

Finally, St Joseph is the patron and protector of the dying. of those at least who have prayed to him during life, he procures them a sweet and holy death. Never was there a death more beautiful than his; he died between Jesus and Mary and assisted by them as by the most devoted Spouse. What gratitude, what ardent love were excited in his heart by the tender care of those two great personages! Thus St Francis of Sales doubts not that he died through the strength of his love. Since then it is a privilege of St Joseph to obtain a sweet and peaceful death for his devotees.

Now, we ask, is not the happiness of dying in peace well worth our endeavoring to secure the protection of the holy patriarch for that hour so dreaded even by the just themselves? But what must be done to obtain it? We must strive to please him by imitating his humility, his separation from creatures, his purity, his piety, his charity, his love for Jesus and Mary. Let the rich, in his honor, be good to the poor, let the poor and the working-men be patient and submissive to divine Providence: let all rich and poor, married or single, young people, children, men of mature age and aged persons, strive to properly perform their respective duties.

As regards the homage to be paid to this great saint, but little suffices, provided it be done well and constantly: a *Pater* an *Ave* and a *Gloria* said daily and receiving communion on the day of his feast with an invocation to him in temptations, in troubles, in bodily and spiritual necessities: such are the practices we recommend to our readers.

La Voix du Rédempteur.

St Alphonsus, quoting Gerson, says that St Joseph had three great privileges, which were special to him. 1. that he was sanctified in his mother's womb, as Jeremiah and the Baptist; 2. that he was at the same time confirmed in grace; 3. that he was always exempt from the inclinations of concupiscence.