



Brother Andrew, who usually did not let it be known when he was amazed at something, now loudly exclaimed his admiration for St Joseph at this very striking miracle.

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

- Let us ask St Joseph to help so many people to provide a new livelihood that they have lost, and that diabolical machinations do not take away their courage and strength to go on living.



We are all walking through a desert. On this path we trust and pray more than before. In this passage we gain strength – every struggle strengthens. Desert has something to do with GOD, because there is only the vastness and ourselves. – Let us also think of Anthony of the Desert.

JESUS went into the desert and there he fought unspeakable battles with the underworld, he prayed and fasted. The Evangelist Mark says: „Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.“ (Mk 1;35). The dawn of the breaking day is obviously a sign that GOD will surely come, that He will straighten and clear everything. Let us trust in Him and GOD will reward our trust beyond measure!

With very kind regards and daily blessing,

Brother Paula



August 2022

Lay Community of St Joseph

The Wisdom of St Joseph

How faithful in this respect was the great Saint, of whom we speak. It is hardly possible to appreciate this virtue in all its greatness. In what lowliness Joseph lived all his life! And under this poverty and lowliness he hid his high virtues and dignities. ... Oh, quite surely the Angels, enraptured with wonder, would have flocked to admire the humility of St Joseph when he had the precious Child with him in the poor workshop where he practised his craft to procure bread for the SON and His Mother who were there with him!

No doubt, St Joseph was braver than David, wiser than Solomon and all the others, whoever they might be, and yet he just had to do carpenter's work. Without special inner enlightenment, who would have suspected in the poor carpenter these great gifts of GOD's grace which he so carefully concealed? What a wealth of wisdom he must have possessed, since GOD entrusted him with His much beloved SON, the glorious King of Heaven and earth, surpassing all in majesty and greatness, ruling over all! But you also remember how, more than can be said

and imagined, he was pressed down and humbled. ... He goes to his home, to his father's city of Bethlehem, and was turned away at all the inns. ... Look how the Angel deals with him: he commands him to go to Egypt, and Joseph goes; he commands him to return, and Joseph returns. GOD wants St Joseph to always be poor; he gladly submits – not just for a while, he was poor all his life. (St Francis de Sales)

St Joseph sought this poverty, modesty, and simplicity even before he knew Mary. He was very happy in this, and his heart could be turned towards GOD unceasingly.

What a wonderful intercessor and helper we have in all hardship! – We can learn unspeakably much from St Joseph. Let us go to his school. People should not refrain from studying his life in depth and reading the book "The Life of St Joseph" by M. C. Baij again and again. The heart will open up more and more and that is what we all want, do we not?

How quickly man loses his balance because he is chasing after gloss and glamour and no longer recognises the true value. The gifts of grace of infinite value, which GOD has placed in every heart, wither away because they are neglected. Passions creep in very quickly and the heart grows colder and colder.

„Saint Joseph, pray for the poor who can no longer be glad of life, although they have everything – except GOD.“

St Brother André

He often said to the many sick who came to him: „You have to have faith to rub yourself with the medal of St Joseph and with St Joseph's oil.“

A Serious Accident

A construction worker suffered a serious accident in Montreal. Some relatives took him to Mont Royal. A doctor who happened to be there urged him to have both legs amputated if he wanted to stay alive. Brother Andrew, however, vigorously opposed this request, saying: „St Joseph will heal his legs!“ Sceptically, the doctor replied: „St Joseph will not grow legs on him, for there will be nothing left of them.“ Brother Andrew replied nothing, went into the chapel, returned shortly afterwards with a medal of St Joseph which he had dipped in the oil, and now rubbed the terrible wounds of the injured man. O miracle! The legs healed, flesh and muscles became healthy again, the man could stand up and walk. He returned home with a grateful heart.

The Wounds Worsened

By an unfortunate accident, a hunter had received a load of buckshot in his left hand. The wounds worsened and the burn spread. In his distress, he went to Brother Andrew. The good brother rubbed the rotting hand with an oil-soaked medal. Immediately, the rotten flesh loosened and fell to the ground like melted fat. New pink flesh formed.

