his deathbed. The foster Son JESUS gave His nursing father His divine blessing and accompanied Him to eternity. All his good deeds, his living virtues and his perfect abandonment to GOD fol-

lowed him. In the same way only the good deeds will follow me and all of us to Heaven, only the good things! Nothing evil or half-hearted will enter into Heaven.

Let us often pray st Joseph to grant us a blessed death – that we will be allowed to have a good priest at our deathbed. Together with st Joseph we can depart this life with greater merits.

Who Will Lay Down His Life for Others?

Making great financial donations seems to be of little merit compared to a priest, who cannot give money but only himself, indeed his life to GOD, his physical and mental strength, his freedom, yes his whole life, provided that his life pleases GOD.

The world says: „How can anyone be so stupid as to give up all worldly happiness and impose a tedious existence on himself?!“ No priest will mourn this transitoriness, who is wrapped up in JESUS CHRIST – who cares with his whole heart for the Church as his mother – whose continuous way of thinking is dominated by the salvation of men – and in this way is the most happy of human beings.

