

CATHOLICISM UNPACKED



DIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

EDUCATION SERVICE



St Joseph

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Catholicism Unpacked: St Joseph – an overview

Support Materials for the Year of St Joseph



Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.

(Pope Francis)

About this Resource

Aims

The main purpose of this resource is to help you as teachers and leaders to appreciate more fully the great gift of St Joseph and understand how this year can bring us more closely to Jesus and others by following his example of prayer, faith and service.

Structure

- Information about the Year of St Joseph, the Pope's Letter about St Joseph, Patris Corde, and more about this wonderful saint in the form of Q & A
- Videos about this year and St Joseph
- Resources including links to prayer, art and other resources to support Classroom RE and the Catholic life of the school
- Support to develop Catholic Social Teaching

How to use this resource

This resource is intended to help to develop and support you both academically and personally so that you can share this with pupils. A number of the information and resources included in this pack may be used for teaching, although you need to check that they are age-appropriate and relevant.

Q & A: The Year of St Joseph

Why does the Church have years dedicated to specific topics?

The Church observes the passage of time through the liturgical calendar - which includes feasts such as Easter and Christmas, and seasons such as Lent and Advent. In addition, however, popes can set aside time for the Church to reflect more deeply on a specific aspect of Catholic teaching or belief. Past years designated by recent popes include a Year of Faith, Year of the Eucharist, and Jubilee Year of Mercy.

How has Pope Francis proclaimed a 'Year of St Joseph' and why is it in 2021?

In his new Apostolic Letter ***Patris Corde*** ('With a Father's Heart'), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a 'Year of St Joseph' from 8 December 2020 (the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020) to 8 December 2021.

Why did the Pope declare a Year of St. Joseph?

Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus.

'Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble,' the Pope wrote.

He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, **'Our world today needs fathers.'**

Why does the Church honour St. Joseph?



Catholics do not worship saints, but ask for their heavenly intercession before God and seek to imitate their virtues here on earth. The Catholic Church honours St. Joseph as the foster father of Jesus. He is invoked as the patron saint of the Universal Church. He is also the patron of workers, fathers, and a happy death.

Q&A: St Joseph and Scripture

What do we know about St Joseph?

Jesus, as we know, was the Son of God and Mary was his mother. All four Gospels also refer to Jesus as 'the son of Joseph' because Joseph was his earthly father, his foster father, and Jesus would have been known as 'Jesus, Son of Joseph' as they did not have surnames at that time. Matthew and Luke, the two Evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God's providence.

As St Pope John Paul II said:

"The Evangelists describe him as the caring guardian of Jesus, an attentive and faithful husband, who exercises his family authority in a constant attitude of service. Nothing else is said about him in the Sacred Scriptures, but this silence contains the special style of his mission: a life lived in the greyness of everyday life, but with steadfast faith in Providence."



What do we know about St Joseph from the Bible?

Scripture provides tells us very little about St. Joseph and we hear about him before Jesus is born until he is found in the Temple aged 12; after that, he seems to disappear. The gospels mention him by name only 15 times and not a single word spoken by St. Joseph is reCorded.

<i>Bible Reference</i>	<i>What it tells us about St Joseph</i>
Mt 13:55	He was a lowly carpenter
Mt 1:18; Lk 1:27	He was betrothed to Mary
Mt 1:19	He was a 'just man'
Lk 2:22.27.39	He was ever ready to carry out God's will as revealed to him in the Law
Mt 1:20; 2:13.19.22	God spoke to him through four dreams
Lk 2:7	After a long and tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he was present for the birth of the Messiah in a stable, since 'there was no place for them' elsewhere
Lk 2:8-20	He witnessed the adoration of the shepherds who represented the people of Israel
Mt 2:1-12	He witnessed the adoration of the Magi who represented the pagan peoples
Mt 1:21	Joseph had the courage to become the legal father of Jesus, to whom he gave the name revealed by the angel: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins". For ancient peoples, to give a name to a person or to a thing, as Adam did in the account in the Book of Genesis (2:19-20), was to establish a relationship.
Lk2:22-35	Forty days after Jesus' birth, Joseph and Mary presented their child to the Lord in the Temple of Jerusalem. They listened with amazement to Simeon's prophecy concerning Jesus and his mother.
Mt 2:13-18	To protect Jesus from Herod, Joseph dwelt as a foreigner in Egypt
Jn 7:52; Jn 1:46	After returning to his own country from Egypt, Joseph led a hidden life in the tiny and obscure village of Nazareth in Galilee which was far from his ancestral town, Bethlehem, and from Jerusalem and the Temple. Of Nazareth

	it was said, 'No prophet is to rise' and, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?'
Lk 2:41-50	During a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, when Jesus was 12 years old Joseph and Mary lost track of him. They anxiously sought him out and they found him in the Temple, in discussion with the doctors of the Law.

Q&A: St Joseph – Origins and Death

What does Joseph's name mean?

Joseph's name was a proud name, recalling the ancient Jewish name of one of the twelve patriarchs, Joseph the son of Jacob (with his coloured coat) who was sold by his brothers into Egypt and who later became second to Pharaoh in power over all Egypt, saving his family from famine (Gen 30-50). His name means 'to add' or 'to gather'.

What was Joseph's connection to King David?

King David was an ancestor of Joseph as we read about this in Luke: 'Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David' (Lk 2:4). It is significant that Joseph was a descendent of King David and Jesse because this means that the prophecies in the Old Testament would be fulfilled as Jesus was his from his 'line' or 'house' (2 Sam 7:12-16; Is 11:1; Jer 23:5-6).

The Gospel of Matthew begins with a detailed genealogy, beginning with Abraham, tracing through David, Israel's greatest king, and ending with: 'Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ' (Mt 1:16). This is why it is tradition to put up a Jesse tree at Christmas time - because Jesse was King David's father and therefore an ancestor of Christ. It is also the reason for Joseph and Mary travelling to Bethlehem on a donkey before Jesus was born as there was a Roman census and everyone from the House of David, including Joseph, had to register.



When did Joseph die?

What we do know from the gospels is that Joseph was present when Jesus was found in the Temple aged 12 but we do not hear of him after that. As he is not present at the time of Jesus' ministry or death when Jesus was between the age of 30 and 33, we assume Joseph died sometime when Jesus was a teenager or young man.

Joseph is often depicted on his death bed with Jesus and Mary beside him. That is why he is patron of a 'happy death'.

Where is Joseph buried?

While the Bible does not identify a specific site where St. Joseph's bones were laid to rest, an ancient tradition states that the tomb of St. Joseph, now empty, is in the Valley of Josaphat. Others believe that he is buried in Nazareth as this is where he lived.

Q&A: St Joseph and his Occupation

What would he have done as a carpenter?

We know from later in Matthew's gospel that Joseph was a carpenter by trade (Mt 13:55) but carpentry would not have been all he did. As a tradesman, Joseph would also have kept a garden and some animals for food and perhaps do some farming to make a comfortable living in rural Galilee. Townspeople may have come to Joseph when they needed some objects made or some help with labour.



In Matthew 13, after Jesus teaches in his hometown synagogue, the crowd asks, “Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother called Mary?” (Mt 13:55). The Greek word ‘tekton’, translated here as carpenter, is more accurately rendered as ‘craftsman’ or ‘builder’. Due to the geography of Nazareth, it is likely that Joseph would have also worked with stone as there are little trees in the area.

It was common for a man of his standing to build his own house, perhaps with the assistance of family and friends. As a carpenter or tradesman, Joseph would have had both general and specific tools for this as well as the skill to use them. He would have been able to fashion doors, beams, and perhaps gates as well as make ploughs and yokes and other implements, each made by hand. However, this would not have made Joseph wealthy at all.

The offering Mary and Joseph brought to the temple on the occasion of Mary's purification from childbirth, which we now celebrate as Candlemas or the feast of the Presentation, was the offering of a poor man, a pair of doves or pigeons (Lk 2:24; Lev 12:8).

Jesus and Joseph may have formed and made many of their projects from stone either by chiselling or carving the stone or stacking building blocks because trees were, and still are, relatively scarce in that region. Jesus would have grown up in this trade and learnt a great deal from his foster father.

The above information has been adapted from <http://www.jesuswalk.com/christmas-incarnation/joseph-father.htm>

Q&A: St Joseph, St Mary and Jesus

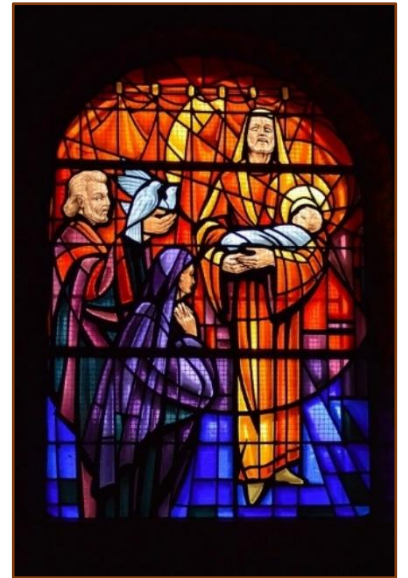
Approximately how old would Joseph have been when he married Mary?

Since the Scriptures do not explicitly discuss this question, no one is certain of the answer. Some scholars believe that Joseph was an old man when he married Mary. Others believe that he was a young virile man.

What we do know is that Joseph would have had to be in a position to look after Mary practically and financially so he would not have been very young. Joseph was no doubt older than Mary at the time of the Annunciation and betrothal (Lk 1: 26-38). While girls were married by 13 or 14 -- old enough at that age to bear children -- husbands on the other hand needed to be established enough to support a wife before they could enter into marriage. They were legally obligated to provide with food, clothing, and shelter.

Joseph would have had to travel extensively and guide the family on their journeys: from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census (Lk 2:1-5), then on to Egypt, a journey of at least 170km, to escape the tyranny of Herod (Mt 2: 13-22), and back to Nazareth to settle there when it was safe again (Lk 2:19-23). Each year they would have travelled to Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of the Passover, at least a four-day journey, as part of the Jewish custom too, so we can assume that Joseph was not elderly.

Therefore, we can assume that Joseph was somewhere between the age of approximately 20 and 50 when he married Mary: old enough to protect and provide for Mary and Joseph, and young enough to travel and work to look after them.



How would Joseph have been seen by the community when they found out Mary was pregnant?

Given that they were betrothed they were recognised as being legally married. That said, a scandal would have arisen if Joseph had publicly divorced Mary on the basis of adultery. The consequences of that would be public disgrace and risk of being stoned.

There is no doubt that Mary's pregnancy had placed her at considerable risk in this society. When they found out that Mary was pregnant, Joseph, too would have been at risk of losing his good reputation. Joseph was aware of the grim choices Mary faced:

1. **Rejection.** Her betrothed husband would reject her. Her pregnancy would embarrass him and reflect on his character.

2. **Stoning.** At worst she could be stoned as stoning for adultery still took place in first century Palestine. The law provided in cases like this for possible stoning (Deut 22:13-30), especially if the man and married woman are caught in the act of adultery.

3. **Shunning.** The best scenario would be that her family would allow her to live at home, though her supposed adultery would hurt their standing in the community. She and her child would be shunned.

4. **Stigma.** No upstanding man would ever marry her, since the stigma of her supposed adultery would remain with her and taint the reputation of any husband.

5. **No-where to go.** Going to the city and becoming lost in its anonymity was not an option for her as single women just didn't live alone. This was a family-centred culture where a woman's work centred around home and family. There was no work for single women, except perhaps as a housekeeper in a wealthy home – otherwise they were vulnerable to exploitation.

Matthew tells 'Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly' (Mt 1:19). God then told him in a dream not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife as she had conceived of the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:20). Joseph faithfully obeyed, although life would not have been easy for them.



Was Joseph Jesus' foster father?

In Matthew's Gospel, Joseph is given the command by God: "... You are to give him the name Jesus" (1:21)

Joseph is commanded to personally name the child, Jesus. This is deeply significant. It means that Joseph, in naming the child, acknowledges him as his own son. According to Semitic law, he therefore became the legal father of the child. As a result of this legal adoption, Joseph's ancestry as a descendent of David transfers also to his legal son. Biologically, Jesus is begotten by the Holy Spirit and is thus the 'Son of God' (Lk 1:32), but legally he is the son of Joseph and heir to the promises of David, Joseph's ancestor.

The angel Gabriel had promised Mary, 'The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David' (Lk 1:32). In Joseph naming the boy, and therefore adopting him, David becomes Jesus' earthly ancestor.

Joseph is indeed the step-father of Jesus. He shows us the important role that all parents—biological, adoptive, foster, or spiritual—can play in the lives of all children.



Did Mary and Joseph have other children?

According to Church teaching, Mary remained a virgin throughout her entire life which means that she was a 'perpetual virgin'. Although not explained in detail, the Church believes Mary was Virgin before and after Christ's birth. This tradition can be challenging for some Christians but the belief is reflected in numerous early Church writings. As a counter to this belief, sometimes people highlight that the Bible mentions brothers and sisters of Jesus.

In Aramaic, Jesus' mother tongue, there is only one word for sibling, cousin, aunt, uncle, niece and nephew. So, in Mark 3:31-35, when mention is made of Jesus' 'brethren', the Church has always understood these passages as not referring to other children of Mary, but in fact to Jesus' close relatives. The fact that Jesus entrusted Mary into the care of the apostle, John, at the foot of the Cross (Jn 19:26-27), also implies that Jesus did not have siblings – otherwise Mary would have been cared for by them.

In the apocryphal writings, there are stories about St Joseph saying that he married a woman and they had six children together: two daughters and four sons, the youngest of whom was James (the Less, 'the Lord's brother'). However, these stories are unreliable.

If Joseph was from Bethlehem, why did they live in Nazareth?

After the Holy Family escaped to Egypt because of Herod jealously slaughtering babies between the ages of 0-2 as he had heard one might be the 'new king', they settled in the town of Nazareth. Matthew does not mention Nazareth as being the previous home of Joseph and Mary; he says that Joseph was warned in a dream about Herod Archelaus reigning in Judea and so he took the family to the district of Galilee instead (Mt 2:22). The Gospel of Luke, on the other hand, does not record anything about the flight to Egypt, but says that Joseph had been previously living in Nazareth, and returned there after the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple (Lk 2:4)

Q&A: St Joseph and the Holy Family

What can we learn from the Holy Family?

The Holy Family consists of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. While this is the holiest and most extraordinary of all families, it is also an 'ordinary family' sharing joys and trials like every other one. There is so much that we can learn from St Joseph and the Holy Family.

Pope Francis says, 'No family can be fruitful if it sees itself as overly different or 'set apart'. To avoid this risk, we should remember that Jesus' own family, so full of grace and wisdom, did not appear unusual or different from others. That is why people found it hard to acknowledge Jesus' wisdom: "Where did this man get all this? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary?" (Mk 6:2-3). "Is this not the carpenter's son?" (Mt 13:55). These questions make it clear that theirs was an ordinary family, close to others, a normal part of the community.' [Amoris Laetitia 182]

Joseph by duty and privilege was the rabbi of the Holy Family to teach Jesus the Jewish faith and practices. Joseph led his family in the worship of God in their home at Nazareth. At meal times both Mary and Jesus looked to Joseph at the head of the table to offer the prayer of blessing. The Holy Family was a model of love and can learn much from the Holy Family:

- Love for God was the cornerstone of the Holy Family
- Out of love came the virtues of obedience and acceptance
- The Holy Family also models forgiveness

We can apply the Holy Family's virtues to our own family by:

- Praying together
- Being faithful to our vocation
- Honouring each other
- Accepting each other
- Forgiving daily
- Being present in communication



"St. Joseph listens to God's directions for him, as spoken through the angel, and he puts those directives into action. St. Joseph listens to God and acts immediately.... St. Joseph models for us the family's vocation to holiness. Two elements to a healthy Christian family are serving God and then serving each other in the family.... That is the vocation of each member of the family: to be holy. To serve God and to serve each other with care and devotion."

(Bishop Peter Jugis Homily, Feast of the Holy Family, December 29, 2019)

Q&A: St Joseph and the Church

Why is St Joseph known as ‘the custodian of the universal Church’?

‘At her side in the Holy Family of Nazareth, stands the figure of Saint Joseph. Through his work and generous presence, he cared for and defended Mary and Jesus, delivering them from the violence of the unjust by bringing them to Egypt. The Gospel presents Joseph as a just man, hard-working and strong. But he also shows great tenderness, which is not a mark of the weak but of those who are genuinely strong, fully aware of reality and ready to love and serve in humility. That is why he was proclaimed custodian of the universal Church. He too can teach us how to show care; he can inspire us to work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us.’ [Laudato Si’ 242]



How does the Catholic Church view St Joseph?

After Mary, the Mother of God, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the papal magisterium than Joseph, her spouse. Pope Francis’ predecessors reflected on the message contained in the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate more fully his central role in the history of salvation. Blessed Pius IX declared him ‘Patron of the Catholic Church’, Venerable Pius XII proposed him as ‘Patron of Workers’ and St John Paul II as ‘Guardian of the Redeemer’. St Joseph is universally invoked as the ‘patron of a happy death’. [taken from Patris Corde]

How has the Church developed in its view of St Joseph?

The Early Church did not focus much on St Joseph, instead placing emphasis on the martyrs and Our Lady. Until the 14th Century, St Joseph was practically ignored. St Joseph was also represented unflatteringly in the apocryphal gospels, especially that of James, which was another reason for his obscurity. In the last century, however, St Joseph has been brought to the fore. Pope John XXIII made St. Joseph patron of Vatican II (1961) and inserted his name in the canon of the Mass (1963). But John Paul II’s apostolic exhortation *Redemptoris Custos* (1989) developed his status in the Church even further.



For John Paul II, the mystery of St. Joseph’s heroic obedience to God plays out in the family, the ‘sanctuary of love and cradle of life.’ He emphasises the reality of the saint’s marriage and paternity despite the absence of sexual activity: Self-giving love is what matters most.

Outside the family, St. Joseph ‘brought human work closer to the mystery of the Redemption.’ He’s our model for harmonising the work and prayer. His association with Jesus and Mary in their ‘domestic church’ makes him a fitting patron of the universal Church.

Redemptoris Custos places St. Joseph firmly in the foreground of efforts to renew family, society, and the Church. Now more than ever we must ‘**Go to Joseph.**’ For a copy of *Redemptoris Custos* click [HERE](#)

Q&A: St Joseph and his Symbols

What are some of the symbols associated with St Joseph?

There are many pieces of artwork which have been inspired by this patron saint and St Joseph is often depicted with at least one of these symbols or representations. This information is taken from soul painter.com which has accompanying images. Click [HERE](#)



Symbol	Symbolism
White Flowers or Lilies	Joseph was a virtuous man who was pure and obedient to God. He had the difficult large task of caring for and protecting the Holy Family, and he did so always listening for the voice of God. He also remained pure and chaste while loving and caring for his wife, Mary ever virgin. Even though they were married they remained celibate, 'he had no relations with her'.
Carpenter's Square or Tools	In the few descriptions the Bible gives us about St Joseph, we do learn that he is a carpenter by trade. As part of bringing up Jesus, Joseph also teaches him skills for earning a living. Even though the saw is often used, it's doubtful it was his primary tool since most of their work was with stones at the time and place. His work was closer to what we would associate with a mason.
Baby Jesus	There are several male saints depicted with the child Jesus in their arms, most often St Anthony, but St Joseph is the only saint that had the privilege of raising the Son of God at this stage in his life.

The Flowering Staff	Joseph wasn't just a random man that happened to pick Mary for his wife. God had chosen and prepared Joseph with special graces to care for the Holy Family. We hear this in many resources from outside of the canon of scripture. This symbol calls upon the imagery of the flowering staff of Aaron showing he had been chosen by God (Num 17:23).
Sleeping Saint Joseph	<p>There are icons and images of Joseph sleeping. While this may look like an odd action or pose for sacred art, it's deeply rooted in the few things we know for certain about Saint Joseph from Sacred Scripture. In two separate occasions, we see that God speaks to Joseph through an angel in his dreams (Mt 1:24 and Mt 2:14,21,22). Joseph was a hard worker, and even in his sleep, he works to pursue the will of the Father.</p> <p>Pope Francis made this image more popular recently admitting he often places his requests for St Joseph under the sleeping Saint Joseph for him to hear and act through intercession.</p>
Star of David	This symbol is a newer than some of the others since this symbol is one of the newer symbols for the Jewish people. Joseph is described as a 'righteous man' (Mt 1:19) and 'son of David' (Mt 1:20). He was faithful to the tradition and law of his ancestors.
Pair of Turtle Doves	This is a rare symbol for Saint Joseph recalling the pair of turtle doves that Mary and Joseph had to use for their humble sacrifice at the presentation of Jesus (Lk 2:24). This was only used by Jews that were too poor to afford a larger sacrifice, and reminds us that the Holy Family was not rich in money.
The letter "J"	This is obviously for his name, and it might seem unoriginal at first. It's interesting to note that Jesus name also begins with a J when spelt out in most languages, but it's never used to represent the Lord.
Young Man and Old Man	Saint Joseph is often depicted as an older man that took care of care of the younger Blessed Virgin Mary, but this depiction developed over time.
Happy Death	Tradition has it that Saint Joseph died with the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus at his side. There is no better way to die, and he has thus been made the patron of the happy death.

What are some of the titles given to Joseph?

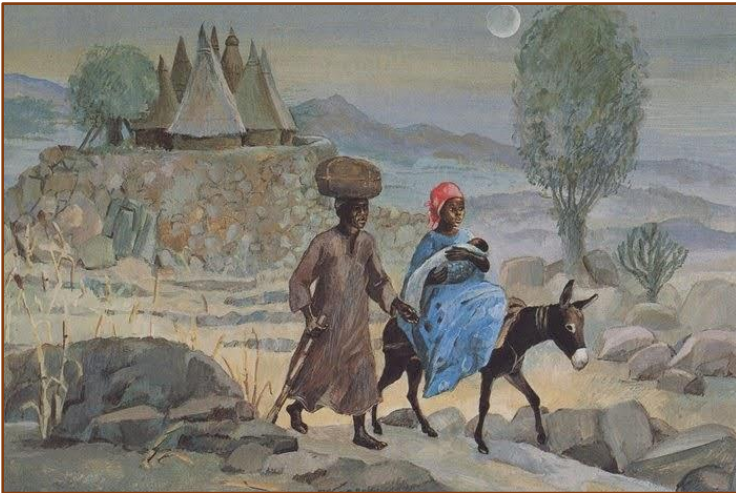
There are a number of titles given to St Joseph many of which have been highlighted in focusequip.org. These include:



- **Patron of the Universal Church** - it all started in his house, the very first domestic Church.
- **Patron of the unborn child** - it was Joseph who was given the great task from God to care for the expectant mother and accepted humbly to be the foster father of the unborn King
- **Patron of fathers** - model for all earthly fathers, a man who stood by his child through the difficult moments, the pillar of the house, the one who worried about providing enough food to put on the humble dinner table of the Holy Family.
- **Patron of workers** - he would earnestly rise every morning and work very hard and very honestly. He is the great example for every Christian worker.
- **Patron of all carpenters** – as he, himself, was a carpenter he is also their patron.
- **Patron of travellers** – travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem, from Bethlehem to Egypt... He experienced the hardship of a long journey together with his family.
- **Patron of migrants** - when in Egypt he experienced the suffering of waking up under an alien sun in a foreign land with a hostile culture looking for enough work to sustain the family.
- **Patron of the dying and of a happy death:**
 - 1) He is the foster father of the Eternal Judge, who can refuse him no request.
 - 2) He is terrible to the demons; the Church calls him the 'Terror of Demons and Conqueror of Hell'.
 - 3) His own death was the most beautiful, for he died in the arms of Jesus and Mary. The death of no other saint was so happy and glorious.
- **St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus** – God entrusted his only Son to Joseph to protect, guard, teach and love him as he would his own son.
- **Illustrious Son of David** – Joseph was a descendant of David and has become well-known for his role in Jesus' life. Many people and places have St Joseph as their patron
- **Splendour of Patriarchs** – Patriarchs were biblical figures regarded as fathers of the human race, especially Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and their forefathers, or the sons of Jacob. They would have been proud to have their descendant, Joseph, to be chosen as foster-father of the Messiah
- **Chaste Protector of The Virgin** – Joseph protected Mary from being harmed from the time of her pregnancy and throughout the rest of his life
- **Zealous Defender of Christ** – he protected Jesus from harm throughout his life including Herod's jealousy
- **Joseph Most Pure** – Joseph was pure in heart and body and was faithful to God's commandments
- **Joseph Most Obedient** – he listened to God in his dreams and never ceased to obey him, even when it was challenging
- **Mirror of Patience** – Joseph was patient throughout all the trials he was given, even though he did not understand them especially when Mary got pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit

What is Patris Corde?

In this Apostolic Letter entitled **Patris Corde**, Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.[Vatican News: Pope Francis Proclaims a Year of St Joseph] For the link to Patris Corde click [HERE](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html). The content of this Letter is simplified in the table below and has been taken from <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html> so click on the link for more details.



Description of St Joseph in Patris Corde	Description
A Beloved Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joseph placed himself at the loving service of Jesus who was growing in maturity in his home (his vocation) In him, Jesus learned the tender love and forgiveness of God Joseph is a father to all Christian people In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God: “As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him” (Ps 103:13).
A Tender and Loving Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He accepted Mary and Jesus unconditionally despite the many challenges He set aside his own ideas and cared for Mary and Jesus tenderly and lovingly Joseph saw Jesus grow daily “in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favour” (Lk 2:52).
An Obedient Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God revealed his saving plan to Joseph by using dreams and Joseph accepted God’s will with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments immediately He was courageous, firm and proactive in doing the will of God and was filled with the Holy Spirit and of hope In his role as the head of a family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents (cf. Lk 2:51), in accordance with God’s command (cf. Ex 20:12).

An Accepting Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it. He accepted and welcomed others including the weak, vulnerable and outcast • Joseph put his trust in God (his ‘fiat’ = his yes and obedience) and so cooperated in the great mystery of redemption • He is a model for spirituality and an acceptance of God’s will in our lives
A Creatively Courageous Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph found creative solutions to the practical problems he faced, all of which he did with courage and faith • He is ‘the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty’ as he himself had to lead the family to and from Egypt (Pope Francis). He is also protector of the Church • Every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is ‘the child’ whom Joseph continues to protect (Pope Francis). • God always finds a way to look after his people
A Working Father	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph earned an honest living as a carpenter so as to provide for his family. He teaches us the value, dignity and joy of work, no matter how humble. • Work is a means of cooperating with God himself as we are using the gifts and talents he gave us. Through our work we can help to build God’s kingdom and be co-creators with God. • The loss of employment that affects so many has increased as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and this should encourage us to review our priorities. • During this year we ask St Joseph the Worker to help us find ways to ensure that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!
A Father in the Shadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fathers are not born, but made. A man becomes a father by taking the responsibility to care for the child and introduce them to life and reality • Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person. • Joseph did not raise Jesus by domination or authoritarianism. Instead, he raised him with humility and charity. Fathers should raise their children so that they are independent, capable of enjoying freedom and making their own decisions. • Joseph found happiness by giving himself fully in the service of God. In him, we never see frustration but quiet obedience and trust. • Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as ‘the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.’

I wonder... why St Joseph is special to you and what you might learn from him?

Perhaps... you could read some of Pope Francis’ letter on St Joseph and find a phrase that resonates with you.

St Joseph – Our Daily Prayer... and our Challenge

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, ‘Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds’ [Morning Prayer] he has ‘recited a prayer to St Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary.’ This prayer, he says, ‘expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to St Joseph,’ on account of its closing words: ‘My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.’

At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together during this Year of St Joseph:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



I wonder... what this prayer means to you?

Perhaps... you could say this prayer with your family or community.

Caritas and Evangelisation

Two of our diocesan agencies, Caritas and the Agency for Evangelisation have been working together to create a Novena for staff, parents and parishes, which is available to download and share [HERE](#).

This resource can be used by individuals or groups during the month of March or at any time during this Year of St Joseph. The themes for the Novena are based on those in *Patris Corde*.

St Joseph Novena

Joseph, a man of faith, open to God's will, loving and tender, a courageous protector, and a man who knows the joys and challenges that we face in our daily lives. Let us turn to him in all our needs, as we celebrate nine-days of prayer in this Year of St Joseph.

Day 1 – Patron of Fathers

Day 2 – Patience

Day 3 – Tender & Loving

Day 4 – Patron of Workers

Day 5 – Perseverance

Day 6 – Obedience

Day 7 – Patron of Pilgrims

Day 8 – Courage

Day 9 – In the Shadows



Human Dignity, and the Dignity of Work

The innate, God-given dignity of all people is fundamental to Catholic Social Teaching, which in turn underpins the work of Caritas Westminster. It is especially evident at [Caritas St Joseph's](#), a pastoral centre and outreach for adults with intellectual disabilities, and in Caritas Bakhita House, a safe house for women who have been caught up in human trafficking and slavery.

The first CST encyclical focused on the dignity of work, and drew inspiration from Cardinal Manning's support for striking London dock workers in 1889. Caritas continues to promote dignified work, especially through its social enterprise hub, [SEIDs](#), and is also planning an online event around the memorial of St Joseph the Worker.

To find out more about how Caritas promotes CST through their Love in Action work see [HERE](#).

Mission Together

Mission Together are inviting schools to join a Week of Prayer, leading up to Friday 19 March (St Joseph's feast day).


Each daily prayer is modelled on a simplified version of the popular Mill Hill Missionaries' Novena (St Joseph's Missionary Society).

Mission Together

A Week of Prayer to St Joseph



Dear St Joseph,
God trusted you to care for his Son, Jesus and Mary, your wife.
Blessed Joseph,
We ask you to be like a father to us.
Guide us and ask God
to give us hope and courage,
and to keep us safe from harm.
St Joseph,
Pray for us.



Mission Together



FACT FOUR

St Joseph shared his faith with Jesus.



Who teaches you how to pray and keep the holy days special?



This Week of Prayer resource complements their St Joseph Five Fact Assembly.

All of their resources can be used by both staff and pupils for lessons and prayer and are freely available.

[Download here.](#)

CAFOD

St Joseph was a worker. To find out how you can be a worker for Catholic Social Teaching see CST in 3 minutes [Catholic Social Teaching in 3 minutes | CAFOD - YouTube](#)

St Joseph and the Diocese of Westminster

Below is some information collated by Fr Chris Vipers, Director for Evangelisation in the Diocese of Westminster, which was shared with parishes. This could be amended and adapted for use with schools.

On 10th December 1898 Cardinal Vaughan added St Joseph as a Patron of our Diocese, noting “the Church itself is an expansion of the Holy Family”. In our Diocese in 2021 we celebrate in a particular way with the eight parishes and thirteen schools who claim St Joseph as their principal Patron, the seven parishes and two schools for whom he is co-Patron, and the two parishes (and Cathedral of the Ukrainian Catholic Church) and two schools dedicated to the Holy Family. In addition, we celebrate the work of St Joseph’s Pastoral Centre in Hendon, of St Joseph’s Hospice in Hackney, and of Caritas Bakhita House, under the Patronage of St Josephine Bakhita. She is “Joseph” too.

Please see below for a little outline of some Diocese-wide events already in the planning, and some suggestions for your own parish planning:

Devotional/Liturgical

- A Novena of Prayer, 11th – 19th March.
- A Consecration to St Joseph on 19th March or 1st May (St Joseph the Worker) – a number of versions of this are available online, along with the Litany of St Joseph.
- Taking the Holy Father’s suggestion of making Wednesdays a day of special devotion to St Joseph.
- Many parishes are placing their image of St Joseph in a place of honour in the Sanctuary or creating a special prayer focus around St Joseph’s shrine.
- Cardinal Nichols has encouraged the custom of bringing an image of St Joseph into the kitchen at home. You might want to consider distributing prayer cards of St Joseph to make this possible.
- Mass on Fathers’ Day, Sunday 20th June.

Theological

- An online event being planned with Caritas Westminster around the Memorial of St Joseph the Worker, exploring the Theology of Work, and drawing on themes from *Fratelli Tutti*, *Patris Corde*, and *Let Us Dream* (date to follow).
- An online event with St Joseph’s Hospice and ‘The Art of Dying Well’, reflecting on end of life care (on the lead up to this year’s Day for Life, Sunday 20th June), and exploring what it means to invoke St Joseph as Patron of a Good Death – **Thursday 17th June, 7.00pm** (further details to follow).
- Autumn Season of six-week faith-sharing resources for parishes, developing the themes of *Patris Corde* (details to follow in the Summer).
- An online Scripture Lecture reflecting on Pope Francis’ description in *Patris Corde* of “Saint Joseph... at the crossroads between the Old and New Testaments” (date to follow).

For information about all of these dates, please contact Evangelisation or your parish priests.

Pastoral

- Explore the call and gift of “fatherhood” (including “spiritual fatherhood”): Consider collecting stories from fathers and sharing them on your website or newsletter throughout the year. Don’t be afraid to affirm and celebrate the masculine!
- Celebrate the diversity of the parish and the enrichment brought by migrants to our Diocese throughout the years, inspired by St Joseph as Patron of Migrants, and of our Ethnic Chaplaincies too.
- Foster a knowledge of and love for our vulnerable brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, perhaps by supporting ‘Friends of the Holy Land’ ([HERE](#)).
- Finding a way to honour – and to use – any carpenters in your congregation or wider community.

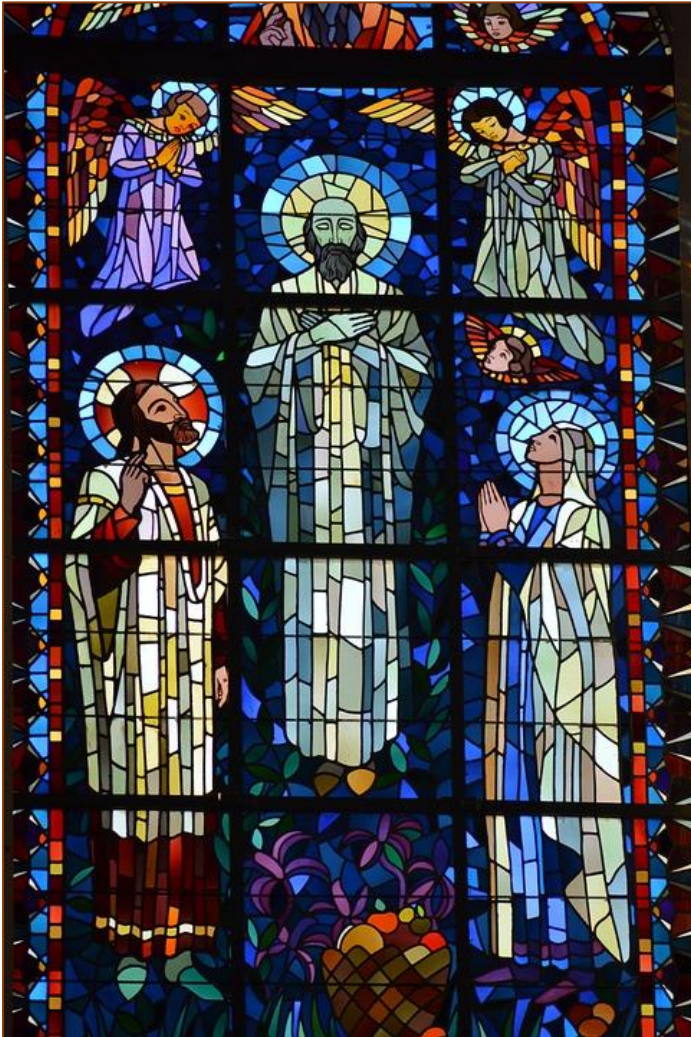
You can find further updates and ideas throughout the year on Evangelisation’s dedicated website page: [HERE](#)

“We need only ask Saint Joseph for the grace of graces: our conversion.”
Patris Corde



St Joseph – Prayers, Devotions and Homilies

Click on the links below for prayers which can be used for personal use or amended and adapted for use with the community.



[Prayer by Pope Francis](#)
[A child's prayer to St Joseph](#)
[Prayer to Jesus, Mary and Joseph](#)
[Prayer by Pope Leo XIII](#)
[Litany of St. Joseph](#)
[Daily Novena Prayer to St. Joseph](#)
[A Morning Offering to Saint Joseph](#)
[Memorare to Saint Joseph](#)
[Consecration to Saint Joseph](#)
[Thirty Day Prayer to Saint Joseph](#)
[Prayers in Honour of the Seven Sorrows and
Seven Joys of Saint Joseph](#)
[Various Catholic prayers to St Joseph](#)
[Novena for workers, the unemployed and
underemployed](#)
[Apostolic Exhortation on Saint Joseph by
Pope Saint John Paul II](#)
[Other Documents, Teachings and Homilies
on Saint Joseph](#)

I wonder... which prayer is your favourite?

Perhaps... you or your pupils could rewrite one and then say it on a feast day of St Joseph, on a Wednesday (the day dedicated to St Joseph) or during the month of March (the month of devotion to St Joseph). Alternatively, you could simply say it anytime.

Why should we 'go to Joseph?'

In the Old Testament, the phrase was **Ite ad Ioseph**, 'Go to Joseph' (Gen 41:55) and that's what many saints have been saying for centuries. We can turn to St Joseph, not just for intercession but also for as a role model for our lives. Children learn from their parents. When we look at St Joseph, perhaps we could learn to be quiet and reflective, trusting in God in all things. We need our spiritual father more than ever these days, in light of the challenge of modern times and the pandemic. There's confusion, anxiety, fear and disharmony.

"Go to Joseph and do whatever he tells you" (Gen 41:55).



(From an article by Donald Calloway. For the full article see [HERE](#))

St Joseph – Quotes from Saints

“Those who give themselves to prayer should in a special manner have always a devotion to St. Joseph; for I know not how any man can think of the Queen of the Angels, during the time that she suffered so much with the Infant Jesus, without giving thanks to St. Joseph for the services he rendered them then.” – **St. Teresa of Avila**

“Let us love Jesus above all, let us love Mary as our mother; but then, how could we keep from loving Joseph, who was so intimately united to both Jesus and Mary? And how can we honour him better than by imitating his virtues? Now, what else did he do in all his life but contemplate, study, and adore Jesus, even in the midst of his daily labours? Behold, therefore, our model.” – **St. Madeleine Sophie Barat**

“We should, indeed, honour St. Joseph, since the Son of God Himself was graciously pleased to honour him by calling him father... If, then, the King of Kings was pleased to raise Joseph to so high a dignity, it is right and obligatory on our part to endeavour to honour him as much as we can.” – **St. Alphonsus Liguori**



“The Lord has arrayed Joseph, like with a sun, in all which the saints possess together in regard to light and splendour.” – **St. Gregory of Nazianzus**

“He is Holy Joseph, because according to the opinion of a great number of doctors, he, as well as St. John Baptist, was sanctified even before he was born. He is Holy Joseph, because his office, of being spouse and protector of Mary, specially demanded sanctity. He is Holy Joseph, because no other Saint but he lived in such and so long intimacy and familiarity with the source of all holiness, Jesus, God incarnate, and Mary, the holiest of creatures.” – **St. John Henry Newman**

“Devotion to St. Joseph is one of the choicest graces that God can give to a soul, for it is tantamount to revealing the entire treasury of our Lord’s graces. When God wishes to raise a soul to greater heights, he unites it to St. Joseph by giving it a strong love for the good saint.” – **St. Peter Julian Eymard**

St Joseph – Teaching and Learning Webpages

Website	Description
Loyola Press	Information about the feast of St Joseph as well as links to other useful resources and information on St Joseph the Worker as well as 3-minute retreats and reflections and some videos and activities. For EYFS-KS3
Catholic link	Entitled 'Everything you need to know about the Year of St Joseph' this webpage has various videos, links to papal writings and other useful links. It is mainly for adults with some materials being useful to share with older pupils or parents.
St Joseph's day traditions	This webpage by Teaching Catholic Kids explains the different St Joseph's day traditions around the world which could be used for research for KS2 pupils and above, or simplified for teaching KS1 pupils. It also has information and a video about the saint.
Kennedy Adventures: St Joseph	This website has an array of ideas to help you celebrate Saint Joseph in your home — from crafts, learning activities, printables, food ideas, books and more for EYFS to KS2.
St Joseph crafts	Catholic Icing has lots of ideas for crafts for st Joseph's day or for use throughout the Year of St Joseph such as arts and crafts, and more. They can be used from EYFS to YKS2.
Catholic Inspired	This website has lots of colouring and simple craft ideas on St Joseph that could be done at home and at school. Suitable for young children and families.
Images of St Joseph	This page has information about St Joseph as well as artwork and images for use in lessons or liturgies with all ages.
Story and picture to colour	My Catholic Kids have a very simple story of St Joseph and a picture to colour here for EYFS and KS1.
Carpenter diorama	This webpage has a diorama of St Joseph working as a carpenter with Mary and Jesus present for EYFS to KS2.
Chore chart and prayer	A printable chore chart and prayer for kids to help them to work hard like St Joseph for all primary school pupils.
St Joseph on wood	This Catholic Inspired webpage explains how to make a wooden craft with St Joseph's image for EYFS to KS2.
Memory Match	A printable card game with different titles of St Joseph to match for all primary school pupils.
St Joseph's altar	Information and examples for making a St Joseph's altar at home/school for all primary school pupils.
Catholic Culture	For readings about St Joseph for liturgies for KS2-3 pupils.
Toolbox	Scroll down to the bottom of Bible Fun for Kids for a printable toolbox which is perfect for remembering Joseph the carpenter for EYFS/KS1.
St Joseph the worker images	A variety of artwork and images for various purposes for pupils and adults.

Artwork

St Joseph is often pictured with Mary and Joseph and so there are many images of the Holy Family and this feast day is celebrated on 26th December. Various images linked with the readings for Year, A, B and C are included on the following pages and can be used by pupils and adults of all ages throughout the year for reflection on Scripture passages which include St Joseph. All images are taken from this website: [Holy Family artwork](#).

You and/or your pupils could create a watercolour, mosaic, icon, line drawing, computer graphic image, sculpture, collage or stained-glass window featuring St Joseph.

Music

Songs are useful for prayer and reflection as well as for engagement in lessons. They can be used as poems to reflect more deeply on religious concepts and teachings and to develop religious vocabulary. The lyrics of some traditional copyright-free hymns are included in the appendix of this document, although there are very many more. Some can be found here: [Hymns for feast of St Joseph - husband of Mary](#)

Writing songs and poems

Pupils can also write their own songs, verses or poems to St Joseph using some of these examples. They could put their words to their favourite tune. Click on these links for songs about St Joseph

[St Joseph's Song for kids](#)

[Joseph's Song](#)

[St Joseph's Song](#)

[Joseph's Lullaby](#)

[Mary and Joseph's Song](#)

[Joseph's Song by Michael Card](#)

[Joseph - I was not his father, he was mine](#)

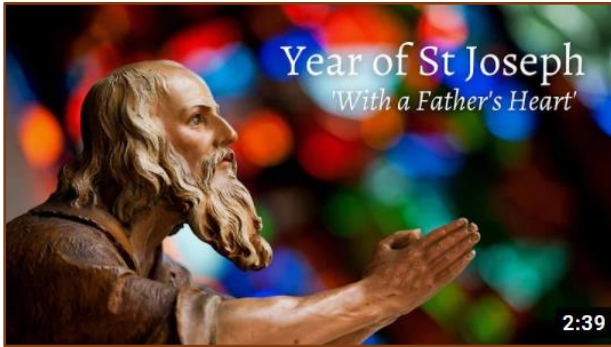
[Joseph - How could it be?](#)

[Song to St Joseph](#)

[As Joseph went a-walking](#)



Videos – The Year of St Joseph



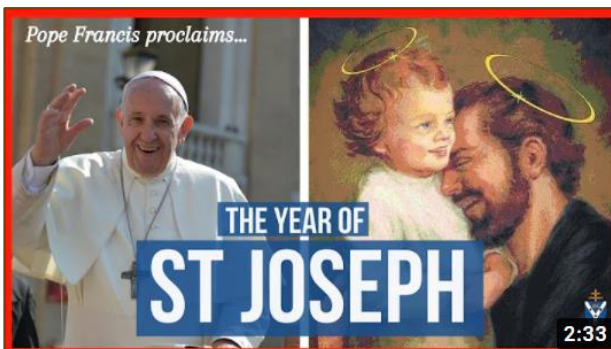
[The Year of St Joseph: With a Father's Heart](#)

To recognise the Year of St Joseph declared by Pope Francis, the Diocesan Agency for Evangelisation in Westminster have commissioned this video looking at some of the many titles which St Joseph has been given by the Church.



[Pope Francis Proclaims “Year of St Joseph” - Everything You Need To Know as A Catholic](#)

With the Apostolic Letter ‘Patris Corde’ (‘With a Father’s Heart’), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.



[Pope Francis proclaims Year of St Joseph!](#)

Fr James Tracey of St Joseph's Church in Burntisland (Archdiocese of Edinburgh and St Andrews) tells us more about the Year of St Joseph.



[Why St. Joseph is the saint we need in 2021](#)

A Jesuit review: The hiddenness of St. Joseph's life can speak to those overwhelmed by the pandemic. Fr. James Martin, SJ, reflects on why St. Joseph is the saint we need in 2021.



[The Pope Asks All Catholics To Say This Prayer During This Year Of St. Joseph](#)

In this video Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows and encourages all Catholics to say this prayer.



[Prayer to Saint Joseph by Pope Francis \(Year of Saint Joseph - Patris Corde\)](#)

The prayer for the Year of St Joseph has been put to music in this video and begins with a short explanation. It is suitable for use with pupils from KS2.



[Pope declares Year of St. Joseph "to implore his intercession and imitate his virtues"](#)

This video explains briefly Pope Francis' call for Catholics to follow in the path of St Francis and imitate his virtues which are outlined in his Letter.



[The statue of St. Joseph sleeping that Pope Francis keeps in his room](#)

Pope Francis explains why St Joseph is one of his most beloved saints and why he keeps a statue of the sleeping Joseph in his room.

Videos –St Joseph



[St Joseph \(Catholic Online\)](#)

This video provides lots of information about St Joseph: what we know about him from Scripture and what the Church teaches about him. It is suitable for pupils from KS2 and above.



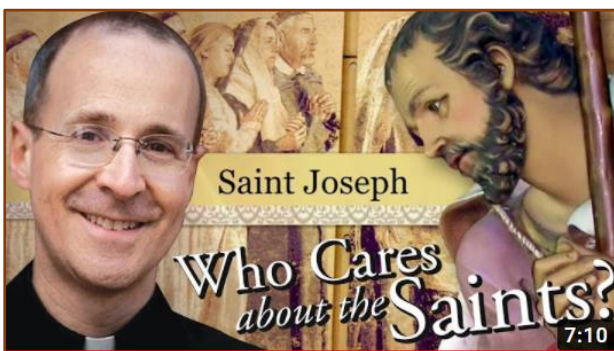
[Story of Saint Joseph| English | Stories of Saints](#)

This cartoon shows the story of St Joseph and the two feast days which are dedicated to him on 19th March and 1st May. It explains the differences between the two feast days and what they mean and is suitable for pupils in the primary school.



[St. Joseph | Catholic Central](#)

St. Joseph doesn't say a word in Scripture, but that doesn't mean he wasn't important. Libby from Catholic Central fills us in on exactly why Scripture describes St. Joseph as a righteous man and how he can help us out today. Suitable for pupils from KS2 and above.



[Saint Joseph: A Hidden Life from "Who Cares About the Saints?" with Fr. James Martin, S.J.](#)

James Martin, S.J. author of 'My Life with the Saints,' tells us about St Joseph and his life using commentary along with dramatic photos and artwork.

Who is St. Joseph...

[Who is St Joseph?](#)

A popular patron saint yet mysterious even to those devoted to him, St Joseph was clearly the greatest of men. So holy that God wanted him to guide and protect the divine child who was no less than the Son of God. This video tells a little more of the story of this amazing and powerful saint using artwork and images.

3.

Saint Joseph in Fatima

[3 things you didn't know about St. Joseph](#)


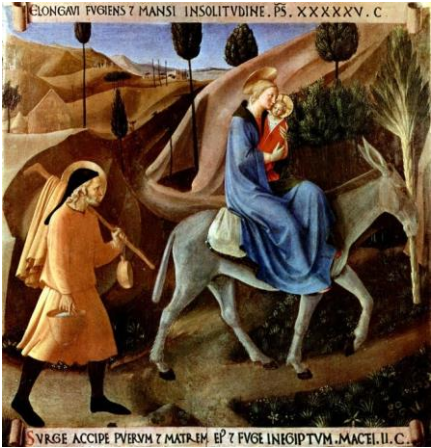

Did you know St. Joseph is the patron saint of a 'happy death?' Or that he probably wasn't an old man? Check out 3 things you might not know about Jesus' beloved foster father. This video is very short and uses music and subtitles to explain the facts.

[My Catholic Family - Saint Joseph](#)

In this cartoon, Thomas and Helen teach their children about how St. Joseph, was a protector of the family and an example of faith and obedience to God. It is appropriate for primary school pupils.

[Joseph's Lullaby](#)

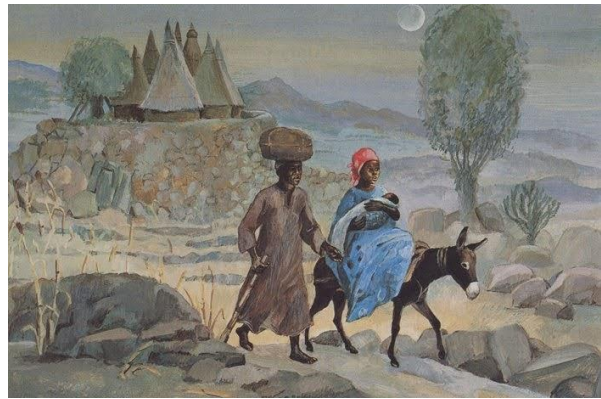
This is a video of the song 'Joseph's Lullaby' by Mercy Me with images and lyrics. Suitable for all pupils.

Feast of the Holy Family: Year A	Artwork based on readings: Year A
<p>Title: Adoration of the Three Kings - Flight into Egypt, detail</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: da Fabriano Gentile (ca. 1370-1427)</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	
<p>Title: Flight into Egypt</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: fra Angelico (ca. 1400-1455)</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	
<p>Title: Massacre of the Innocents Artwork in the Scrovegni Chapel (1304-1306)</p> <p>Attribution: Giotto, 1266?-1337. Massacre of the Innocents, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. HERE [retrieved December 26, 2019]. Original source: HERE</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	

Title: Flight into Egypt

Attribution: JESUS MAFA. Flight into Egypt, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. [HERE](#) [retrieved December 26, 2019]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: [HERE](#)).

CONTEMPORARY



Title: Refugees: Holy Family

Attribution: Latimore, Kelly. Refugees: Holy Family, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. [HERE](#) [retrieved December 26, 2019]. Original source: [HERE](#)

Licence: Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial ShareAlike 3.0

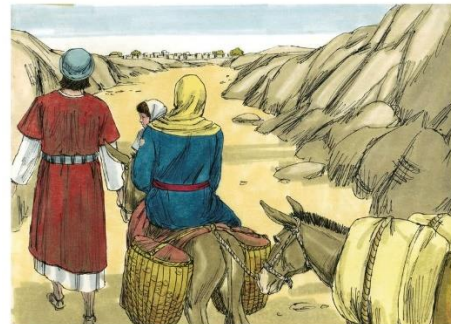
CONTEMPORARY



Title: Return to Nazareth

Source: [Wikimedia](#)

Attribution: Biblical illustrations by Jim Padgett, courtesy of Sweet Publishing, Ft. Worth, TX, and Gospel Light, Ventura, CA. Copyright 1984. [HERE](#)






Title: The Holy Family

Source: [Wikimedia](#)

Artist: Reverend Ally

CONTEMPORARY



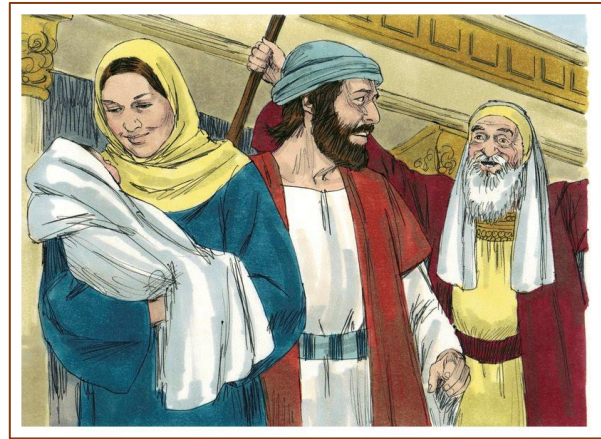
Feast of the Holy Family: Year B	Artwork based on readings: Year B
<p>Title: Purification and the Presentation in the Temple</p> <p>Miniature extracted from the Book of Hours of the Family Of Ovens. Library and Multimedia Library of Nancy, Ms. 1874 (fol 30v).</p> <p>Source: Wikimedia</p> <p>Artist: Unknown</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	
<p>Title: Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (detail)</p> <p>Source: Wikimedia</p> <p>Artist: Ambrogio Lorenzetti (1285–1348)</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	
<p>Title: The Young Jesus</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: Gerard (Gerrit) van Honthorst 1590 – 1656</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	

Title: Jesus' presentation at the Temple

Source: [Wikimedia](#)

Attribution: Biblical illustrations by Jim Padgett, courtesy of Sweet Publishing, Ft. Worth, TX, and Gospel Light, Ventura, CA. Copyright 1984. Released under new license, CC-BY-SA 3.0

CONTEMPORARY



Title: Meanwhile Jesus grew in maturity and wisdom

Source: [Wikimedia](#)

Attribution: Biblical illustrations by Jim Padgett, courtesy of Sweet Publishing, Ft. Worth, TX, and Gospel Light, Ventura, CA. Copyright 1984. Released under new license, CC-BY-SA 3.0

CONTEMPORARY



Title: The Holy Family

Source: [Wikimedia](#)

Artist: Unknown

CONTEMPORARY



Feast of the Holy Family: Year C	Artwork based on readings: Year C
<p>Title: The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: William Holman Hunt (1827–1910)</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	 <p>A detailed classical painting depicting the Finding of the Saviour in the Temple. Jesus, a young boy in a blue tunic, stands in the center, surrounded by a large crowd of people in traditional Middle Eastern attire. The scene is set in a grand, ornate temple interior with high ceilings and large windows.</p>
<p>Title: Jesus Found in the Temple (Jesus retrouvé dans le temple)</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: James Tissot (1836–1902)</p> <p>CLASSICAL</p>	 <p>A classical painting showing Jesus, a young boy in a brown robe, standing in the center of a group of people. He is surrounded by men in white robes and head coverings, who appear to be questioning him. The setting is a temple interior with stone floors and walls.</p>
<p>Title: Logo of the Sisters of the Holy Family</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: Sisters of the Holy Family</p> <p>CONTEMPORARY</p>	 <p>A contemporary logo featuring a stylized, colorful illustration of the Holy Family. Mary is on the left, Joseph is on the right, and the infant Jesus is in the center, all enclosed within a circular frame. The colors are vibrant and the style is modern.</p>
<p>Title: Stylized nativity scene</p> <p>Source: HERE</p> <p>Artist: Unknown</p> <p>CONTEMPORARY</p>	 <p>A contemporary, stylized illustration of a nativity scene. It features a bright yellow background with a sun-like symbol in the upper right corner. In the center, two figures are shown in a simple, modern style, one holding a small object. The overall aesthetic is clean and minimalist.</p>

Title: Unknown Holy Family

Source: [HERE](#)

Artist: JESUS MAFA, 1973

CONTEMPORARY



Title: Holy Family stained glass window in Warsaw, with Holy Spirit

Source: [HERE](#)

Artist: Unknown

CONTEMPORARY



Title: Holy Family

Source: [HERE](#)

Artist: unknown

LINE ART





This website has a number of really useful resources for the classroom. Some have been included here as screenshots but it is best to go to the website to download them as they are freely available. They include practical ideas for teaching and prayer from EYFS to KS2 and beyond. They can be found: [HERE](#).

THE LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH

Lord, have mercy on us,
Christ have mercy on us,
Lord, have mercy on us,
Jesus, hear us,

God the Father of heaven,
God the Son, Redeemer of the World,
God the Holy Spirit,
Holy Trinity, one God,

Holy Mary,
St. Joseph,
Renowned offspring of David,
Light of Patriarchs,
Spouse of the Mother of God,
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,
Foster father of the Son of God,
Diligent protector of Christ,
Head of the Holy Family,
Joseph most just,
Joseph most chaste,
Joseph most prudent,
Joseph most strong,
Joseph most obedient,
Joseph most faithful,
Mirror of patience,
Lover of poverty,
Model of artisans,
Glory of home life,
Guardian of virgins,
Pillar of families,
Solace of the wretched,
Hope of the sick,
Patron of the dying,
Terror of demons,
Protector of Holy Church,

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Jesus, graciously hear us.

Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
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Pray for us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

spare us, O Jesus.
graciously hear us, O Jesus.
have mercy on us, O Jesus.

He made him the lord of his household

And prince over all his possessions.

RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Symbols of the Pure Heart of St. Joseph



- This devotion is a companion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- The heart shows Joseph's love for the Universal Church
- The flames symbolize Joseph's desire for all to know the mercy of Christ
- The lilies represent Joseph's purity and holiness
- The M shows Joseph's role as the husband of Mary, and the Cross his connection as the foster father of Jesus

GETTING TO KNOW ST. JOSEPH

WEEK	PRAYER OF THE WEEK	BIBLE STORY TO READ	ACTIVITY	IDEAS & RESOURCES FOR PARENTS
WEEK ONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger Kids: The Sign of the Cross Older Kids: The Hail Mary Prayer Book St. Joseph Novena 	Joseph's Dream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 1:20-21 Questions to Ponder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were some of the amazing promises the angel told Joseph about Jesus? What would you do if an angel appeared to you in a dream? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose an intention and pray the St. Joseph Novena for nine days. Print, color, and write a note to a friend or family member in these St. Joseph cards. Stick a few cards in the mail this week to encourage others! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Joseph was a carpenter and used his skills to care for the Holy Family. This week build something out of wood- a toothpick tower, a toy block creation, or even try building or fixing something together using real tools! For grownups- Read all or part of Pope John Paul II's letter on St. Joseph called Redemptoris Custos
WEEK TWO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger Kids: The Hail Mary Older Kids: The Our Father Memorare of St. Joseph 	The Flight to Egypt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 2:13-14 Questions to Ponder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How did Joseph show the virtue of obedience? What are some ways you can work on being more obedient to God and to your parents and teachers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the Sleeping St. Joseph tradition using this booklet and these coloring pages here and here. Prayer cards available here. Pray the Memorare of St. Joseph together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Joseph guided the Holy Family from Nazareth to Bethlehem to Jerusalem to Egypt and then back to Nazareth. Look up those locations on a map and figure out how many miles they traveled. For grownups- Check out these awesome quotes about St. Joseph. Choose one to write in a journal, family message center, or hang on the fridge.
WEEK THREE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger Kids: The Glory Be Older Kids: The Apostles Creed Holy Family Prayer 	The Holy Family in Nazareth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luke 2:39-40 Questions to Ponder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In what town did Jesus grow up? What do you think Jesus' childhood was like? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Color and pray the Holy Family Prayer, available in cursive or in print. Try this St. Joseph digital Scavenger Hunt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A traditional food associated with St. Joseph is bread because he was the "bread winner" and provider for the Holy Family. Bake bread together this week with your family using your choice of yeast or quick breads. Here's one recipe to try if you'd like to make an Italian St. Joseph's Day Bread.
WEEK FOUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger Kids: The Our Father Older Kids: The Hail Holy Queen Litany of St. Joseph 	The Finding in the Temple <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luke 2:41-52 Questions to Ponder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How did Jesus surprise Mary and Joseph? What do you think wisdom is? How can we grow in wisdom? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pray the Litany of St. Joseph together. Choose one title of St. Joseph to draw a picture of and hang up in your home in honor of St. Joseph. Bonus Pure Heart of St. Joseph coloring page. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For grownups- Have you heard of the book Consecration to St. Joseph by Fr. Donald Calloway? It is a wonderful collection of writings by Saints and Popes about St. Joseph, organized and expanded on by Fr. Calloway. The best-selling book is a beautiful way to get to know Joseph better, and therefore draw closer to Jesus and Mary as well.

www.looktohimandberadiant.com



St Joseph – other resources

For a plethora of wonderful resources including assemblies and artwork for pupils created by Shrewsbury Diocese click [HERE](#)

For a reflection on St Joseph the worker and image by Georges de La Tour (1593–1652), “Saint Joseph the Carpenter”. [click HERE](#)

For a reflection on Joseph as the foster-father of St Joseph by St Bernardino of Siena [click HERE](#)

For a St Joseph the worker mosaic [click HERE](#)

For a reflection on the faith and integrity of St Joseph [click HERE](#)

For traditional hymns for St Joseph with lyrics and videos [click HERE](#). These can be sung or appreciated as poems

For copyright-free images of St Joseph click [HERE](#)

The set of logos below have been agreed by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and can be freely used and shared (p22 also).



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THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

3
DESIGNS

AVAILABLE IN **5** DIFFERENT WAYS

See over for SIZES & PRICES

THE YEAR OF
ST. JOSEPH



*Most watchful guardian
and loving father,
pray for us.*

Design code: **2021A**

THE YEAR OF
ST. JOSEPH



*Most watchful guardian
and loving father,
pray for us.*

Design code: **2021B**

THE YEAR OF
ST. JOSEPH



*Most watchful guardian
and loving father,
pray for us*

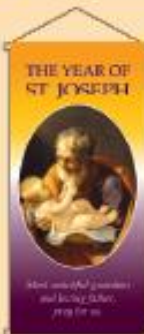
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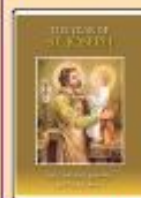
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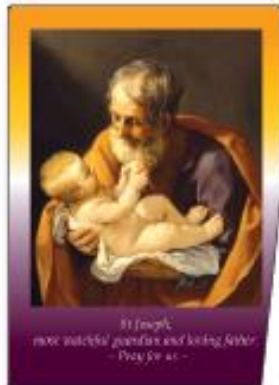
Celebrate the Year of St Joseph...

St Joseph Prayer Cards

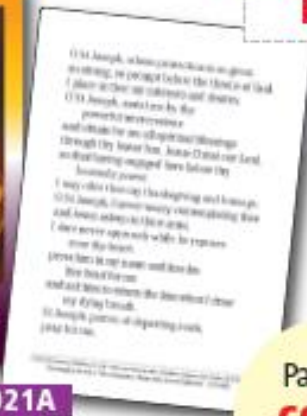
Size: (A7) / 74 x 105mm / 4 1/8" x 3"

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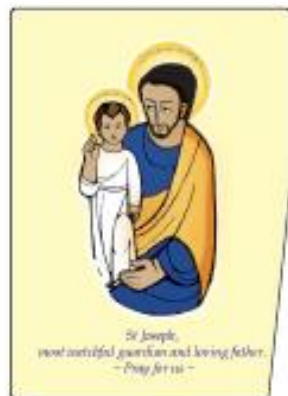
PC



Design code: **2021A**



Pack 25
£9.95
+ VAT



Design code: **2021C**



Design code: **1144**

The Holy Family

Artwork by Mike Torevell

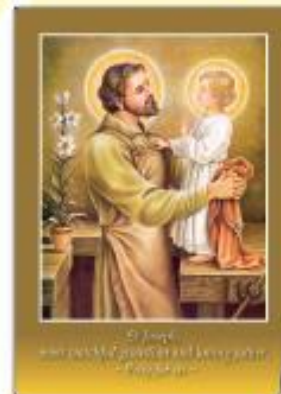
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- Wall Hanging Banners
- Roller Banners
- Lectern Frontals

See sizes & prices below...

Also available
as posters.

£3.95 + VAT
Order ref:
STP1144



Design code: **2021B**



HOW TO ORDER

Ordering by phone, email or text

- 1) Choose the **Product Prefix** for the item you want to order.
(eg: If you want a Banner, state '**BAN**'
Roller banner = '**RB**', Lectern Frontal = '**LF**'
- 2) Add the **Design** or **Order Code** as shown against each item.
- 3) If ordering Lectern Frontals or Wall Hanging Banners, add the **Size Code**.

Example of how to order

Product Prefix	Design Code	Size Code
LF	2021A	52

SIZES and PRICE

Product Prefix	Product Type	Size inches	Size cm	Price £
BAN	Wall Hanging Banners	52" x 24"	132 x 61	£99 + VAT each
BAN	"	78" x 35"	132 x 61	£199 + VAT each
LF	Lectern Frontals	30" x 14"	76.2 x 35.5	£59 + VAT each
LF	"	36" x 16.5"	91.5 x 42	£79 + VAT each
LF	"	40" x 18.5"	101.6 x 47	£89 + VAT each
LF	"	52" x 24"	132 x 61	£99 + VAT each
RB	Roller Banner	79" x 31.5"	200 x 80	£99 + VAT each
PC	Prayer Cards (pack 25)	4 1/8" x 3"	11.5 x 7.4	£9.95 + VAT

2021020104 dsi sample 44-2pp

Prices subject to change without prior notice

Sources and thanks

With thanks to

Fr Terry Tastard (Diocesan Censor)
Agency of Evangelisation
Caritas Westminster
Mission Together
McCrimmons

Images

All images from Pixabay and Flickr (Bishops Conference)

Videos

All videos from YouTube

Websites/sources used

The information about The Year of St Joseph and Patris Corde was taken from the following websites:

Vatican News: Pope Francis Proclaims a Year of St Joseph

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/the-year-of-st-joseph-what-catholics-need-to-know-44623>

<https://mycatholic.life/year-of-saint-joseph/>

The information from the Q&A about St Joseph was taken from the following websites:

<https://catholicstraightanswers.com/old-saint-joseph-jesus-born/>

<https://education.rcdow.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Mary-Copyright-Compliant-Reduced.pdf>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/23718573/joseph->

[of_nazareth#:~:text=The%20principal%20feast%20day%20of,in%20the%20Valley%20of%20Josaphat](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/23718573/joseph-of_nazareth#:~:text=The%20principal%20feast%20day%20of,in%20the%20Valley%20of%20Josaphat)

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<http://catholicpearl.blogspot.com/2016/03/st-joseph-model-for-all-earthly-fathers.html>

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<https://yearofstjoseph.org/devotions/sacred-artwork/>

<https://soulpainter.com/2015/03/symbols-of-saint-joseph-in-sacred-art/>

<https://sharinginfaith.com/the-holy-family-and-what-we-can-learn-from-them/>