



## Already a Few Days Later

Through my own fault I had ended up in very serious, partly professional and partly financial, difficulties, which lasted several months. One day our little one brought a holy card of st Joseph home from nursery school.

In my desperation I turned to st Joseph. Already a few days later, on which I had prayed the Rosary of st Joseph, he helped me in my serious matter.

In future I will continue to venerate him as my Patron Saint and I hope that by this report many people will find their way to him. (R. M. in B.)

Excerpt from "St Joseph, we thank you",  
St Grignon publishers, Altötting

## This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us face the trouble, the exertion, the daily sacrifices together; let us accept the cross of every single moment because CHRIST is at our side and is dwelling in us always.



Sending you my kindest Easter greetings with the blessing of saint Joseph,

*Sister Paula*



April 2014

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### A Piece of Advice of St Teresa of Avila

Who tries to come nearer to GOD, will encounter many distractions along the way. At the beginning of my journey many obstacles will block my path, but with faith and trust in GOD they can be overcome. But this is not the end. If the spirit begins to grow in the love of GOD, the devil will also play more and more tricks on me in order to distract me. If he cannot frighten me, he will try temptations on me. If that does not work, then he will tempt me with pride, sensitiveness, self-love, a know-it-all attitude. If that does not work either, then with riches and fame. If that does not go off well, he will try to lead me astray through my family and friends. If he does not succeed with that, he will bother and insult me during my spiritual life so that I may feel weak, unworthy, neglected and unloved, or he crushes me with worries and problems, my own or other people's, so that I will not be able to pray with devotion. Every now and then he makes a mix of everything in order to give me a feeling of total inability. If success does not come with it, he leaves me in peace so that I begin to believe that I have conquered him. If I think this way, I am already defeated. That is what

the Evil One wants – it will be his victory. If I get caught in this trap of his, he will use very shrewd tricks to make me believe how good I am now by having beaten him. He will flatter my ego in so many ways that I will rather balm the wounds of my own ego, be more focussed on myself than on GOD.

It is very important that I am on my guard against the snares of the Evil One and understand that the devil will never give up. Be aware that you do not have the strength to resist the Evil One on your own. But he will not have the strength to stand his ground as long as you are in GOD. If you have come to understand this, the road you follow will be clearer and your spiritual life deeper. Thus the struggle will not be any less severe and the attacks will not stop. Always remember to surrender yourself into GOD's hands knowing that you are safe and secure there and that victory is in Him.

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Let us remember in all our daily struggles that we have committed ourselves to the special protection of st Joseph. He is the terror of all evil spirits. If we trust him, he will chase them away from us as he protected the Mother of GOD from all these hideous grimaces. At the same time let us not forget all the dying, who are particularly exposed to the Evil One in their lack of strength.

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Through arguments, temptations, transgressions and stubbornness we, human beings, saddle so many crosses on our-

selves, and on so many weak shoulders they weigh heavily. If we accept our own guilt, we are already on the road to amendment. Let us now bear what is weighing on our shoulders in atonement for ourselves and for others. Let us ask st Joseph for perseverance, for strength. St Joseph has such a great influence with GOD. He will intercede with his JESUS. He is our advocate and in his unimaginable glory he will bring salvation in hopeless matters. Let us have faith that he can achieve anything – let us trust him, let us kneel at his feet. Let us tell him that we do not leave before he has promised to help us. At the same time let us thank him for his help as if he had already helped us.

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### **Being a Missionary in Everyday Life**

We can be a missionary at home, at work. Let us reach out to people, let us go out of ourselves, let us show a friendly face. Let us faithfully go the way which GOD has lined out for us. Not this way today and different tomorrow. Grumbling and moaning must not become a sport. We want to cherish positive thoughts. Envy, jealousy and bad-mouthing will poison the air and make a peaceful togetherness impossible.

Let us try not to, by our own regular belly-aching, put a strain on people who already have a hard life anyhow. This consideration would be love of neighbour.

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