



This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us do everything in silence and seclusion, let us suffer, make sacrifices – for our families, for poor mankind – and resign to GOD's will.
- Let us try to put our own personal wishes last, to merely love GOD in everything, to serve Him and in this way to also make St. Joseph happy.



„Who becomes immersed in inner prayer, that is, in friendship with GOD and in this way tries to take the path inwards, cannot but learn more and more to 'live in his own truth'. If GOD wants to bestow on a person deep inner experiences, He first gives him a profound knowledge of self, brought about by grace. GOD does not leave us in the dark, but we will perish if we desert Him.“ (St. Theresa of Avila)

With the blessing of Saint Joseph I say goodbye again and with kind regards and best wishes I remain,

Brother Paula



June 2017

Lay Community of St Joseph

Well-known and Yet So Unknown

One should think that he is well-known and yet, the majority of mankind do not know him – has never known him – St. Joseph – quiet and withdrawn. From a worldly point of view he did not set up any records, did not erect any monuments, nor built any bridges. Nonetheless, he is the greatest man amongst men – there is no one like him.

As for building bridges: He is the man who never stops building tremendous bridges – everlasting ones – from the dying to GOD's throne – from sinners to the Sacraments ...

Although we know only few words from Sacred Scripture about him, still his attitude, his actions, his sophisticated nature, his character, his "Let it be done to me!" does tell us quite a lot about his genuine greatness.

It is a sign of his purity, holiness and joyful devotion that he – without asking – accepted his election as Foster father of the SON of GOD and protector of Mary voluntarily, in belief and trustingly. He was the guardian of

GOD's mystery. He was the most ideal person for it, indeed – quiet, withdrawn, humble, silent, and holy like an Angel. Many people thought that he was naive or simple-minded, because he never stood up for himself. He was always focussed on standing like a shield before Mary and her divine SON against all wickedness from men and the spirits of hell.

Even today, Joseph is the Protector of the Church, in his day for the little one, today world-wide. Let us often and repeatedly invoke him, especially in these days when people want to eradicate all that is Christian.

Pope John Paul II calls the Holy Family “the prototype and example for all Christian families.”

He who protected GOD's SON and His holy Mother in such a manner, venerated them and helped them in all possible needs and therefore has all privileges before GOD's throne, on him we may count that he will present our requests to his divine SON and vouch for us. Our prayer and supplication must be done with faith and confidence, and then we may thank St. Joseph kindly for the help obtained, praise him and tell other people about his blessings!

The Benedictine Father Martin Uhlenbrock writes:

„Joseph died before the great prophecies came true in any way. He did not see one single miracle of JESUS. Joseph is the friend of all people who die without seeing the prophecies being fulfilled; he is the friend of all those who believe without having doubts; he is the friend of all those who

sow so that others may reap. The image of this man is of extreme current interest, especially in our time.“

A Prophetic Call for All of Us

Because whoever turns to St. Joseph, to whom JESUS was so close, will experience the love and humility, purity and helpfulness of this great Saint. St. Joseph keeps working from Heaven as he did at the time he worked with JESUS: silently, carefully listening, protectively, caring and helping. Our concerns, our worries and needs could not be in better hands than his. – Joseph discusses our concerns, worries and needs as ever with his holy Spouse.

We, Christians, know that GOD is our Creator and that He has a special relationship with us. He is the FATHER of us all. He wants us to have a relationship with Him, too. He wants to talk to us. He wants us also to communicate with Him – to be near to Him. What stands in its way?

Most of the time we are too busy doing something, full of worries, full of desire and occupied with things still to be dealt with. In daily routine we meet with so many impressions, social commitments and professional duties, that, being forced to be alert all the time, we have lost our inner alertness. We only very rarely hear GOD's voice in our hearts, very rarely feel His presence, His peace.

The listening Joseph shows us a great important thing in our lives: inner collectedness – to withdraw from the screaming of the senses in order to allow GOD to touch our soul, too, and to talk to her.

