



Mary. Therefore, admire both things and ask yourself what is more admirable: the most kind condescension of the SON or the exceedingly high dignity of the Parents? Both things are admirable, both wonderful; the fact that GOD is obedient to a human being, it is an unprecedented humility, as well as the fact that a human being is at the head of GOD, it is an unequalled magnificence.“

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „St. Joseph, please help me to pay attention to what GOD wants from me – what plan He has for me and not to resist Him. Always be a mighty Intercessor for me!“



„We can be convinced that St. Joseph can do anything in Heaven. How happy can we truly be to take delight in his intercession because neither the SAVIOUR nor the Mother of JESUS will deny him anything. Through his intercession he will help us to make great progress in all virtues if it only we confide in him, especially concerning the purity of body and soul, in humility; furthermore in steadfastness, strength and perseverance, which will help also us to prevail over our enemies.“ (St. Francis of Sales)

On 19 September 2017 we are celebrating our 7th foundation day.

I wish you love and all the best, with heartfelt regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph,

Paula



September 2017

Lay Community of St Joseph

Prayer to St. Joseph

„We greet You, Saint Joseph, as steward of the incomparable treasures of Heaven and earth and as nursing father of Him who nourishes all creatures of the Universe. After Mary You are the Saint who is most worthy to be loved and honoured by us. Amongst all the Saints, it is You who had the great honour to bring up, to guide, to nourish and to cuddle the Messiah.“

In great veneration we want to present to St. Joseph our daily good intention, the worries and fears of the people, especially of the dying. Let us resolve to grow in the veneration of this Saint, to kindle this veneration also in others and to remain faithful to him with confidence and deep love in order to be allowed to embrace him in heavenly joy one day.

The Bridge of St. Joseph

In far-off Canada, near Lake St. Peter, lies a little town whose territory expanded from year to year. The Catholics living there wanted to build a proper stone church. But that was not so easy. Though they had plenty of trees

and wood, rocks, on the other hand, were scarce to find. They had to fetch them from the other bank of St. Lawrence River and there was no bridge at this point of the river, which measured three to four miles in width. There was only one chance: In these areas the winters are so severe that the whole width of the river freezes over so that it is possible to cross the river with a horse-drawn carriage and heavy load. In the summertime they gathered great loads of rocks at the other side of the river in order to carry them to the opposite side in the winter months.

The winter of 1881/1882 came, which oddly enough brought no ice. The thin layer of ice which sometimes formed would soon be broken by the powerful current. And so the months of December, January and February passed without the forming of any ice. At the beginning of March, thaw had already set in. The poor Catholic people were distressed: Now they had to wait another full year before they could start building the church! The resident people of other faiths mocked and laughed. They point-blank explained to the Catholics that it was a sign from GOD, who does not want to have a Catholic Church.

On 1 March, the parish priest called his parishioners to make an urgent appeal to St. Joseph: „We want to build a proper house for his foster Son. So he, the carpenter of Nazareth, has to help us!“ They immediately started to pray fervently, night and day, so to speak. On the fifth day the weather suddenly changed. The temperature dropped and kept dropping. Huge rocks of ice came washing down, blocking the river. They collided, got stuck and the most severe frost wedged them together from one riverbank to the other at the very

place between the little town and the piled up rocks on the other side of the riverbank. They dragged along huge trunks to test the strength of the ice-bridge. Soon they had the certainty that it could support the heaviest loads over a width of 300 meters.

This happened on Tuesday. On Wednesday was the feast of St. Joseph with even greater cold, and during the night it was cold enough to freeze the tail off a brass monkey. They had nothing to fear. The bridge would have supported houses. Early in the morning of the next day, all possible kinds of horse-drawn carriages gathered in front of the church, well over a hundred. First, all the carters attended a Holy Mass celebrated in honour of St. Joseph to prevent any mishap. Then they crossed the river in a long line and returned laden with many rocks. And thus they worked the whole day until all the rocks had been moved to the opposite side. The people of other faiths were amazed. They were so convinced that the bridge had only been created for the Catholics that they asked the “owners” for permission to also use the same. That very night, an enormous cracking and thundering could be heard. The massive ice rocks split asunder and the current carried them off towards the sea. – St. Joseph, he can do anything! Let us plead with confidence!

Excerpt from “St. Joseph helped us again”
A. M. Weigl

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Doctor of the Church:

„He was obedient to them. Who? To whom? GOD to men! GOD – I say before whom the Angels prostrate themselves, whom the Principalities and Powers obey – was obedient to Mary, but not just to Mary, to St. Joseph, too, on account of

