



Stanislaus Cardinalis Dziwisz
Archiepiscopus Metropolita Cracoviensis

Cracow, September 8, 2015

I wish to offer for your consideration some reflections concerning him "into whose custody God entrusted his most precious treasures." I gladly fulfill this pastoral duty so that all may grow in devotion to (Saint Joseph), the Patron of the Universal Church and in love for the Savior whom he served in such an exemplary manner.

Your Eminence/Your Excellency:

With the words above our beloved Saint John Paul II began his Apostolic Exhortation on the person and mission of Saint Joseph (*Redemptoris Custos*, August 15, 1989, #1). Our late Holy Father held up for the Church the powerful example of Joseph, Mary's Spouse and the Guardian of her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Around the world, in several countries, God is calling men together under the patronage of Joseph of Nazareth. The *Men of Saint Joseph International* is an organization of Catholic men dedicated to Jesus Christ, anointed by the Holy Spirit and moving in the all the gifts and charisms of the Holy Spirit to allow God the Father to mold them into holy men: sons, husbands, fathers, brothers, and faithful members of the Church.

Their goal is to form a group of dedicated men, married and single, in every parish of the world to stand alongside their parish priest and to be recognized leaders in their family of faith. The men's group will meet at least monthly for 1 and 1/2 hours of prayer, study, and fraternal support. The men will also commit themselves to an annual 3-day retreat, a 1-day study and reflection time, all totaling 72 hours of commitment each year. This "72-Hour Plan to Holiness" was designed by Mr. Donald Turbitt, a Director of the *Men of Saint Joseph International* who can be contacted by email at donturbitt@gmail.com.

Dear Brother in the Episcopate, I wholeheartedly support the work of the *Men of Saint Joseph International*. I am asking you to consider sponsoring this sacred endeavor in your Diocese by writing a decree, stating that you officially recognize the *Men of Saint Joseph International* as an established group in your Diocese if any group already exists. Furthermore, I urge you to encourage your parish priests to prayerfully consider forming a group of *Men of Saint Joseph International* in the parishes of your (Arch)Diocese.

In the words of Saint John Paul II: *May Saint Joseph become for all of us an exceptional teacher in the service of Christ's saving mission, a mission which is the responsibility of each and every member of the Church: husbands and wives, parents, those who live by the work of their hands or by any other kind of work, those called to the contemplative life and those called to the apostolate (Ibid., #32).*

Relying on the grace of the Holy Spirit and the peace of Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father, and trusting in the intercession of Saint Joseph, I am

Sincerely yours,



Stanislaus card. Dziwisz
Stanisław card. Dziwisz