

In 1939 Joseph entered the seminary where his brother, Georg, was already living. This was a very important decision, the first step toward a life dedicated to Jesus. It was not easy for his family to undertake such a decision; it would have been impossible to pay the tuition for both sons with Papa Josef's modest ex-policeman's pension. Fortunately, during that time Maria, my friend's older sister, found a good job and with her income they were able to cover the expenses.

At the beginning, Joseph was not enthusiastic at all about living in a community. He could not concentrate on his studies and it felt as if he had lost his freedom. Not to mention gym class: every day he had to face two unbearable hours of stretches, sit-ups, push-ups, running, jumping. What a nightmare! I totally sympathize with him because we cats also detest strenuous physical activity. However, we always have to be in good shape; a mouse, a grasshopper, or a butterfly could appear suddenly and we need to be ready to pounce on our prey!



