



empty – since his good deeds will follow him like articles on a conveyor belt because of his holy and meritorious life.

Let us ask st Joseph to save us from our spiritual lethargy, from distress and misery and to give us new strength.

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- May st Joseph obtain for the Church such shepherds as unremittingly give their blessing to the people, as implore GOD's SPIRIT so that they may guide and lead the flock and be true shepherds to them.

• • •

„Saint Joseph, my faithful father and helper in all matters, to You I dedicate my work, my daily life with all its hardships, my life and death. Please stay by my side and bless me and all people! Thank You, father Joseph!“

It is holiday season again. I wish those who have the opportunity to take a holiday, a good rest and lots of joy!

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

Sister Paula



July 2014

Lay Community of St Joseph

Teacher of Wisdom

„Is He not the Son of that carpenter?“ is what the Jews were asking about JESUS. „Yes,“ answers st Peter Chrysologus, „indeed He is the Son of a craftsman, but what kind of craftsman? In fact, He is the Son of Him who made the world, not by means of a hammer but by the decree of His will – He it was who devised the elements, not by a mere stroke of genius, but by a simple command. He it was who illuminated the sun, not with an earthly fire but by a superior heat. – In fact, He was the Son of an artisan whose word created everything out of nothing.“ – You are right, holy Doctor of the Church, for JESUS is truly the SON of that great master craftsman who created the universe. But allow me to say, to the glory of st Joseph, He is also the Son of this poor carpenter who handled the saw and the plane in his small workshop. It was the Blessed Virgin herself who gave to Joseph this beautiful title: “Father of JESUS”, so let us, therefore, say with confidence that JESUS is the Son of that humble carpenter and in this very capacity submitted Himself to him, being at the same time a companion to his toils. O, what a marvel just to imagine

this! JESUS helped this craftsman to work with wood, as He moulded the world together with His eternal FATHER.

„O, most wonderful dignity of Joseph!“ exclaims Gerson. Sublime grandeur that makes us see st Joseph as an emulator of GOD Himself! A poor carpenter working with wood, emulator of One Who created the world! What more do you need to proclaim Joseph the greatest of all men and fathers, since GOD Himself cannot make a father greater than the one who has GOD for a Son.

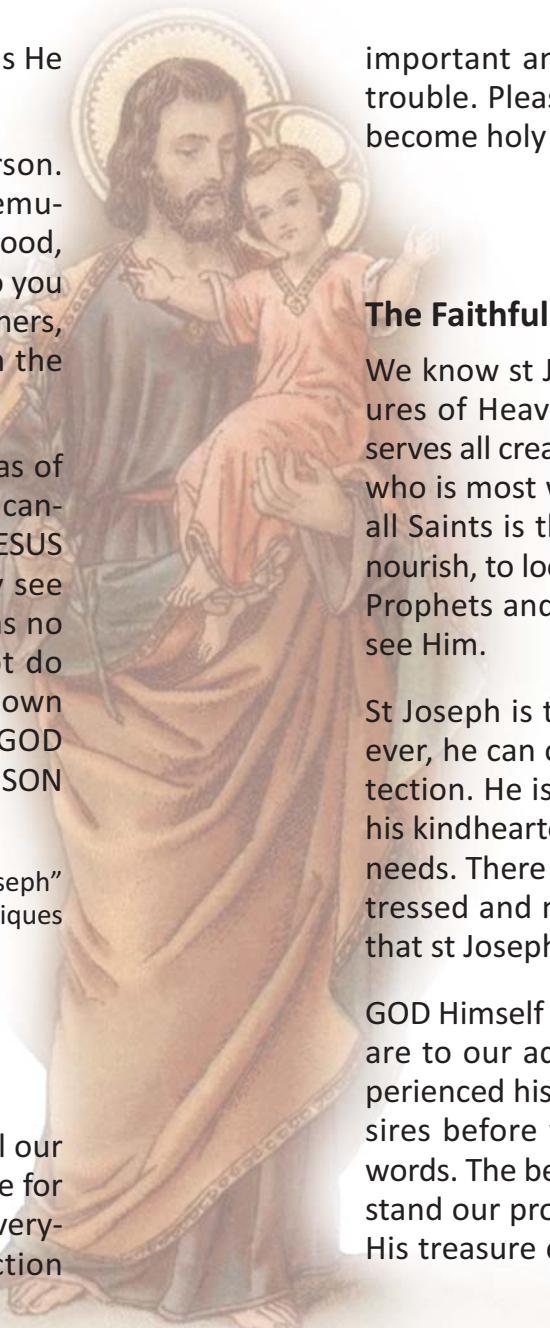
There are three things, says the Angelic Doctor Thomas of Aquin, which are so awesome that even GOD Himself cannot make anything greater: the Humanity of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, the bliss of the elect in Heaven because they see GOD's infinite being; and the Mother of GOD, who has no equal and of whom it has been said: „GOD could not do greater honour to a person than to make her His very own Mother.“ Let us add, to the glory of st Joseph, that GOD cannot make a father greater than the one who has His SON for his “son”. (st Leonard of Port-Maurice)

Excerpt of “The Glories of Saint Joseph”
Published by Traditions Monastiques

* * *

Prayer of St Francis de Sales

„Saint Joseph, Your unrestricted power extends over all our worries, troubles and needs. You achieve the impossible for us. You look at the intentions of the Church. In all the everyday worries we turn to You. Take under Your protection



important and difficult matters, which cause us so much trouble. Please provide for us a happy ending, that we will become holy and pleasing to GOD.“

* * *

The Faithful Steward

We know st Joseph as the steward of the invaluable treasures of Heaven and as the foster Father of Him who preserves all creatures of the universe. After Mary he is the Saint who is most worthy to be loved and honoured by us. He of all Saints is the one who was granted the great honour to nourish, to look after, to attend to and embrace the Messiah. Prophets and kings longed to see the Messiah and did not see Him.

St Joseph is the Protector of the Church worldwide. However, he can only protect us, insofar as we deserve His protection. He is a strong protector of the weak and needy. In his kindheartedness he simply wants to support us in all our needs. There are no widows, orphans, deserted people, distressed and needy people and there is no pain, no sorrow that st Joseph could ignore!

GOD Himself gave him the aids to ask for those graces which are to our advantage. Numerous people have already experienced his help. After all, he knows all our needs and desires before we even think about them or put them into words. The best and dearest person is often unable to understand our problem and to really help us, but st Joseph can! His treasure chest in Heaven is filled and it never becomes