



St Joseph's quick help. I have told this story so many times for his and GOD's glory. Would that many people would turn to St Joseph with confidence, he will certainly help. (F. C. 1977)

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- That we may strive to keep the holy, poor, and humble life of Mary and Joseph in our mind's eye. It helps a lot to forgo something, quickly and with ease – to guard our thoughts and our tongue.



„LORD, You Know Me!“

„LORD, my GOD, my only hope! May I know You, may I know me! You know me – You know my strength, help my weakness to stand up! All my hope rests on Your mercy alone. Give what You command, and command what You will. Give what I can offer You, for I am wretched and poor. But You are rich unto all those who call upon You. If You are our strength, we are truly strong.“ (St Augustine)

With kind regards and the blessing of St Joseph I say good-bye again – in the month of the Sacred Heart!

Sister Paula



June 2022

Lay Community of St Joseph

Joseph's Election

Joseph reached the age of 60 years and a few days. He had lived for 27 years by the side of his most pure Spouse. At his death, Mary was in her 42nd year. Mary felt great natural sorrow over Joseph's death for she loved him not only as her spouse, but also as a Saint of excellent perfection and as her benefactor and protector. Her sorrow was well ordered and most perfect, but not any less for that. Her love was the greater because she found him inscribed amongst the highest Saints in the Book of Life and in the Spirit of GOD. ...

With regard to the gifts of grace, I recognised a difference between St Joseph and other Saints. Many Saints received gifts of grace which were not aimed at their own holiness, but had the purpose of moving other people to the service of GOD. They are not directly related to holiness.

In the case of St Joseph, however, all the gifts bestowed upon him included an increase in his virtue and holiness, because his ministry was a matter of holiness and his own activity. The holier, the more angelic he was, the

more suitable he was to be the spouse of the most holy Virgin Mary and the Guardian of the mysteries of Heaven. He was to be an utter miracle of holiness, as so he was indeed. This miracle began with him as early as in his mother's womb. Divine Providence endowed him with outstanding qualities and inclinations to virtue. He was sanctified seven months after his conception, and in the process, evil desire was bound for the whole time of his life, so that he never had an impure or disorderly emotion. In this first sanctification he was only cleansed from original sin, he did not yet receive the use of reason. His mother felt an unusual joy of the HOLY SPIRIT at that time, without fully understanding the mystery. She practised great acts of virtue and thought her child would be wonderful in the sight of GOD and men.

Joseph's Birth

At his birth Joseph was very beautiful. He aroused extraordinary joy in his parents and relatives, similar to the birth of John the Baptist. The cause of this was still hidden. ...

Joseph was of a meek disposition, loving, kind, and sincere. He showed in everything not only holy but angelic inclinations, constantly growing in virtue and perfection and advancing towards his espousal with the most holy Virgin by an altogether irreproachable life. ...

St Joseph received far more visions and heavenly revelations than can be described. His greatest distinctions of grace are his familiarity with the mysteries of JESUS CHRIST and His most holy Mother, that he was the Foster Father of our LORD and the Bridegroom of the Queen of Heaven. Through

his intercession one attains the virtue of chastity. Through him one obtains powerful aids of grace to avoid sins. Through his mediation one obtains the favour of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary. Through him we obtain the grace of a good death. The evil spirits tremble when they hear the name of Joseph. His intercession obtains the blessing of offspring in families. (Abbess Mary of Agreda)

I Only Have 50 Pennies Left

It was in the post-war years. Due to illness, the death of my mother, devaluation of money (loss of savings) and other things, we suddenly found ourselves in a financial emergency. Out of well-founded concern for our daily bread, I asked St Joseph to be the father of our house. And he did! I was a self-employed dressmaker. In the post-war period, orders were hard to come by. Very often I resorted to St Joseph. He never let me down. Again and again, I was able to experience his manifest help, because I miraculously received new orders.

A case from this time of need: I was particularly poor at that time, I had only 50 pennies left. A woman came and collected for charity. I thought about it for a moment and said in silence: „Saint Joseph, I will give You the last of my money, but please make sure that I get my outstanding bills paid.“ Soon after, it was the same day or even the next day, a customer came and apologised, paid more than I had asked for and added half a loaf of bread. Shortly afterwards, a second customer came and paid as well. I was very touched and moved by

