

People flocked to see Fr. Joseph at Assisi and to stop this, Pope Innocent X decided to move Joseph to the hidden monastery of Pietrarubbia. People flocked to see him there also, so he was moved to Fossombrone. There, Joseph was sought by people again so in 1657, he was moved to Osimo.



At Osimo, Joseph was ordered to live a hidden life and not to speak to anyone except the Bishop, the Vicar General, his fellow monks and a doctor, if needed. Joseph was happy in his new life, hiding from the all the people that would come to see him. He considered his new place a paradise because he was continuously in joyful ecstasy.

In August 1663, Joseph got a fever. Because of all the penance he had done and his weak stomach, he could not get better. He experienced ecstasies and flights during his last Mass on August 15<sup>th</sup>. He received Communion on September 17<sup>th</sup> and died joyfully on September 18, 1663.

St. Joseph of Copertino—Pray for Us.

*The End*



**November, the Month of the Poor Souls**

**THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS**

**Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada**

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# The grace of a good death

Dear Crusaders,



“Ah, dear Madam! Don't you know the latest news? Mr. Sprout has died this past night. He was not an old man, sixty five, in perfect health. What happened to him? Yesterday night, he was watching TV, a program... Well, let us not talk about it. He was laughing so much, and then he went to bed late and this morning, he did not wake up. With this, he had a beautiful death: he left without having had to suffer!”

This type of conversation, you might have heard it many times. Unfortunately, this lady is speaking nonsense: would you like to die as this man who has not suffered and therefore had no time to prepare himself? Of course not!

We need to ask God for the grace of a happy death, not a death like Mr. Sprout who simply died like he had lived: badly.

A truly good death is a death which gives us time to prepare ourselves to appear before God, so as to confess your sins and obtain their pardon, and receive Extreme Unction and Holy Communion.

And if it is necessary to suffer, so much the better: suffering assimilates us to Jesus on the Cross and shortens our Purgatory time. This is why the Church makes us pray thus:

**From the sudden and unforeseen death, deliver us, O Lord!**

*Courtesy of Fr. Bourmaud, from the Crusader magazine from Australia*

\* **On November 6<sup>th</sup>, a Mass will be said for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada**

\* **Our new address: Eucharistic Crusade Canada, 1395 Rue Notre-Dame, St. Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0** [EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com](mailto:EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com)



Not satisfied that Mary should be loved and praised in Heaven, Joseph desired that she be loved and praised by all men on earth. He encouraged all to say often: **“Mary, thou refuge of sinners, Mother of God, be mindful of me.”** He said this prayer pleased Our Lady very much. Joseph's heart, mind body and soul were always united to Mary. He always called Mary, **“Mother,”** and he always had the greatest confidence in her.

Like St. Francis of Assisi, Joseph was very familiar with animals. He scolded a hawk that killed his pet finch. Another time he cured a sheep that had rabies. He gave the nuns of St. Clare of Copertino a lamb, which was to watch over the discipline in their convent. The lamb was always first at all the exercises, it never ate or drank too much, it was quiet in the chapel and it woke the sleepy nuns by butting them.

Fr. Joseph had many heavenly visions. Saints came to talk with him about Heaven. Angels showed themselves to him and comforted him. Jesus appeared to him as a little child in the consecrated Host during the Mass. At other times the Child Jesus would cuddle in Joseph's arms and by sweet words and loving embraces fill him with delight.

During an exorcism the devil admitted that Joseph was his worst enemy. At one time the devil entered the church, threw Joseph to the floor and tried to strangle him. Another time the devil threw Joseph into a rushing stream in order to drown him. The devil also tried to kill Joseph with a sword and but God always saved good Fr. Joseph.

Joseph was filled with humility. He called himself an uneducated poor sinner. He humbled himself before his Superiors and all the brothers in the monasteries where he stayed. He hated all praise and took much pleasure in being insulted and looked down upon.



of the love of God. Because of this love, whenever he heard a conversation about God he would be enraptured and cry out: ***“O love, O love!”*** or would sing a sacred song.

A Calvary was being made, and ten people could not lift and put a large cross in its place. Suddenly Joseph flew from the monastery door and lifted the cross, as though it was a feather, and placed it in the hole prepared for it. Another time, when a priest mentioned heaven, Joseph flew onto an olive tree and remained kneeling on a little branch for half an hour.

On another occasion, some nuns were receiving their habits. As soon as the choir sang a certain hymn, Fr. Joseph grasped another Franciscan by the hair and danced about with him in the air. In all, about seventy flights of Joseph have been recorded not including the flights, which occurred when he said daily Mass. These flights lasted about two hours!

Joseph worked many miracles. His prayers were always answered and people would get the answer to their prayer as soon as he prayed for them. He prayed continuously for all men, for the just that they might persevere in God’s grace and for sinners to convert and do penance. Sometimes he would make his own body suffer so that he could obtain the answer to his prayer.

Joseph hated sin and when he saw someone in the state of mortal sin, he would say: ***“Oh! How ugly you are!”*** then he would encourage them to go to confession. Those who were tempted by the devil he encouraged: ***“Receive the sacraments often for where God dwells the devil cannot easily come near. And in the long run God always wins because by His grace He can do more than the devil by temptations.”***

The sick were Joseph’s dearest friends. He loved the sick and was always ready to give them as much help as they needed. He lifted them up, fed them and bandaged their wounds. He told them to resign themselves to the will of God and cheered them up with comforting words. Joseph’s charity towards the sick was so pleasing to God that He often worked miraculous cures.



## ST. JOSEPH of COPERTINO—the FLYING SAINT

Joseph Mary Desa was born in Otranto, Italy on June 17, 1603. As a child he was lively and often became angry. But his loving mother corrected him with kindness and firmness. His father was a carpenter who had a big heart and often helped people who were in debt.

Joseph loved to visit the churches in his city. At home he made a little altar where he spent part of the day and night praying rosaries and litanies. At school, when he was eight years old he would sometimes go into ecstasy. He heard the organ playing—suddenly he would drop his book and with his eyes raised to Heaven, he would not move.

About this time Joseph became very ill with painful ulcers. He bore these pains with much patience and he relieved himself of his pain by going to Mass. Since he was not able to walk he asked his mother to carry him in her arms to Mass every morning. One day a hermit who lived near the church did a small operation on the boy, but it was not successful. After four years of suffering, the hermit tried another remedy. He applied to Joseph’s ulcers some oil from the lamp that burned before the image of Our Lady. Suddenly Joseph was cured of all pain and he could now walk with a cane. Joseph was grateful for his cure and he showed greater love for Jesus and Mary.

As a boy Joseph did much penance and made many sacrifices. He wore a hairshirt. He didn’t eat meat and only ate vegetables on which he sprinkled bitter wormwood powder. Sometimes he thought about God so much that he forgot to eat for two or three days.

After many years as a shoemaker’s apprentice, in 1620 at the age of 17, he joined the Capuchins (Franciscans) as a lay brother. There he stayed for only eight months. He was dismissed because he often broke dishes, upset pots on the fire and did other such blunders. But all this happened because he was lost to the world thinking about God.



Joseph went to see his priest-uncle who felt sorry for him and kept him until Easter of 1621. He then went to visit his mother who treated him harshly, but in her heart loved him dearly. She pleaded with different priests and brothers to let him join the Conventual Franciscans, and there he became a Franciscan Tertiary.

As a Tertiary, he cared for the mule and begged people for alms for the needs of the monastery. He was a servant to all at the monastery, obedient and humble. He wore a hair shirt and a chain around his hips. He did much penance and slept little on his poor bed.

The brothers saw that Joseph was a very holy man, and at a meeting it was decided that he should become a priest. He joined the Order in 1625, in Grotella. There he practised humility, patience and obedience and often bore humiliations for faults that he never committed.

The biggest problem that Joseph had was that he could not learn very much from books. He received Minor Orders without being examined, in January 1627. He became a Subdeacon in February 1627 and Deacon in March of the same year. Later when the time came for him to be ordained, he was asked by the Bishop to explain the passage of the Gospel beginning with: ***"Blessed is the womb that bore thee..."*** This was the only passage, which Joseph could well interpret and he was ordained a priest on March 28, 1628.



As a priest, Fr. Joseph fasted seven times a year for forty days each time—for a total of two hundred eighty days. He often retired to a small room or the Chapel of St. Barbara in the monastery olive grove. There he would often go into ecstasy and fly through the air.

God tested Joseph with a trial—He took away all consolation from him. Joseph suffered in great agony for two years. After this an angel appeared to him and gave him a new religious habit. Soon after putting on the new habit, all his sadness disappeared and he became joyful again.

*(Continued on page 9)*

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Many people learned about Fr. Joseph's holiness especially when he traveled with the Provincial. People flocked to hear Joseph preach and begged for his prayers.

But when the Vicar-General heard about these things he accused Joseph of attracting people to himself like Jesus and performing things that people thought were miracles.

Fr. Joseph was sent to a monastery in Naples and there questioned by the Inquisition to see if he was a fraud and a hypocrite. St. Anthony came from heaven to comfort Joseph and he passed the examination. After this Joseph's sanctity became even more known, but he still thought he was a poor sinner.

One day Joseph was sent to Rome with a message for the General of the Order. He was to be sent to the smallest and most secluded monastery. But while he was there his sanctity became known to Franciscans, Cardinals and even the Pope. So the Pope asked Joseph to be sent to the monastery where the rule was perfectly followed and that place was Assisi where St. Francis had lived. So Joseph set out for Assisi and arrived there in April 1639.

At Assisi, God allowed Fr. Joseph to be constantly humiliated and scolded by his Superior, the former Provincial whom he used to travel with. And God again withdrew His consolations from Joseph. Our saint bore all these sufferings with humility and love.

One day when Joseph was in Rome, he desired to go back to Naples to the shrine of Our Lady of Grotella—for he thought that Mary would

help him in his sufferings. But it was not God's will. He returned to Assisi, and going into the church, he saw on the ceiling a similar picture of Our Lady of Grotella. Suddenly he went into ecstasy and flew towards the picture. After this Joseph was even more full



P	U	R	G	A	T	O	R	Y	L	A	T	I	S
O	M	A	R	Y	Q	Z	H	E	A	V	E	N	A
B	Q	Z	X	D	E	A	D	Q	M	A	S	S	C
E	H	O	S	T	Q	Z	X	Q	R	O	M	E	R
D	A	N	G	R	Y	U	L	C	E	R	S	C	I
I	P	Q	Z	L	I	T	A	N	I	E	S	H	F
E	E	D	E	V	I	L	Q	X	Z	H	X	A	I
N	N	Z	Q	X	S	I	C	K	Q	T	Q	I	C
C	A	L	V	A	R	Y	X	Z	Q	O	Z	N	E
E	N	F	L	Y	K	R	O	S	A	R	I	E	S
Q	C	J	E	S	U	S	Q	I	X	B	G	O	D
X	E	C	S	T	A	S	Y	N	F	E	V	E	R
A	L	T	A	R	Q	H	U	M	I	L	I	T	Y
M	I	R	A	C	L	E	S	J	O	S	E	P	H

PURGATORY  
 SACRIFICES  
 OBEDIENCE  
 MIRACLES  
 HUMILITY  
 ROSARIES  
 CALVARY  
 BROTHER  
 LITANIES  
 PENANCE

ECSTASY  
 HEAVEN  
 ULCERS  
 JOSEPH  
 ANGRY  
 ALTAR  
 FEVER  
 CHAIN  
 ITALY  
 DEVIL

ROME  
 MARY  
 JESUS  
 MASS  
 DEAD  
 HOST  
 SICK  
 GOD  
 FLY  
 SIN

St. Bonaventure says: ***“Receive Communion for the dead, because it is most helpful for their eternal rest.”***

For example, Venerable Louis de Blois tells the story of a saintly man who was visited by a soul from Purgatory who was suffering terrible punishment for her unfervent Communions. This poor soul said: ***“I beg you who have been my friend, to receive Communion with all the fervour you can, for me. I hope it will suffice for my deliverance.”*** The holy man did as he was asked. The soul appeared to him again, shining with brightness, full of happiness and gratitude: ***“Thanks to you, I see now the face of my Master.”***

Fr. Hippolyte was a Franciscan and a great servant of God. He wanted to deliver from Purgatory as many souls as he could. He loved to pray and do penance for them, often preaching about them. Everyday he would say the office of the dead, and would offer his actions of the day for the relief of the poor souls.

One day he was visiting a monastery, and one of the holy brothers there, got sick and died. The following night Fr. Hippolyte remained in the church after Matins. Suddenly the dead brother appeared to him surrounded in flames and in terrible agony. The brother accused himself to his Superior for a little fault he had committed. ***“Give me the penance you wish, and your blessing, in order to deliver me from my fault, for which I suffer so much in Purgatory.”***

The Superior was so shocked that he answered quickly: ***“I absolve you and bless you. And for your penance, remain in Purgatory just until the office of Prime this morning.”***

The poor soul almost despaired. He ran up and down the church, crying: ***“Oh! Pitiless heart! Oh! Father who has no pity for an afflicted heart! Why such a terrible punishment for a fault, that during life, you would have given only a light penance? You don’t know how terrible Purgatory is!”*** Then he went back to Purgatory.

The Superior was full of fear and sorrow. He rang the bell to call the monks to the church and told them about the brother from Purgatory. Then they said Prime to deliver the brother from Purgatory.

Fr. Hippolyte lived for another twenty years. He always remembered the visit from the soul in Purgatory. He often repeated the words of St. Anselm: ***“After our death the least pain in Purgatory is much greater than all the pains in this world.”***

With grateful thanks, this article comes from the Australian Crusader.



# INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF November 2011



The death of St. Margaret

## Daily offering

(To be recited every morning when you wake up)

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly **for the grace of a good death, the dying, and the souls in purgatory.**

# TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2011

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
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29									
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## November 2011

Total of the Month									
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To be sent to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade, 1395 Rue Notre-Dame, St-Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0, or e-mail: [EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com](mailto:EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com)

July 2011 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
NB & NS	20	3	3							1
QC										
ON	751	284	203	610	1605	3848	229	197	950	29
MB	60	11	20	45	60	150	12	28	58	2
SK	346	94	85	397	8579	3437	187	85	1511	12
AB	152	24	24	142	226	1760	30	149	260	5
BC	285	66	60	83	270	930	38	4	102	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>1594</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>10740</b>	<b>10125</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>2881</b>	<b>58</b>
August 2011 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
NB & NS	31					20			2	1
QC										
ON	687	167	146	39	1101	3607	118	226	1371	26
MB										
SK	227	37	33	346	5672	1278	79	25	328	9
AB	123	20	19	96	163	625	32	108	168	4
BC	344	77	59	118	266	1193	44	2	136	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1381</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>7202</b>	<b>6703</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>52</b>