



## This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „Saint Joseph, pray for us all that we may obtain a just and virtuous disposition – that one day our way of living can stand the test before GOD.“



„Thank You, Saint Joseph! Through Your life You show us in so many ways the road to Heaven. And if we stay on this path, we have nothing to fear.“

Pope John XXIII to his niece Giuseppina: „You and I, we are under the special protection of St. Joseph, the principal Patron Saint of the inner life. Oh, how lovely is the fragrance of St. Joseph in the garden of the holy Church! St. Joseph is like a flower hiding to the very extent of being unseen, escaping the eye, but its fragrance spreads everywhere and says: ‚Here is St. Joseph.‘ May GOD grant that people could say this about us! Becoming holy and sanctifying oneself in humility and in secret.“

St. Joseph is surely a great help to us in this matter. Let us tell him to stay with us when the night comes over us, distress and fear, the night of doubt and temptations and one day the hour of death.

Well, again I will include all members in my thoughts and remain united with heartfelt regards and the blessing of St. Joseph,

*Sister Paula*



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## Laiengemeinschaft des hl. Josef

### Poor and Yet So Rich

St. Joseph lived a poor and yet such a rich life because he had the SON of GOD under his roof – in very common circumstances. Unknown and unnoticed in the eyes of the world, he carried weight with GOD all the more – a noble and rich Joseph in GOD's sight, like no other human being. Why? He constantly listened to the promptings of his own heart so as under no circumstances to miss the will of GOD, and because no other person had been raised to such a high honour.

Joseph was a great friend of poverty, detached from earthly goods. He had the true sense of being poor in spirit as the SAVIOUR had called it blessed in the Sermon on the Mount. He possessed humility, purity of heart, meekness, and a great devotion to GOD's will.

He served GOD with great zeal and had a merciful heart for the poor and sick. For days and nights on end, he knelt down in prayer for the dying who were in great danger of losing their heavenly bliss. He literally wrung the souls from the infernal enemy. Let us venerate St. Joseph with all our hearts, then we can be assured of his

protection and his help, and one day he will hold out his hand to us and will happily accompany us into eternity. He will always help us in such a way that serves us best.

Joseph gladly teaches us to love poverty. For the less you have, the freer and happier you are. Let us also trust him when he shows us his poor life. A life that just detaches from earthly goods and makes happy and satisfied. In good fortune and ill fortune, in joy and sorrow, in prosperity and tribulations he remained faithful to GOD's Commandments, he trusted without second-guessing, and never lost his even temper. A righteous man because he totally lived by faith, heroically. He is perfect because with ease he soared like an eagle in all virtues. All these virtues now cling to him for all eternity clothing him with majesty. He sits on a throne right next to Mary.

„Saint Joseph, joyfully I contemplate the first years of Your hidden life. How precious was Your childhood before GOD, how rich and wonderful in merits Your youth. How unforgettable were also Your later years. The fulfilment of all virtues raised You to a shining example encouraging us over and over again to follow in Your footsteps. Your unwavering faith in GOD's Providence has always carried You through all mysteries and over dangerous obstacles.“

Mary was praised because of her faith. May St. Joseph, too, be praised because he believed the commands of the Angel and obeyed. Because he was just, he always united his will with the divine one.

## My Husband Was to Be Transferred

It was in the year 1936 – the time of Hitler! My husband had been transferred to Berlin through no fault of his own. Objections remained unsuccessful. How hard for me was the thought of having to move with three children to this big, unfamiliar city. Time and again, I went to the Altar of St. Joseph in our parish church imploring him: „Saint Joseph, You surely had to experience and suffer these things Yourself. Look, we tried everything to cancel this transfer, but to no avail. To no avail at all!“

I repeatedly invoked the Holy Family. My husband had already rented a flat in Berlin. The date of the move drew nearer and nearer. The removal van had already been ordered and everything was prepared for the approaching move. And what happened? A telegram arrived: „Transfer cancelled! Removal van stop!“ How this was possible can hardly be explained from the human point of view. In fact, three other men were moved up and transferred unexpectedly. As a result, the position of my husband was vacant again, which none of those involved could have suspected. What would have become of us during the war and the post-war period in Berlin?

I firmly believe that my prayer was heard and that divine Providence by the intercession of St. Joseph ordained everything in such a way that this transfer was cancelled. Thanks to St. Joseph for his mighty help. Honour and praise be to him in his glory! (Th. B.)

