



Since St. Joseph is standing so close to his divine SON, we really have reason to pray: „St. Joseph, make me Your very own. Yours in life, Yours in death, Yours in affliction, fear and misery, Yours in the Cross and in bitter grief, Yours for time and eternity. Saint Joseph mine, let me be all Yours. Amen!“

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us not judge our superiors, let us rather commend them to the good LORD, the holy Mother of JESUS and to St. Joseph.



Joseph watched over his most pure Spouse like a great treasure. – Indeed, he had it with him: the King and Queen of Heaven and earth. How his heart jubilated! How his mind rejoiced! Who could ever depict this? Only Joseph saw it with his own eyes.

Mary's words to Joseph: „GOD deserves it and takes great pleasure in gratitude. There is nothing better for us to do than to be faithful to Him in everything, to praise and thank Him unceasingly, because He continually grants us His grace. If we are grateful to GOD, we will become recipients of new graces and tokens of favour.“

With kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph,

Sister Paula



November 2018

Lay Community of St Joseph

The Holy Story

It tells us so little of Joseph – and yet so much, if we open our hearts that we may have a fairly good idea of him.

First, the Gospel of Matthew 1,16 shows his descent from the royal family of David: „Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.“ Then the Angel greets him: „Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid ...“ (Mt. 1,20) So Joseph like Mary descended from very noble blood. But even the noblest blood alone cannot provide a legal title in GOD's kingdom. Even with his own people his noble blood could not protect him any more than it could Mary from material poverty and insignificance. Only the greatest and finest nobility of soul could qualify the modest worker of royal blood for the highest calling. Not the descent, nor even the most distinguished one, but inner beauty and greatness will confer significance in the eyes of GOD.

GOD has already given us this extremely important lesson through St. Joseph, even before the SON of GOD made man was called the “carpenter's Son.“ Because the chosen people in their error paid more attention to outer

shine than to greatness of soul, they not only underestimated the Holy Family, but also JESUS, the Foster Son of the carpenter of Nazareth. They did not recognise Him, yes, they even rejected Him and nailed Him to the cross.

How much does the Jewish overrating of power and money cling to so many Christians of our days despite the SAVIOUR's teaching and example! The holy Church tries, as far as possible, to ward off this bad Jewish habit from their children also through the veneration of St. Joseph. The SAVIOUR teaches that neither power nor money nor academic knowledge alone makes anyone pleasing to GOD.

CHRIST had to come from the royal family of David; so it was prophesied by the prophets. They may have suspected, without expressly saying so, that He was to come from an impoverished branch of the same tribe, not just only His natural Mother, but also His foster Father. That is and remains a sign from GOD to the people of all Christian times: „Behold Joseph, the carpenter from the royal family of David, one of the greatest men in the kingdom of the SON of GOD in this world and the next!“

When the childhood and youth of the holy Virgin Mary show the finest and best things, we can hardly expect anything different from St. Joseph's, too. These are not mere speculations. It is certain that St. Joseph came from Bethlehem and from the family of David. This also made him the happy heir of all the blessings of this house. In life he was endowed with the most precious physical and spiritual heritage.

Thanks to the good education which he had gratefully received in the house of his father Jacob, all his sound and noble qualities came to wonderful fruition. A youthful appearance, strength and skilfulness set him apart from others.

Often people picture St. Joseph as an old man next to a blooming Virgin Mary. No, in everything, both physically and spiritually, Joseph is the perfect match for the most holy Virgin. He was about 30 to 32 years of age, manly, bright, cheerful and determined, loyal to GOD and man, and a good match for her as bridegroom, this very Joseph, and this is only a little description of him.

He is not only a model to young people, he is also a great friend and helper – of the living and the dead.

St. Joseph's Place in Heaven

The great Pope Pius IX had instructed a painter to make a painting portraying the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The sketch was ready. The artist presented it to the Holy Father. The Pope took a close look at it. „And what about St. Joseph?“ he exclaimed. „Where is St. Joseph?“ – The painter pointed to a group disappearing in the sky and said: „I will place him there.“ – „Oh no,“ Pius IX replied and said, pointing with his finger to the place beside JESUS: „There and only there he must be; because in Heaven St. Joseph is nowhere else to be found.“ (A. Weigl)

