



February 2026



L A Y C O M M U N I T Y O F
St Joseph



Saint Joseph, Faithful Protector

His whole being and endeavour was to help, to protect, to advise, and he still does so tirelessly today. – Suffering, trials, and patience lined his paths, and never did he question GOD's plans. Falling into the arms of GOD was quite a matter of course for him. I am thinking of the flight to Egypt: following the Angel's command, what is most necessary to take with you in a hurry ... In his poverty, that was certainly not as difficult as it is today. – Joseph did not know the way, did not know where to go in Egypt, the great responsibility for the Child and His Mother – we must imagine that. His joy in everything was having the Infant JESUS with him, and Joseph watched the idol monuments collapse when the divine Child passed by. Joseph had much to suffer in these years in a foreign country amongst pagans, amongst a foreign people, unknown, without friends, who could have stood by him. Joseph missed his green homeland very much. His joy and readiness were great when he heard the Angel's command to leave Egypt with his Family and return to his homeland. They had another very long, arduous, and dangerous journey ahead of them, which involved many deprivations, sacrifices, and lack of food, and also the Child became very tired. The Holy Family endured everything patiently and devotedly.

Let us also think of the pain of Mary and Joseph when they, a few years later, after leaving for Jerusalem, could no longer find JESUS. The sight of JESUS was always a comfort to Joseph. Now he missed Him

and did not know whether he would ever find Him again. This pain was incredibly great! For Joseph's soul, there was no greater pain than the fear of having displeased JESUS. Mary and Joseph spent these three days sleeplessly, weeping and searching. When they found JESUS in the temple, it was such a great relief beyond imagination. Mary said: „My SON, why have You done this to us? Your Father and I have sought You with sorrow.“ JESUS' words: „Did you not know that I must be in what is My FATHER's?“ It was JESUS' wish to promote the honour of the Heavenly FATHER and to make people understand that He is the longed-for SAVIOUR, but they did not understand – or did not want to.

St Joseph never lost his love for GOD. It is rather the case that people abandon JESUS and despise His grace for the sake of people and passions. It is certainly also St Joseph who begs for tears of repentance for people and for confessing their sins during Confession. Let us also consider what a holy way of life St Joseph led near JESUS and Mary, in addition to hard work, constant contemplation, and the practice of virtue. Joseph and Mary knew Holy Scripture, and how much it pierced their hearts, for they knew that JESUS would be the Man of sorrows, despised and disfigured by His enemies (us humans), so much so that His beauty would no longer be recognisable.

I Left the Church 30 Years ago

During the Nazi era, I had night duty in the hospital. A high-ranking party official had undergone surgery. Once he asked me to



take a pencil from his jacket pocket. I did so and with the pencil I also had a small, narrow statue of the Mother of GOD in my hand. When I asked him, the patient explained to me that he had once found it on the way, cleaned it, and put it away. He gave it to me. I put it on his nightstand for the night. And I did so every evening. We engaged in religious conversations. „Once, in my youth, I was like you,“ he said. „I felt better. But I abandoned the Church 30 years ago.“ – „If you have left, you can also rejoin, and what was done wrong can be made right“, was my answer. From then on, I constantly prayed to St Joseph to be an intercessor. One day I said to the sick man: „It is March, the month of St Joseph. Your name is also Joseph, is it not? Everything should be in order by 30 March!“ – And indeed, the man returned to the Church, confessed, and received Holy Communion. His condition suddenly worsened. He was buried on 30 March.

(Sister Immaculata)

Comfort for The Dying

Towards the end of the war, I worked as a 19-year-old girl in a hospital. The female doctor exclaimed: „The child is dying because nothing more can be done! He is burning up with fever! Give the child tea, as much as he likes.“ Even today, I see the eyes gleaming with fever. In great haste, I made tea, cooled it, and took this child to me. I have rarely seen so much gratitude and happiness as in the eyes of this 4-year-old child. He drank and drank to quench the inner fire. Then he leaned his little head on me and just looked at me. I composed myself briefly and baptised the child. A few minutes later, he was dead. I never really understood, but St Joseph sometimes takes a person – unfortunately, a very clumsy one. At that time, as the youngest, I always had to keep death watch. I was happy about that because people did not pray much in this hospital. So, I was allowed to assist many dying people.

I often tangibly experience the help through the miraculous medal. I myself wear it like a treasure. In any case, the Mother of GOD and St Joseph are the great and powerful helpers, to whom I owe a great deal of gratitude. (N. E.)

Our Month's Heartfelt Matters

„Saint Joseph, You Nursing Father of JESUS, pray to Your divine Foster Son for all the needs in families, pray for all the families for peace amongst themselves.

Father Joseph, stand by those in need, the persecuted Christians, and the people in the punishment camps.

You, bless all mankind, all the wonderful creation, and now also the Lay Community!“

With kind regards and the blessing of Saint Joseph,

Sister Paula