

THIRTIETH DAY

SAINT JOSEPH'S LIFE IN THE HOLY FAMILY

April 28, 2021

It is where the body lies that the eagles will I gather.” “Where your treasure-house is, there your heart is too.” “Jesus was the center of Mary's and Joseph's love and the possession of Him was the whole center of their family. They were attached neither to Bethlehem, nor to Nazareth, nor to Egypt: their hearts rested in having Jesus.

Saint Joseph would hurry back from work with a light and joyful step to the house where the divine Child lived. He lost no time away from home, for he knew Jesus was divine Love Incarnate. So also ought Jesus to be our home, our family, our center. Like other Josephs, we ought to dwell with Jesus and be happy only with Him.

Jesus was the end of Mary's and Joseph's life. They lived and worked only for Him. How gladly Saint Joseph worked to earn bread for the Infant God and His Mother; how joyously he carried home the mean wages of his labor. And when work was harder than usual, it was none the less sweet, because Jesus was his end. Jesus ought likewise to be the end of our lives. Since we are the Josephs of His sacramental state, He must be the law, the joy, the happiness of our lives. And what life is more beautiful than one devoted to the Blessed Sacrament!

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph had only one life, one purpose: to glorify the Heavenly Father. That is what we also must want. To achieve it, we have to enter into union with Mary and Joseph, share their life — the family life, the intimate interior life of which God alone is the secret. What happiness to be called to this life. Our love will consist in living with Mary and Joseph on the love of Jesus Eucharistic.

Further questions to consider:

Is Jesus the law, the joy, the happiness of my life? How can I block out the noise of the world so I can focus on Him alone?

Action Item:

Ask St. Joseph to help you achieve an intimate interior life of happiness with God alone.

Daily Prayer:

Be mindful of us, O blessed Joseph, and intercede for us with thy foster-Son by the pleading of thy prayer: do thou in like manner render the Blessed Virgin Mary, thy Spouse, gracious unto us, for she is the Mother of Him, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns world without end. Amen. (*Memorare of St. Bernardine of Siena*)

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be