



Ubertino of Casale: „If the Mother of GOD in her great love even prays for the sinners, the executioners of her SON, how much more would she not have asked grace of Heaven for her devoted and loving husband? Because the goods of the wife are the goods of the husband, the Blessed Virgin gave Joseph from the treasures of her heart all that he could receive. I dare say that Mary loved Joseph more than any other creature. Her love for Joseph came right after the love she bore for JESUS, the blessed fruit of her womb.“

Thus, the Eternal FATHER said to Himself: „If the Blessed Virgin is ‘a door,’ then We do not want it to be opened, but rather to strengthen it and barricade it with incorruptible wood, that is, to give her a companion in purity by her side.“ For this purpose, He destined the great St Joseph, which is why he was to outshine all the Saints and Angels, even the Seraphim, in this glorious virtue of virginity. (St Francis de Sales)

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „Saint Joseph, with all our hearts we give You thanks for Your so wonderful care and everlasting help!“



With kind regards and the blessing of St Joseph, I remain,

Sister Paula



August 2021

Lay Community of St Joseph

St Joseph – Confidence of Us All

JESUS CHRIST does not deny anything to St Joseph in Heaven. Respect and loving intimacy are still cherished, in Heaven even more than on earth, and in many ways. JESUS can refuse nothing to his earthly Father. St Joseph is allowed to exercise all the power he enjoys in favour of those who place all their hope and firm trust in him. It is given to him to help us in all sorrows and emergencies, to defend us if we ask him with true love and trust.

The SAVIOUR has subordinated himself to Joseph on earth, fulfilling his every wish. He will now fulfil Joseph's every wish in Heaven as well, when he begs Him for help for one of his protégés – the Church, the dying, etc.

I imagine that St Joseph is known amongst many people, perhaps also venerated by many, but that those who call upon him often and fervently receive far more graces and help. Let us look for St Joseph several times during the day – in Bethlehem, whilst fleeing, in Egypt, in Nazareth, in the temple. Everything that happened on earth is present in Heaven, vivid, simply authentic. Theresa of

Avila says: „When I speak to Mary, Joseph, JESUS, I also always go to the places where they lived.“

So we will ask St Joseph for his intercession – he will accomplish anything that will bring our soul closer to Heaven, depending on how we are willing to bear our crosses. We have a formidable advocate in eternity to guide and direct us.

Saved by Alms

A loveless, unbelieving man was about to die with blasphemy on his lips and plain despair in his heart. His wife was praying and weeping, but GOD seemed not to listen. Meanwhile death was fast approaching. „Make haste,“ said the priest to the sick man’s wife, „go and look for a pauper and give him alms generously in the name of St Joseph for the conversion of your husband.“ She rushed through the streets, and eventually met an old man covered in rags and gave him rich alms, requesting him to pray for the conversion of a sinner. At that very moment, the dying man had taken the priest’s hand, kissed it with tears, and begged for forgiveness. The heartbreaking conversion was sincere. A few hours later, the dying man entered into eternity, saved by the alms given in the name of St Joseph and due to the prayers of the poor man in rags.

(Excerpt from "The Glories of Saint Joseph"
published by Traditions Monastiques)

The Poor Souls and St Joseph

A young girl, brought up in a house of the Sacred Heart of JESUS, was chosen by GOD for a great work. From her tenderest years she often asked herself this question: „GOD is our Providence. How can we offer our help to Him?“ The HOLY SPIRIT put the following answer into the girl’s heart: „By paying the debt of Purgatory.“

On 2 November 1853, she received the prompting to found a religious congregation, whose chief aim would be to come to the aid of the Poor Souls by work and willingness to suffer. The holy Curé of Ars, delighted with the idea, gave it his entire support, often sending counsel and advice to this pious foundress. A promise was made to St Joseph that, should the work really take shape, the first statue to be placed in the motherhouse of those consecrating themselves entirely to the relief of the anguish of the Poor Souls in Purgatory, would be his. St Joseph took good care not to forget this promise. With the help of divine Providence the religious congregation could be founded in 1856 together with the acquisition of a residence in Paris. From then on the Sisters took the name of “Helpers of the Souls in Purgatory” (Auxiliatrices des Âmes du Purgatoire). As early as the following day, a postman arrived and delivered a statue of St Joseph, donated by a person who knew nothing of the promise of the foundress. Thus St Joseph was pleased to declare himself the Protector of this courageous project, pursuing a holy ministry, far from the public eye, in the heart of the great city of Paris.

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