



And so it came about that, with the help of St. Joseph, the Tabernacle in our cathedral received the befitting place of honour. Brother N.N. Eng., India

Let us put all our confidence in St. Joseph – in his mighty intercession with his divine Foster Son. Let us pray together for the Church, for bishops and priests:

„Saint Joseph, implore light and strength for them, pray to GOD on their behalf for forgiveness for leading the people astray. May you assist them in their struggle and in temptation. After all, you are Saint Joseph, the terror of all evil spirits! Your power is unlimited on earth. Chaste Saint Joseph, help mankind to escape from the filth of sin, strengthen the faith in GOD, so that one day all can really join you in praising and worshipping GOD in His glory!“

### This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- We pray to St. Joseph that he may help the troubled souls, because he sees the distress of so many souls in and outside the Church.



With kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph, I say goodbye again and remain united in prayer,

*Brother Paula*



May 2019

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### Heaven on Earth

The Holy Family was the house of GOD, His greatest and most beautiful property, His Heaven on earth. St. Joseph not only held his protective hand over it by divine order, in it he also discharged his duties and acted with careful consideration and cleverness, his loving heart ruled over it wisely. GOD was very pleased with St. Joseph, with his marvellous virtues, his unshakable faithfulness; therefore, divine Providence allowed him to take part in the mysterious work of Redemption. GOD directed his chaste mind, his pure heart towards the pure Lily of Nazareth. GOD put into Mary's heart the pure love for and a unique trust in St. Joseph. Both chosen souls sealed the covenant in self-sacrificing devotion to GOD.

### The Order to Flee

One night an Angel ordered Joseph to flee: „Get up, take the Child and His Mother and escape to Egypt and stay there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him.“ What? The Almighty One orders His SON to flee? He could paralyse all His enemies with a

single word and He gives His SON the order to flee?  
... Yes, and that is exactly what He did.

The Heavenly FATHER teaches us a lesson not to question Him about the whys and wherefores and the ways on which He leads us.

What does Joseph do? As soon as he understood what GOD wants him to do, he obeys. He is a servant of GOD. He cannot imagine being anything else. Count all the reasons he could have brought forward to make GOD change such a decision or at least give him more time. Joseph does not even think about it. He absolutely trusts in GOD's wisdom. He does whatever GOD tells him to do. The true servant of GOD fulfils all the wishes of his LORD with a devoted heart.

The LORD's yoke is easy and His burden is light. In order to lighten Joseph's sacrifice, the Angel says to him: „Take the Child and His Mother ...“ His only concern was to save them from danger and it gave him the strength to face even the most difficult hardships. The country in which one knows for sure that one has JESUS and Mary is no longer a place of exile – it is home. – Knowing whom he takes with him, Joseph does not regret anything he leaves behind. What a valuable lesson for us!

### **St. Joseph and the Tabernacle**

A missionary brother commissioned to build a cathedral told the following story:

It happened more than seven years ago while building our

cathedral. The crucial question was whether the high altar with the Tabernacle should be placed at the front in the middle or instead at the same spot the bishop's seat. Behind the choir is an apse, located four steps higher, and in its middle I wanted to erect the Tabernacle. Our bishop did not agree. In the apse he wanted to place his cathedra and some of our young priests backed him up. In his opinion, the Tabernacle should be built at the side into the choir's wall or into a side chapel. At table this matter was often discussed. Every time, I quite clearly argued that a church is built for our dear LORD and that therefore the first and most prominent place is due to Him – and in our church this place is the apse, at the front.

At one of such conversations the bishop became very agitated and said to me: „From now on do not contradict me any more in this matter! My cathedra will be placed in the apse and the Tabernacle at the side somewhere.“ Upon this, I turned to St. Joseph and entrusted him with the whole matter. I did not cease to say to him: „Saint Joseph, on earth You did everything for CHRIST. Now, will You please also see to it that Your Foster Son receives the place He deserves.“ I no longer opposed the bishop, instead I prayed all the more.

Some two months later, I stood at the construction site when the bishop came to inspect the progress of the work. Suddenly he asked me if I were still of opinion that the apse was the most suitable place for the Tabernacle. „Yes, your Excellency,“ I said, „that is still my opinion.“ To which he replied: „Very well then, please yourself and place the Tabernacle in the apse.“

