



## Go to Joseph,

all of you who long for a true inner life. He will teach you to worship in the spirit and truth; he will teach you to find GOD in the midst of the most unseen daily routine.

### This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „He lived best who made the most people happy.“ Let us take these words as a heartfelt matter.



„Great opportunities to serve GOD rarely present themselves, but minor ones are very often put before us.“ (St Francis de Sales)

Yes, by practising the love of neighbour I continually serve GOD. With little short prayers I lift up my heart to Him. With little acts of renouncement, by not always insisting on the last word, by keeping silence, I can settle many disputes and will become all the more inwardly attuned in the process.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and restful holiday break in the coming months!

With kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph I will be with you,

*Sister Paula*



July 2020

## Lay Community of St Joseph

### Father Joseph

For Joseph this was not just an ordinary title. This name had great significance and a deep connection with his vocation. – Joseph commanded and JESUS submitted willingly, this JESUS, to whom every knee bows – in Heaven, on earth and under the earth. JESUS joyfully submitted to His beloved Father Joseph. For He always saw in his kind and loving heart knowing about the trials, hardship and duties that Joseph took upon himself in absolute devotion. Because the SAVIOUR came down on this earth in order to fulfil the law, and also the fourth Commandment – with the utmost determination.

St Joseph was allowed to experience a great grace. He had a major share in the suffering of his Foster Son and the many difficult and very sad hours with which JESUS was swamped from His conception until His death. Joseph shared all these sufferings and wept much. Mary often had to comfort him so that he might endure everything devotedly and in this way be pleasing to the Heavenly FATHER. One can measure the extent to which GOD loves His chosen ones by the hardship He expects them to put up with. The way of ways is the imitation of CHRIST. If we

do not go this way, we will get stuck to the poor world. Joseph was tried by many worries and tribulations and in this way constantly perfected his life.

In those days, during the famine, Pharaoh said to the people: „Go to Joseph!“ Do we not also have every reason to go to Joseph – the Nursing Father of JESUS? Have our supplies of spiritual goods not been hopelessly cut down? – How often do we struggle in our spiritual dryness to pray – Joseph is a good teacher, teaching us not to slacken in prayer. Go to Joseph, if you are tempted, if you are struggling to stay on the path of virtue, to leave the tempting world behind. Remember that Joseph is always near to you with his unshakeable peace and calmness. He helps you to remain strong in the midst of storms. Although Joseph had not lived to see the Crucifixion of JESUS CHRIST on earth, he suffered much when he was still alive, because he often had CHRIST’s suffering before his eyes. And so we owe to Joseph a great share in the nature of JESUS CHRIST on the Altar.

„Thank, you, Father Joseph, for Your mighty protection, for Your great example of strength, of deep and grateful love, for Your perfection with which you coped with everything. Your life shows us what makes up the content of Christianity.“

### „So, Now Honour Your Promise!“

One day Brother André met a man whose right arm was paralysed. He resolutely ordered him: „Go to confession and then start a novena to St Joseph!“ Astounded the man called

out: „What did you say?“ – „Go to confession, you have not seen a confessional for a long time!“ –

„You are right, father! I have not been to confession for at least 35 years!“ His daughter was very embarrassed and touched his arm: „Be quiet, papa, people will hear what you say!“ – „My child, I was brave enough to remain without receiving the Sacraments for 35 years, so now I should be brave enough to admit it in public!“ – „Quite right!“ agreed Brother André. „And now take your hat, but not with your left hand, but with your right hand. – So, now honour your promise!“

The man was dumbfounded, he could move his paralysed arm freely and made the sign of the cross. He was healed. He immediately went into the confessional and the next day he received Holy Communion, his heart full of peace. Both St John Vianney, parish priest of Ars and Brother André were fervent devotees of the most holy Virgin Mary, called on her regularly and were happy to pray the Rosary.

Whereas John Vianney, the parish priest of Ars, referred the great sinners to Mary, Brother André recommended his petitioners to turn to St Joseph. He worked his countless miracles through the intercession of this great Saint.

And so the most amazing miracles happened on a daily basis, promoting confidence in the intercession and help of St Joseph, because these miracles did not happen secretly, but in full view of many people. Unfortunately many people have eyes, but fail to see, have ears, but fail to hear.

