



Arnold Janssen Spirituality Network

International Core Team

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Doubly Blessed,

Celebrating the Feast Days of St. Arnold Janssen
and St. Joseph Freinademetz.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Arnoldus Family,

As we begin the New Year 2022 we are doubly blessed, given that we celebrate this first month of the year with not just one but two special feasts for our Arnoldus Family. First the feast day of our beloved founder St. Arnold Janssen on January 15 and second that of our first missionary to China St. Joseph Freinademetz on January 29. Both feasts bring special blessings for us and for the people we minister to.

Despite the many problems, hardship and calamities that surround us, when surge in Covid infections continue to plague the world, people still struggling to recover from the destruction and loss brought by many natural calamities in the world and the sufferings of the many displaced migrants and refugees we can celebrate the feast of our two saints by thanking God for their exemplary life and by seeking their intercession for grace and strength to continue our faith journey with the people with peace, hope and joy.

In this tough time, we looked upon St. Arnold and St. Joseph for guidance and inspiration. In *Arnold Janssen Reader, Josef Alt, Romae 2017 #22* Father Arnold wrote to Joseph Freinademetz from Steyl 30 January 1885 with such encouraging words: *“The greater the distress, so much greater will be the light and the strength! Just keep on courageously hoping in the lord. It is impossible for him to abandon those who trust him. ...For all good is rooted in suffering; and all joy comes forth from pain. So, when there is a storm all around you, don't give up. In every howling storm and tempest, we see only wind and rain and privation; we see no sun. But the warm sun shines again onto the newly fertilized earth. That is how it will turn out for you, too. ...”*

And with great trust St. Joseph truly places his life to God and encourages us to do the same. In *Words from St. Josef Freinademetz, Friedbert Ewertz, Hebei 2003* the February 4 quotations goes: *“In all dangers let us not worry, let us entrust ourselves quietly to Heavenly Providence, since this Heavenly Providence will watch over us day and night.*

We have seen and heard from what we have read how our two beloved saints Arnold and Joseph trusted in God and courageously faced the storms of life filled with hope in the Lord. Let us find strength and courage from their examples.

As we celebrate the feast of Saints Arnold and Joseph let us thank God for blessing us with the inspirations they have given us. Let us also pray with St. Arnold and St. Joseph and ask for their intercession.

We also invite to all members of the Arnoldus Family to remain united in prayer, keeping in mind the following intentions:

1. *For the sick and infected by the Covid virus:* May God grant them healing and strength.
2. *For the victims of typhoons and other natural calamities:* May God grant them speedy aid and console them in their pains.
3. *For the homeless, refugees and displaced migrants:* May God grant them safe place for shelter and refuge.
4. *For the SSPS 15th General Chapter:* May God grant them a discerning heart and the generosity to continue transforming the world with compassion.

Wishing you a blessed and grace filled celebration of St. Arnold and St. Joseph feast days.

In the light of the Word and the Spirit of grace,

Sr. Teresa Sriwahyuni Sr. Maria Cristina Ávalos Fr. Dennis Manzana Fr. Peter Dusicka