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and hopes of a life's work seemed to be destroyed. We prayed through the night in front of the Tabernacle. Fully aware of my responsibility and the importance of the situation, I, as superior, besieged St Joseph, the venerable Father of the house, and concluded my fearful petition with the firm order: "Saint Joseph, not a drop of water must come!"

After a sleepless night, I entered the building early in the morning. The first worker I met, when I asked how things were in the boiler room, replied literally, "Not a drop of water has come!" And the boiler room stood firm to this day. To everyone's amazement, St Joseph had faithfully fulfilled the mission entrusted to him. (M. Chlothilde, Superior)

#### **This Month's Heartfelt Matters**

"Father Joseph, it is Your month and I ask You to especially assist the Mother Church, the dying and all those in need."

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In this time of need, let us not forget to smile. A ray of sunshine is enough to light up much darkness.

With kind regards and the blessing of St Joseph, I say goodbye again,

Shother Paula



March 2022

# Lay Community of St Joseph

## Venerate and Invoke St Joseph Much More!

Let us show great childlike confidence towards St Joseph. After all, he is the helper in all worries, spiritual and material ones. He was the Protector of the Blessed Virgin and so fatherly cared for JESUS and His Immaculate Mother. St Joseph always has a special joy when he is allowed to present requests to JESUS and his most holy Spouse, so no one will call on him in vain. Let us take St Joseph as a father for our family and he will never abandon us.

Let us not talk too much about what is yet to come. Rather, let us give all our worries to St Joseph and live in the now. For what tomorrow will bring, we will also receive grace only tomorrow.

Let us ask St Joseph that he may protect the holy Church as he protected his little Family and kept all hostility from it, that he may make the Church's concerns entirely his own. We cannot ask nor trust him enough. We also need to often ask St Joseph for good and holy priests and that hopefully countless priests who have gone astray may be converted and find their way back to the divine Heart.

"Saint Joseph, Your help and intercession is so infinitely important and necessary. I thank you wholeheartedly!"

#### **Confidence in St Joseph Makes So Much Possible**

Thanks to the great kindness of benefactors who took it in turns to lend their trucks, the "Little Sisters of the Poor" from Amiens were able to collect copious donations in the countryside.

One Wednesday – this day is dedicated to St Joseph – they informed their superior that they would certainly not be back before 6 o'clock in the evening because of a more extended tour. But no sooner did it strike midday than they were back again because their truck was already fully loaded at the second farm, so they had to unload as quickly as possible in order to drive fast to the other farms where they were already expected. "All right," said the driver, "but since my boss did not reckon with two round trips, my petrol will not be enough." "Do not worry," replied a "Little Sister," "I will fetch you a canisterful, will you meanwhile measure how much you need." When the driver put the dipstick in the tank, he was amazed because the tank was as full as at the departure, even though he had already covered 100 km. He was so moved by this miracle that he refused to take the filled canister with him as a precaution. Indeed, the tank content was also sufficient for the second journey. Thanks be to St Joseph for his help always!

## Two Incidents from the Joseph Castle in Altötting

It was on 21 November in 1905, the Feast of the "Presentation of Mary." For 20 years I had been accustomed to say the prayer to the seven joys and sorrows of St Joseph every day, for according to the words of St Teresa of Avila, St Joseph does not refuse a request to anyone who performs this prayer daily in his honour.

It was late in the evening, and I had not yet prayed my seven "Our Fathers." Quite exhausted after a hard day's work, I already wanted to go to bed, but I listened to my inner admonition to kneel in the chapel and perform my devotions. No sooner had I finished my prayer than I suddenly heard a heavy thud. Startled, I hurried away to look for the cause. I came into my room. There, lying on my bed, was the heavy, big board that had been hung over my

bed. I had to wake a nurse to help me lift it out. If I had not done my devotions in the choir, the panel would have struck me dead; but St Joseph had rewarded my faithfulness.

In Eichstätt, the monastic teachers' seminary was built in 1905/1906. The groundwater caused great difficulties. The pump had to work day and night. The neighbours were tired of the noise; the pump was ordered by the authorities to stand still at night. We asked for patience for a few more days, but it was not granted. The machine had to stop working at nine o'clock in the evening at the end of November. It was the utmost hardship; the costs