

MARCH — SAINT JOSEPH'S MONTH



St. Joseph is a young man's man. If Mary was between fourteen and sixteen years of age when she became the mother of Christ, then Joseph was certainly not an old man. He must have been in his early twenties when he married the Blessed Virgin.

So it was the young Joseph that faced the type of situation every young man must face. He had to look for a job to support the Holy Family. He had his hours of trial. Those hours in Bethlehem in which he was told "no room in the inn" were discouraging, and so was that hurried trip to Egypt. There was the girl situation before his marriage -- who cannot find an example in Joseph's respect and approach to his fiancée?

St. Joseph has choice blessings for all who call on him during his month of March. Make a novena to him for the favor you have in mind. Everyone should say his Litany daily. (See Wed. in Notre Dame Prayerbook.)

The Chain Prayer Again.

A student may be guilty, maybe not. But someone is leaving chain prayers in the church again. Such action is to cease, because it is a superstitious practice.

The chain prayer consists in the "saying of a certain prayers successively by many individuals who hope for the favors requested, not so much from God's goodness as from the magic effect of this unbroken series of prayers."

A written or printed prayer is sent to a person or is left somewhere, usually in a church or chapel. The recipient is to form one of the links in the chain. Each person is requested to say the specific prayer in the chain a definite number of times and to write out the prayer a definite number of times and pass it along to others asking them to continue the process.

The chain prayer usually contains the happy note that the favor requested through the chain manner of praying will certainly be granted, provided all the instructions are carried out. This form of prayer has not come from the revelations of any saint, or from any approved ecclesiastical source. What makes it a forbidden practice is the trust it demands in numbers.

God promised His favors not to numbers, but to humility, perseverance and confidence in prayer. No one is to promote a false manner of seeking God's blessings. If you receive a chain prayer or come upon one, destroy it.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Captain Thomas Collins, ex. '43, Forney, Texas, was killed in a plane crash about six months ago. (Ill) John O'Connor, Breen-Phillips, is in St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend, recovering from an operation for appendicitis performed last Friday night. Two Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.