



At an early age he was an independent human being, not yielding to sinfulness thoughtlessly. He did not do so even though the general view about good and evil had already shifted alarmingly and had moved away from the truth. Especially in Jerusalem, Joseph could see for himself how much the people and their leaders had already turned aside from GOD's Spirit. Seeing these saddening facts, a holy seriousness of doing penance for the offences against the FATHER in Heaven was kindled in him. He will have been very eager to compensate for them through prayer and atonement. – One day his Foster Son JESUS did this in a perfect way.

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „Saint Joseph, ask JESUS to grant us the grace of imitating Your virtues.“



Whoever finds the actual treasure of life, will consider all other things as being of secondary importance. “The modest life” makes room for the imperishable treasure. If we settle for less and live more modestly, we will have more time to think of GOD.

With kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph,

Sister Paula



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Lay Community of St Joseph

St. Joseph's Humility

JESUS speaks: „The behaviour of Joseph who knows how to keep ‘his’ place; he is present as the guardian of Purity and Holiness. But not as the usurper of their rights. It is Mary with her JESUS who receives the homage and the greeting. Joseph rejoices because of her and does not grieve because he is a secondary figure. Joseph is just; he is the Just Man. And he is always just. Also at the present moment. The fumes of the feast do not go to his head. He remains humble and just.

He is happy for the gifts. Not for himself, but because he thinks that with them he will be able to make his Spouse's and the sweet Child's lives more comfortable. There is no greed in Joseph. He is a workman and will continue to work, so that ‘They’, his two loves, should be more relieved and comfortable. Neither he nor the Magi know that those gifts serve for a flight and a life in exile, when property and riches vanish like clouds scattered by winds, as well as for their return to their native country, where they have lost everything, customers and household furnishings, and where only the bare walls of their house

have been saved, which were protected by GOD, because there He was united to the Virgin and became Flesh.

Joseph, the guardian of GOD and His Mother, the Spouse of the Most High, is so humble. He is a poor carpenter, because sustained human arrogance has deprived David's heirs of their royal rights and wealth. But he is always the offspring of a king, and has the manners of a king. Also of him it must be said: „He was humble, because he was really great.“

Excerpt from "The Poem of the Man-God"
by Maria Valtorta

Joseph, an Instrument in GOD's Hand

Joseph appears in Sacred Scripture as a man with a very high degree of moral maturity. He does not act rashly, he thinks about things carefully before making great decisions and unerringly does his duty, even at the cost of great sacrifices. He stands out as a disciplined man whose passions are bound to obey him whatever happens. He prays before undertaking any important business, allowing it to mature in prayer. Though GOD had endowed him with exceptional graces with regard to his high mission, such virtues can be achieved only by a longstanding, resolute and steadfast struggle and pursuit, which he definitely had demonstrated early in life.

Joseph, too, was born with original sin. After eight days the little boy was circumcised and was given the name Joseph. In the process, GOD granted him the faculty of reason and freed him from original sin. GOD's wonderful gifts could freely develop in him.

His parents lived a GOD-pleasing life, they set a great example of how to live a life of virtue to the child Joseph. His father Jacob was from Nazareth. His mother from Bethlehem. Both were descendants of David. After their marriage they lived in Nazareth all their life and led a saintly life. An Angel told them that this child would once make the acquaintance of the long-awaited Messiah. His parents were very happy and they were bound to guard this message as a secret to the child. So they raised Joseph with great love and care. From his earliest youth, Joseph was tormented by the Evil One with temptations and mistrust. Joseph put up with it patiently and devotedly until GOD came to his aid.

Joseph probably descended from an impoverished line of the royal family of David. His high descent shows that in his family the tradition of the coming Redeemer was diligently cherished, so that Joseph was initiated into the signs of the Messiah at an early age and extensively.

Joseph towered above the Jews of his time and he appears in our mind as one who is significantly more mature than the Apostles who, even after being taught by JESUS for a long time, were still expecting an earthly kingdom of the Messiah, ignoring many things in the process, which JESUS had clearly told them. It would not have been enough for him to be endowed with ever so exceptional graces, if GOD's gifts had been neglected.

We can be quite certain that, from his very childhood, Joseph has always had a great love and gratefulness towards the Heavenly FATHER, and also towards his parents.

