



wished the death of my child, threatened by so many close relatives who wanted it to be aborted. I had firmly believed that St. Joseph could move their hearts and I was deeply moved and happy about this rapid change. So many times JESUS' foster Father, who is ours, too, had been lavish in the bestowal of his graces. He always sustained me in difficult moments, in my daily work as well as in my private life. I did not want this grace to remain unrecognised. It is certain that I owe this grace to Joseph, the greatest of all Saints after Mary.

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### This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us make a habit of asking St. Joseph for his advice in all difficult matters.



May St. Joseph grant all our undertakings to turn out well, as long as they are pleasing to GOD and serve for the salvation of our fellow human beings. May he also help us to bear with one another in the Community in all our worries and needs.

With very kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph,

*Sister Paula*



April 2017

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### Head of the Holy Family

Let us invoke St. Joseph as protector and helper of our families – the smallest cells of the Church. With all their might the evil spirits of hell are trying to nip them in the bud. Let us allow St. Joseph to work, thus his acting will be enhanced by Mary's working under the influence of the Almighty JESUS. The relationship of three persons of the Holy Family is such that one cannot separate their working.

Joseph is the head of this family and as such his intervention as an intercessor for us appears to be crucial. Therefore, let us confide in him, that he may provide a remedy against the evils and the devastating wounds which destroy the families today. May Joseph straighten out the souls of married couples, purifying them from the hidden intention of divorce and clashing ideas which make it impossible to give their children a good upbringing. May he let them realise what a dignity they are given to be allowed to take part in GOD's creation, to be allowed to pass on life.

It is the parents' duty to create a bond between their children and GOD, to pass on the faith, to preserve peace

and harmony so that their children may grow and thrive in a good atmosphere. The good example of the parents will enable the planted seed to sprout in the children's hearts, will strengthen the children in their being Christians, and will make them understand the meaning of their life. The child will feel that being able to have everything does not make happy. It will find the warmth and security of the home more pleasant and as a result be less inclined to look for idleness. Desires and restlessness will abate and peace will fill the soul. And so, the child will one day also be able to pass on this family life, a bit of Heaven on earth.

Let us pray to St. Joseph that he may grant what is absolutely in his power. We are all obliged to resort to him, particularly the married couples for their families.

### **„All You Christians, Go to Joseph!“**

I have been a widow for twelve years and I went through many hardships. When my husband was still alive, he used to go for a short visit to a nearby chapel of St. Joseph every Sunday. But then, at the age of 49, he suddenly died. That is when my whole world fell apart (having a farm and three under-age children). – After a hard day's work on the field I drove home on my tractor. I stopped at the cemetery. I was at the end of my strength. The chapel of St. Joseph was next to the cemetery. I then said to myself: „My husband's confidence in St. Joseph has not been of any use to him.“ People say silly things in despair! – But then something caught my attention. On one of the pillars of the cemetery chapel was the signboard of the chapel of St. Joseph bearing the inscription:

„Saint Joseph, Patron Saint, comforter of the poor!“  
„All you Christians, go to Joseph, he will have mercy!“

This inscription was a clear sign of my late husband. Gradually, I regained my composure and began to have confidence in St. Joseph. Since that time I have venerated him in a childlike manner and he has already been sending me a lot of help. (F. H.)

### **Patron of the Unborn**

I had been praying to St. Joseph since 1 March and today, on his feast day, I am happy to tell you that this great Saint has answered my prayers. In my distress he did not cease to help, protect and comfort me. And so it was also yesterday, when I implored him with complete trust, to see to it that my parents will come and see me. They had not spoken to me for weeks, not since the day I told them I was pregnant. The little child I have been carrying for the last three months was for them an inconvenience, as also for my husband and the rest of my family. The child was not welcome. Silently I asked St. Joseph to help me bear this suffering and this hostility and begged that he would soften the hearts of those near and dear to me.

Last night, on the eve of St. Joseph's feast, my parents appeared at my house and asked if they could stay for dinner. I was happy to greet them and made them fully welcome. As they were leaving, they invited me and my husband to spend Sunday with them so that we could meet with all the family and added how much they would be pleased to have us. I could read in their eyes their regret and shame at having

