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Now I would like to make a request here:

Our dear guests often want to be admitted into the "Lay Community of St Joseph" when visiting us. That is right and proper, but I would like to ask you to send the yellow registration forms to me by post so that they reach me at least one week before the desired date of admission. If the applications are sent along with a bishop, I usually receive them only a few days before the admission date. Preparations have to be made such as paperwork, etc. A sister, who, however, is not always on call, helps me. As we are a large organisation here, you can help me a lot by doing so and I am very much obliged to you!

This Month's Heartfelt Matters

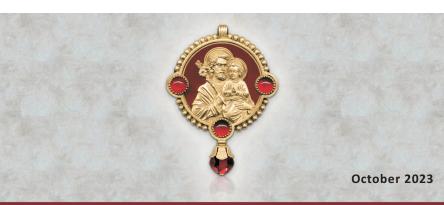
 Let us ask St Joseph for help, for conversion and for a good hour of death of those consecrated to GOD.

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It is October – the month of the Rosary. Perhaps you have quiet moments throughout the day to please Mary with a few "Hail Marys".

With kindest regards and the blessing of St Joseph, your





Lay Community of St Joseph

The Flight into Egypt

Can we imagine leaving with our family – from one hour to the next – not only our home but also our country? What terror for St Joseph when the Angel of the LORD gave the order in the dead of night to flee to Egypt: "Arise, take the child and his mother …" (Mt 2:13). He was terrified when he heard that the Child's life was threatened.

Not hastily, but prudently, Joseph did the most important things one after the other. He woke Mary up. Although I think she was not asleep because she could foresee so many things. Then she strapped on a bundle for JESUS and herself with the necessities for the journey. Joseph packed everything together necessary for himself and his Family, well thought out, including his tools in a wooden box. Hurriedly he ran to his neighbour and bought two donkeys from him. With small gold plates that he had received from the kings, he could now pay for the animals. He could never have imagined that he would find himself in such dire straits. After a short prayer in which they entrusted themselves to GOD's protection, they went out into the night. No one had seen them,

only the Angels who accompanied them and showed them the long and unknown way. Roads were mostly impassable and fraught with danger. They rested in the open. St Joseph often made a canopy with his large cloak, under which they spent the night. They were freezing, hungry, and tiredness closed their eyes.

The Holy Family travelled for several weeks. Joseph and Mary were afraid, seeing that they were entering a pagan country. The people gazed at them in amazement, they especially admired Mary's beauty. What they did not know: that GOD's SON was lying in the arms of the Mother of GOD, and His divine power was confirmed by the monuments of the idols tumbling down from their pedestals and shattering. The people were frightened and did not know how to interpret this. The Holy Family found very poor accommodation. The next day, Joseph asked around for work. The people saw that they were living in great poverty, and many a woman brought something to eat in order, at the same time, to marvel at the wonderful Child, whose extraordinary grace spread around very quickly. Mary and Joseph led such holy and poor lives, and with their example and their teachings they converted many people.

I Am the Richest Person in Our City

I am the richest person in our city, although I do not have any wealth or large income. Nonetheless, I say again: I am the richest person in our city because I have dear St Joseph as my friend, as the Patron Saint for my whole family. And as an intercessor with JESUS, he is my helper in every need.

Even as a small child, I preferred to say the prayer "Saint Joseph, guard our house," which my late pious parents taught me. The older I became, the more I venerated and loved St Joseph and invoked him in every need. I am now 40 years old and cannot remember a single time that my faithful "family friend" (as my whole family calls him) did not hear my prayer.

Last year I was very worried about my sudden hair loss. I went to many doctors, even psychiatrists, was given many medicines and bought expensive hair care products. But all to no avail. Soon I could no longer do my hair. That is when I took refuge in my intercessor, St Joseph. My husband and I held a nine-day devotion in honour of St Joseph. We prayed the Rosary every day and even more. At the end of the first Novena, I only lost half of my hair, and after the second Novena, almost none any more. Of course, I wholeheartedly thank dear St Joseph and today I can already do my regrown hair.

I am not writing these lines to relieve my boredom, but in order that still more people may recognise how the dear St Joseph achieves everything with his Foster Son JESUS if you entrust yourself to him in a childlike manner. I thank the dear SAVIOUR that He gave us such a faithful intercessor. (N.N.)

"Saint Joseph, we thank You!"