

Go to Joseph

This issue of the "*Speculum*" is the usual "Assumption" Issue of our little booklet. We here acknowledge the ever important and blessed magnificence of Our Most Holy Mother. Even on the cover we show a lovely picture of our May Crowning ceremonies. We love the Blessed Mother so very much and we know that in her love we shall live and that we shall never be confounded in our expectation of her in the love that she most surely has for us. At the same time, we give much honor and filial devotion to the ever great St. Joseph - the forgotten Saint - the overlooked Saint. We wish to take some time, here, to turn our thoughts toward St. Joseph, the ever glorious guardian of Jesus and Mary.

There is so much for us to find in St. Joseph. His greatness cannot be discounted. God Himself thought so highly of him that He deemed him worthy to be placed over the Second Eve and The Child Jesus. What greater responsibility has ever any man been given?

As soon as we cast our glance upon this man, the first thing that we, without mistake, take note of, is his SILENT PATIENCE. We do not read that before the birth of Jesus - indeed - before the Conception of Jesus Christ, Joseph was exercised by any noteworthy tribulations. No doubt, Joseph led the kind of humble and modest life which finds its happiness in what is sufficient for that day. No doubt, Joseph led the kind of life that was confronted with the usual daily vicissitudes that have confronted good men since the beginning. Now - let us take a careful look into the life of this man. As soon as he drew near the Divine Child, the life of Joseph became nothing but one life-long martyrdom! What inestimable mental torture was surely his to endure when he came to know that his newly espoused wife, his wonderful, beautiful, religious and highly respectable wife, was with Child, and that he knew the Child was most certainly not his. This entire episode was surely beyond the understanding of the human mind. Yet never a word from him when the answer was finally given to him. Up to and until the time of the birth of that Child he had never been without a home; afterward in dire need, his retreat was a dirty, lean-to shack where he was forced to look upon the heartrending poverty of it all. Until then, desiring little, he had known but little anguish; afterward, his compassionate soul was torn when he heard the old man Simeon say to his beloved Mary: "Thy soul a sword shall pierce"! Until then, he had lived tranquilly, surmounting the needs of his humble life by labor; afterward he was persecuted, and forced to flee together with his wife and tiny Child in the darkness of the night, and constrained to lead a life of exile in a strange land. Until then, he had only the little, the ordinary, things of life to fear; now he had to suffer real fear - fear for the safety of his most precious possession: Jesus and Mary. Until then his main pressures were the ordinary pressures of owning and operating a small carpenter shop; now of a sudden, he was faced with the