

his conduct not being very Christian. Let them pray to St Joseph; he will be their support, the tutor of their children, their providence in their distress.

St Joseph is the patron of all who earn their living by the sweat of their brow; for them he reserves his tenderest sympathies because such was his condition on earth. For that reason also he has a great affection for the rich who take an interest in workingmen, who endeavor to improve their condition by striving to make them better, to inspire them with religious sentiments, to keep away from them the dangers of seduction.

St Joseph is the patron of all souls striving to attain perfection. St Theresa who was so devoted to that great patriarch of the New Testament, testifies that through him she received admirable graces after obtaining bodily health. She adds that the devotion to St Joseph should be that of meditative persons; that she never found that those who confided in him had remained behind; that every year on the day of his feast she asked him for a favor which was always granted.

In modern times St Joseph has been adopted as patron by all religious institutes whose existence has been rendered so difficult by the detestable policy begotten of the revolution. He constantly shows himself to be the zealous purveyor of poor communities and novitiates.

St Joseph is the universal refuge of all persons in anguish. How many volumes would be filled by the mere enumeration of the favors obtained in our day through the intercession of this saint who is helpful amongst all others! Through him how often has ruin been averted! how many sick have been cured whose recovery was despaired of! how many sinners converted! how many troubled consciences have been calmed! how many disunited families have had peace restored to them! how many persons of both sexes have had their future assured, and been enabled to follow a vocation notwithstanding almost insurmountable difficulties! how many persons afflicted in body and soul, how many needy and oppressed persons he has consoled, provided for and delivered! To how many despairing persons he has opened heaven at the hour of death in return for a slight homage they habitually paid him!