The Seven Sundays of Saint Joseph

Third Sunday

Reading:

"And when eight days were fulfilled for his circumcision, his name was called Jesus, the name given Him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." (Lk 4: 21)

Commentary:

What a great joy to be on intimate terms with Christ and call Him by His name, Jesus! Joseph is the master who teaches us how to deal confidently with the Word made flesh.

St. Teresa of Avila reveals her great love for the glorious patriarch. She tells us her personal experience: " I took for my advocate and lord the glorious St. Joseph and commended myself earnestly to him; and I found that this father and lord delivered me both from this trouble and also from other and greater troubles concerning my honor and the loss of my soul, and that he gave me greater blessings that I could ask of him...I am astonished at the great favors which God has bestowed on me through this blessed saint...I only beg, for the love of God, that anyone who does not believe me will put what I say to the test, and he will see by experience what great advantages come from his commending

himself to this glorious patriarch and having devotion to him. Those who practice prayer should have a special affection for him always. I do not know how anyone can think of the Queen of Angels, during the time that she suffered so much with the Child Jesus, without giving thanks to St. Joseph for the way he helped them." (St. Teresa of Avila, "Autobiography", Chapter 6)

Prayer:

Obedient follower of the law of God, glorious St. Joseph, the precious blood which flowed at the circumcision of the Infant Jesus caused your heart to be pierced, but the name of Jesus gave new life and filled you with peace.

By this sorrow and joy, obtain for us that by struggling against the slavery of all sin, we may die in joy with the most holy name of Jesus in our hearts and on our lips.

Specifically, I ask that.... (mention in silence the favor asked and pray one Our Father, One Hail Mary and one Glory Be).