



„To put one's hopes in GOD.
When one sees any good in oneself
to ascribe it to GOD, not to oneself.
But to recognise that evil always comes from oneself
and to attribute it to oneself.“
(Benedict of Nursia)

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- „Saint Joseph, urge us to become saints. Be close to us with JESUS and Mary when we are dying and guide us safely into eternity, please!
- Saint Joseph, into your care I place the events of the world, the Church, our families, and our lives – our path to eternal salvation. Amen!“



„It is certain that no worker was ever so perfect and so deeply imbued with the life of virtue as the Nursing Father of JESUS, who lived with Him in the most intimate familiarity and communion of family and work. Therefore, if you want to be near to CHRIST, we call to you again today: „Go to Joseph!““ (Pope Pius XII)

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

Sister Paula



September 2021

Lay Community of St Joseph

St Joseph – Not Only JESUS' Father, Also Our Father

Let us thank GOD that we can address St Joseph also as Father. The wonderful St Joseph, so completely chaste and pure – so worthy to carry the Infant JESUS on his arms, to protect, to caress, to rock Him to sleep, to listen to His divine teachings.

He helps us to have the right relationship with GOD and our fellow men and thus to become better Christians. He also helps us to keep – with much patience and understanding – the interpersonal relationships in balance. St Joseph is also a great help in sensing and recognising the ways of GOD – in prayer, in contemplation, in devotion, in silence – and in being together with Him. Let us often put ourselves in his presence, let us keep in mind his modest, humble life, let us be vigilant that no shadow clouds our vision of St Joseph. If we follow in his footsteps, we will have the opportunity to make great progress in the virtues.

Love St Joseph – love him with all your heart. How many times has he given you a silent helping hand? How many

minor and major problems or silent matters has he solved without you knowing it, or the day just went well, or there was just enough time, although you thought that you would not manage. This is St Joseph: all-round – also Mary and your Guardian Angel. It is simply immeasurable and tremendous what they do for us!

Joseph is entitled to our love, moreover, it is very important to associate with him, because he leads us to an inner life. Since he discusses our matters with his Spouse Mary, as he did during his lifetime, they both have infinite power with their divine SON! We can only learn from St Joseph:

from his power of faith – his absolute purity, his veneration and love of Mary – from his surrender into the will of GOD – his humility – his composure – his positive thinking – his holy silence, which protected the great secret. – Let us at least try to imitate him, shall we?

In the Gospels, Joseph's task as Father towards JESUS is clearly presented. The salvation that comes through JESUS' humanity is realised in the action and attitude of St Joseph – in his silence – in his service and in the discharge of his duties. This attitude also concerns us: in the family, at work. How many misunderstandings and how many quarrels could be avoided. So many things would not be passed on. How quickly the grossest slanders arise from it, also through rash judging and condemning. – „Saint Joseph, we need Your help in this very matter.“

Prayer for the Right Workplace

„Humble, holy Joseph, You are the man of labour and the discharge of duties! How difficult it was for You to earn the daily bread for JESUS and Mary! In love for them You did everything without questioning. You never complained and simply fulfilled Your task. You knew that everything You offered with joy and devotion to GOD, would give Him much pleasure and earn You great merits. Often during the day, You offered Your heart to Your dear GOD – be it with joy or suffering – and it always gave You great pleasure and new insights into the wonderful great secrets.

Father Joseph, I ask You for the right workplace, for a good work spirit, that we may be able to cope with life with all the discomforts of our state, that we may bear in patience with our fellow men and always plead for peace, that we may have an open heart for the poor, as You have had and still have. – Saint Joseph, every day I want to make great efforts to practise humility and to pass on the joy of work to others. Again and again, I run the risk of pretending to be better than I am. Teach me to be humble, simple, and helpful.

Beloved Father Joseph, I ask You to bless our work. Bless all craftsmen and everyone who struggles with their work. Give them Your fatherly protection throughout the world. Let them not forget the salvation of their souls amidst their daily cares and efforts. Amen!“

