

St. Joseph Retired from Real Estate!



By Brian Madigan LL.B.

Actually, if you must know: St. Joseph is too busy to sell real estate. And, he doesn't really condone all those little plastic figurines of his likeness being sold in either religious stores or over the internet.

Last year, I published an article on “**St. Joseph the Patron Saint of Real Estate**”. That article generated a lot of response, so I challenged readers to document their good news and let me know what happened.

All the stories were anecdotal provided by *believers*. Unfortunately, there was nothing of substance. Truly, those that sold often lower their expectations (that is, reduced the sale price) at the same time. Or, they might have changed agents, or the Spring market might have started in their area. In every such instance, there was also a perfectly simple alternative explanation leaving someone else to speculate on the religious involvement, the paranormal or some such other metaphysical explanation.

Reasonably, I would think that St. Joseph would have better things to do. After all, he really is a “big time Saint”. He was a member of the Holy Family! **His stepson was GOD!** That is a very important role. In fact, he taught Jesus how to make furniture and fix up things around the house.

Now, what I don't know is how well he did selling the house and travelling to Bethlehem, or even if he traded up houses later on, or even downsized for that matter. But, I'm absolutely sure that he did not suddenly decide (assuming that the house wouldn't sell) to make a little carving of himself and plant it in the ground. If he did that, then I think it would be well-known and a story worth repeating.

As I said, St. Joseph is really a big time Saint. He has more important things to do, than be encouraging people to purchase little plastic statues on eBay.

Right now, there are millions of people starving in this world. He could worry about that. Certainly, that would be more in keeping with his role than trying to help stubborn sellers get close to their overpriced listing prices.

Also, for those who truly believe in St. Joseph, and by that **I MEAN TRULY believe**, they know that a simple prayer is sufficient. The \$4.95 (plus taxes and shipping) statue is sought by those who simply hope or pray that there will be some divine intercession in their daily lives. You will notice that they are not really devout. They believe in the statue not the Saint. So, I checked this little piece of folklore with several true believers..... members of a religious community dedicated to following St. Joseph. All said that it was fictitious, but did recommend saying a prayer instead.

In this situation, when it comes to “preyers”, the only ones doing any “preying” seem to be masters of internet selling. Those professing a faith in the plastic statute actually denigrate the memory of St. Joseph.

If you are a true believer, **say a prayer instead**, and if you must pay money, then make a nice donation to a charity of your choice.

However, I’m in the real estate business, and if you need to get that property sold, get a good agent and lower your price! That will work just fine.

Next year at this time, I might just join the “preying crowd” myself. I will have a small artefact available that if you have sufficient faith will sell your property in 48 hours or less. It will be available over the internet and will be priced appropriately at less than \$10.00 including taxes and shipping. I’m still working on it, but it will be out in time for the Spring market. And, it will come with a money-back guarantee. Just think, I wonder how many of those 2 million annual statue sales I might get!

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