

Go to Joseph, All of You

As said at the beginning: st Joseph had a close resemblance to the SAVIOUR, who was tall and powerfully built. Had He not been as strong, He would not have been able to bear the cross. Although Joseph was not as tall as the SAVIOUR, he was powerfully built and attractive. His carpentry was manifold. When you go to st Joseph, you will not meet an old man. He is youthful and natural in his beauty. „Go to Joseph, all of you!“ it says in the song of Joseph to venerate him. I would like to say this to you, too: go to Joseph! If you could see the face of the Mother of GOD brighten up with joy when her Joseph is honoured, loved and called upon. It is an ardent desire of the SAVIOUR that His foster father, whom He called “abba”, that is “father”, be venerated und called upon. Go to Joseph, he is a great support for you. Amen!

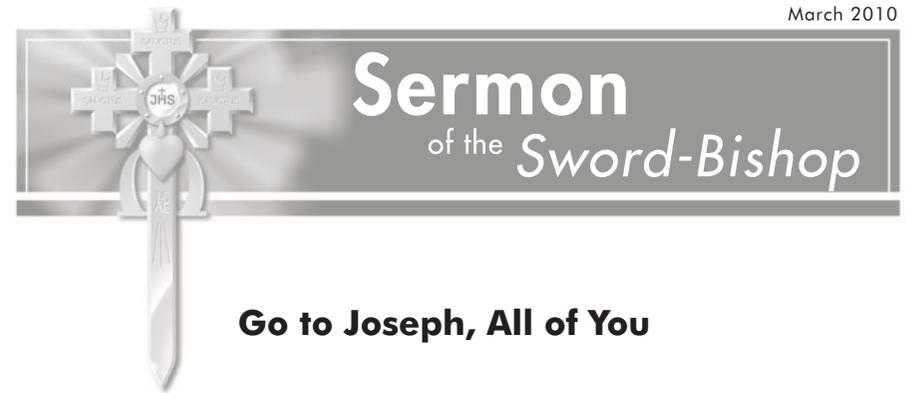
Excerpt of the Sermon of 21 September 2008



Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI

**Be blessed by GOD TRINITY,
the + FATHER and the + SON
and the + HOLY GHOST. Amen!**

Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI
SB.



Sermon of the *Sword-Bishop*

Go to Joseph, All of You

St Joseph was the protector of the little, true and holy Church: JESUS and Mary.

Mary was a wonderful girl! A beauty, an ornament! Perfect in spirit, perfect in body. Her beauty, her charm, her nobleness, her marvel were united with her absolute purity of soul which no other person can match up to. This elevated her earthly existence to a heavenly beauty. Mary is so exalted and so beautiful in Heaven that I would never as a man dare to approach her without being borne by love. GOD put her under st Joseph's care. We may conclude from that how exalted and noble st Joseph must have been. It is not true that he was an old, bald-headed man. Neither is it true that he had any children. Besides, in appearance he had to resemble the SAVIOUR, otherwise people might have assumed that Mary had committed adultery. According to strict Jewish law, she would have been stoned to death for it. Joseph was about thirty years old, thus in his prime, when Mary as a fifteen-year-old was espoused to him. The young age of Mary was nothing unusual with the Jewish people. Girls in the Orient usually are earlier of marriageable age than here with us.

Entrusted by the HOLY SPIRIT

What a great man st Joseph must have been! For GOD entrusted His supremely beloved Daughter, Mother and Bride to his care. I admire GOD the HOLY SPIRIT, the true Bridegroom of Mary, who confided this task to st Joseph. GOD the HOLY SPIRIT worked in st Joseph to be the guard, protector and assistant of Mary according to His spirit. Joseph acted in the name of the HOLY SPIRIT. Joseph had to be holy, holy, extremely holy! To him were entrusted GOD the SON and His Mother.

The spiritual love of st Joseph for Mary was enormous. It was not difficult for him to love such a wonderful girl. But also Mary loved her Joseph. She wept at his deathbed. He was her confidant like no other person, he took care of her.

Patron of the Families

For family men, st Joseph is a perfect model and an excellent help because he, too, had undergone times of need and had to go to great lengths to provide for his family. GOD wanted the Holy Family to experience poverty. Even st Joseph was subjected to the instructions of GOD: „By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food ...“ (Gen 3,19) Steadfastness was one of his great marks of distinction.

It was revealed to st Joseph that his bride Mary is carrying in her womb the SON of GOD, JESUS, by the overshadowing of the HOLY SPIRIT. What happened? As the Child was about to be born, there was no place for them to stay. He had to be born in a draughty stable. What are we to believe? That this Infant is meant to be GOD? – And that is not all: they had to flee with the Child because Herod murderously chased Him. He was afraid that this Child would vie with him for his throne. Why did GOD not speak: „Do not dare to lay hands upon the Child! It is My SON!“ No, they had to flee. They had to live in poverty. They had to suffer all afflictions. Could Joseph not have ended up plagued by doubts, then? – Is it not the case that also even around the Sword-Bishop it is said: „Well, if he were from GOD, GOD would surely provide for him. Then he should be very successful.“ My beloved, the one who is successful nowadays is the Evil One! This success is granted to him because of the sinfulness of men. However, persecutions and adversities of the Evil One cooperate towards salvation. It is GOD’s permission, as it was likewise GOD’s permission that the hatred of the devil could bring about CHRIST’s Crucifixion. It may seem absurd, but just in this way the Evil One has cooperated in the salvation of mankind.

GOD Loves the Humble

Humility is the greatness of st Joseph, which is apparent to us men. Unfortunately, humility is often mistaken for moral cowardice. Yet it is not humility but cowardice when one thinks: „I prefer to say nothing about GOD to this or that person, otherwise I will be laughed at.“ Humility is different: I say

what I must say, what I have to say. If I am laughed at, I will put up with it. Humility is strength! The SAVIOUR has spoken and worked very openly, but with what humility. Because st Joseph worked so humbly and silently, GOD now wants to make him known among us human beings through his magnificent intercessory power and raise him high in Heaven. For the humble are loved by GOD!

Though Joseph could not see the miracles of JESUS during His public ministry, nevertheless he believed in His divine mission. The greatest miracle of our days is to remain faithful to our belief and our love of GOD – even if everything is set against us. Consider: it can never be wrong to be there for GOD; not even when you do not feel any love, not even when you are only facing trouble because of it; not even when you do not experience any miracles and confirmations. That is the greatest love! Joseph possessed this humble, excellent love!

Veneration of St Joseph

All holy men and women venerated st Joseph. Thus the holy Doctor of the Church, Teresa of Ávila, said: „I do not remember even now that I have ever asked anything of him which he has failed to grant. ... The LORD wishes to teach us that as He was Himself subject to him on earth, for, being His nursing and foster father, he could command Him, just so in Heaven He still does all that he asks. ... I have never known anyone to be truly devoted to him and render him particular services, who did not notably advance in virtue, for he gives very real help to souls who commend themselves to him.“ (Source: Libro de la vida)

Joseph Was Having Fun with the Child Entrusted to Him

At the feast of st Joseph, we have here at the side of the altar an image of st Joseph. It shows Joseph playfully holding up the Infant JESUS who is shouting for joy. An image which pleases me very much because it is so natural. During the year, it is in my private chapel. It was painted by a woman who wanted to express what fathers should be like. GOD once showed me an image: when st Joseph was in exile in Egypt, I saw in my mind’s eye how he playfully threw up the Infant JESUS in the air and the Infant JESUS was laughing out loud at top volume. Both had a lot of fun with each other. – As the saying of st John Bosco goes: „A Saint who is sad is a sad Saint.“ We do have the good news.
