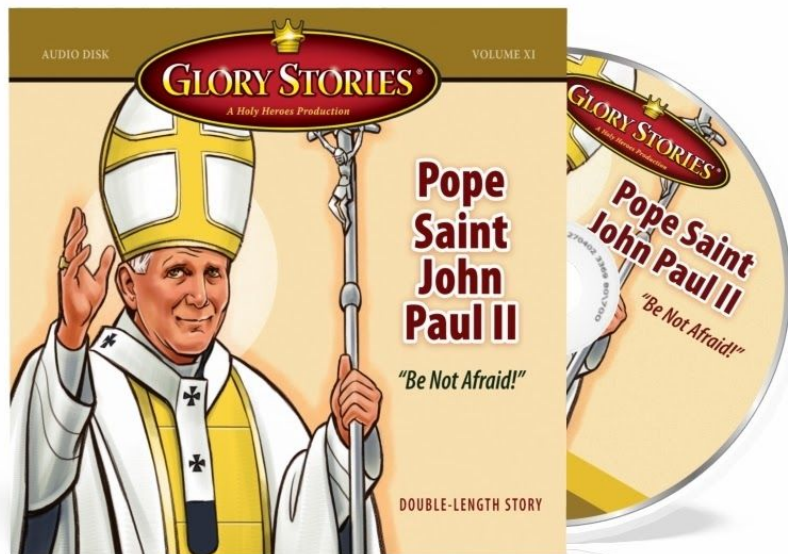




Pope Saint John Paul II
"Be Not Afraid"

EDUCATION GUIDE FOR PARENTS



Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on St. John Paul II!

We hope you enjoy listening to this audio drama as much as we had fun creating it!

Like many parents or teachers, you may be wondering how best to use your newly-acquired audio drama. Never fear!

Here are **7 ideas** on how to use your new St. John Paul II Glory Story:

1. During Car Rides or Road Trips

“We love learning about saints, and my children ask me to play the glory stories over and over in the car!! They never get tired of hearing the stories!!” – Joanna from Friendswood, TX

Play the Glory Story while driving to your next field trip or event! Kids will stay interested in the story and characters (instead of the next pit-stop!)

2. In the Classroom

“It is great reinforcement for any reading you are doing on the Saints.” – Mom of 5 from Albuquerque, NM

Supplement your CCD or religious education classes with Glory Stories! Play small sections of the Glory Story each class and pose a discussion question. Our suggested questions on page 3 will aid you in lesson planning!

3. Celebrating Feast Days

“When your grandson calls you and is jumping up and down with joy over a gift you know you found the perfect item” – Diane from San Diego, CA

Use the Glory Story as part of your feast day celebrations! Mark October 22 (the day of St. John Paul II’s election to the papacy) in your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to his story! Play the Glory Story, eat a yummy Polish treat, and have kids make a cool craft! For ideas on décor, activities, and more, check out our “St. John Paul II” board on [Pinterest!](#)

4. Gifts for Birthdays or Receiving Sacraments

“I love all the Glory Stories, but this is definitely one of my faves! What a perfect First Holy Communion present!” – Holly from Aberdeen, NC

Know someone named John Paul, Karol, or Lolek? Is your child or grandchild receiving First Holy Communion soon? What better gift than a Glory Story to both further their religious education and let them know they are loved!

5. Parenting Tools

“Our whole family enjoys listening to the lovingly written & read stories. A great way to help us think like saints.” – Michelle from Larkspur, CO

Use the Glory Story to bring up important and relevant topics with your kids. Listening to the story can help start conversations about treating others with respect, telling the truth, and other virtues!

6. Donations to Parish or School Community

“I can't say enough on how great these CDs teach and entertain.” – Jennifer from Quincy, IL

Know people in your parish community who could use a Glory Story or two? Donate a copy to your parish library, Catholic school, or daycare!

7. Afternoon Down-Time or Bedtime

“A great way to use what would be wasted time; now we use it learning about God. Thank you!” – Homeschool Mom

Give momma a well-deserved break! Entertain the kids without having to turn on the TV! Kids will exercise their imagination, creativity, and listening skills while learning about their faith...it's a win-win! Or, pop in a Glory Story Audio Drama before bedtime to help kids wind down from the day.

[Collect the entire set!](http://www.holyheroes.com) Visit www.holyheroes.com today!



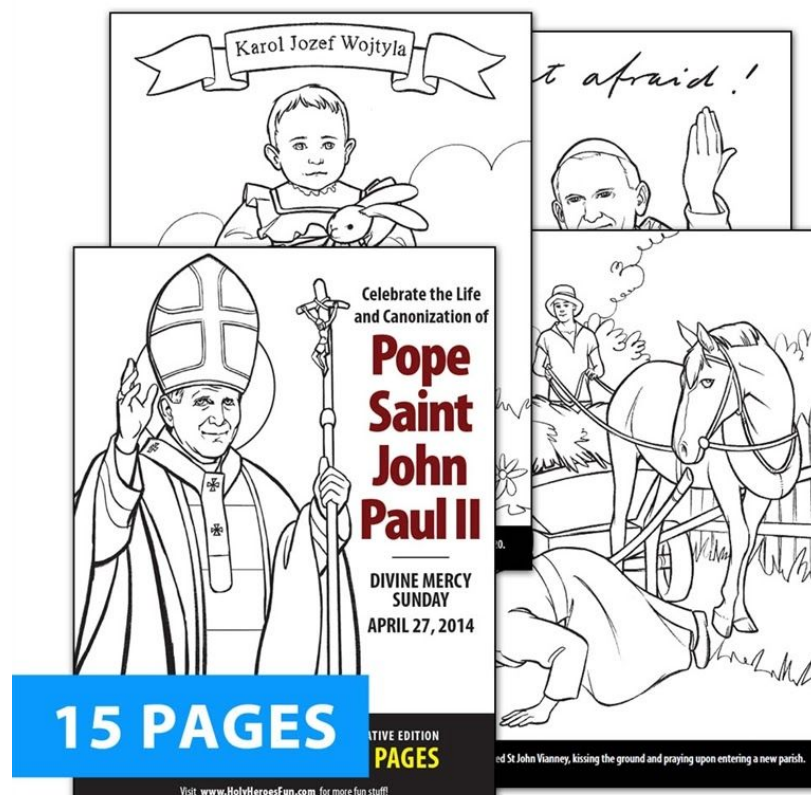
Discussion Questions

Not sure how to talk about the story with your kids? We've created a list of discussion questions for you! Of course, feel free to adapt or omit these questions based on your child's age, maturity, interests, attention span, etc.

Note: Note: St. John Paul II's Glory Story is a "double-length story," which means it runs about 56 minutes long, and does not pair with another saint's life (like many of our other Glory Stories).

1. What were the names of Karol's brother, father, and mother? *Edmund, Karol, Emilia.*
Bonus point: what did Lolek's brother grow up to be? *A doctor.*
2. What was a time in the Gospels when Jesus trusted in God his Father? What did He say during that time? *The Agony in the Garden, "thy will be done."* What about Mary his Mother? Did she say something similar to the Angel? *The Annunciation, "I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word."*
3. What phrase did Lolek's father often repeat from the New Testament? (thy will be done)
4. Why do we not need to be afraid? Because ?? Do we need to understand God's plan all the time? What is God's plan for everyone? For us to be with him in heaven. What was a time when you trusted in God's plan? What happened?
5. Why do bad things happen in the world? *God allows bad things to happen, but uses the good and the bad to give us everything we need. Everything works out to accomplish His plan. God will always give us the strength to keep serving Him*
6. Part of God's plan is asking others for help and helping others. It can be hard to swallow our pride and admit that we can't do it alone! Sometimes, we might even believe the lie that no one cares about helping us, or that we shouldn't bother someone with our problems. That is a lie from the devil! We are called to reach out to others, but also to accept help when it is offered to us! Share a time you had to ask someone for help. How did it feel, and what ended up happening?
7. What war started when Karol was in university? *World War II* Do you know what subjects Karol studied at university before seminary? *Literature and Theatre*
8. Even the saints weren't 100% perfect...what was one flaw of Karol's? *He was always late!*
9. Who was the saint that Karol strove to imitate as a parish priest? *The Cure of Ars, St. John Vianney*

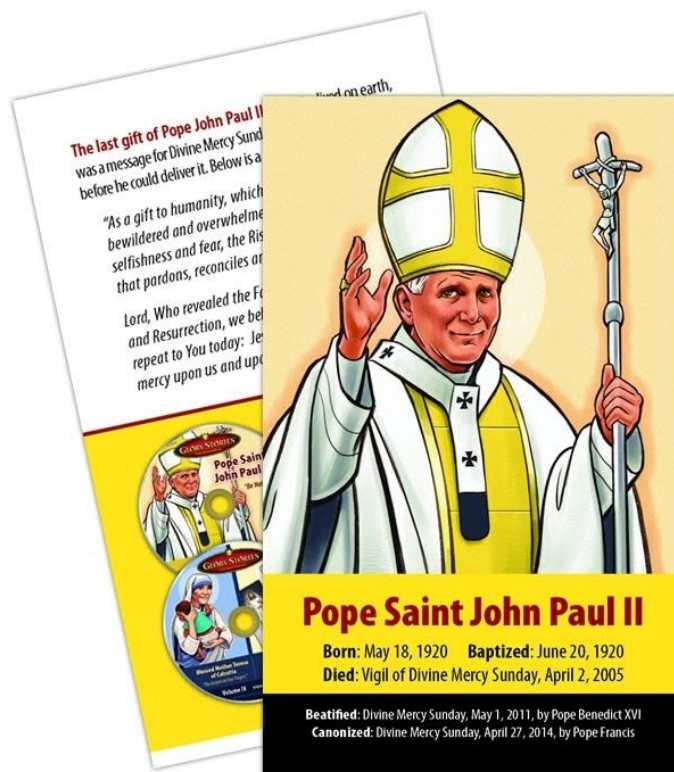
10. What did Karol love to do with the university students? *Kayaking, hiking.* What would Karol use as an altar when he was on trips with the university students? *An overturned kayak*
11. How old was Karol when he became a bishop? *38...young for the time!*
12. What day did Karol Wojtyla become Pope? *October 22nd, 1978...his feast day is celebrated not on the day that he passed away, but on the day he became Pope!*
13. Why did he take the name John Paul II? *Because of his affection for the late John Paul I and devotion to Pope Paul VI.*
14. St. John Paul II was the third longest serving pope in history...26 years! He was also the first non-Italian Pope in 455 years! During his papacy, someone attempted to assassinate him. St. John Paul II could have tried to get revenge on his would-be-killer, but instead he visited him in prison and forgave him. Who else is always ready to forgive us, no matter how many sins we commit? *Jesus, in the Sacrament of Confession!*
15. What was St. John Paul II's favorite gospel? Hint: there are 4 options! *The Gospel of John*
16. Who was the pope after John Paul II? *Pope Benedict XVI, formerly Cardinal Ratzinger...they were good friends.* Do you have a friend who you go to church with, pray with, and encourage in their faith? Make an effort to reach out to them and thank them for their witness to Christ. Remember, saints come in pairs...we need the community of others to help us get to heaven!



Definitions to Know

Is your child struggling with an unfamiliar word or phrase? Here are a few of the harder terms to understand or pronounce (and suggested ways to explain them)!

- o **Our Lady of Czestochowa** - Pronounced “Chesta-cove-a.” A painting, also known as the Black Madonna. Legend says that St. Luke painted this picture! It is displayed at the Jansa Gora Monastery in Poland.
- o **Divine Providence** - The idea that God has a plan for everyone, and that he carries out this plan by taking care of us all the time. (Psst, the book [Trustful Surrender to Divine Providence](#) is great for adults and teens who want to learn more about this idea!)
- o **Lolek** - Karol Wojtyla’s nickname as a child, partly to distinguish him from his father, who was also named Karol
- o **Habemus Papam!** - The traditional saying when a new pope is elected! It’s Latin for “We have a Papa!”



Activity Ideas

Help your kids retain the Glory Story through a fun activity! We recommend brainstorming some simple but fun ways your family or class can practice St. John Paul II's virtues.

Here are a few of our own! As always, adapt or create a project that is perfect for your family or classroom!

- o **Pray the Stations of the Cross as a family!** It's a beautiful tradition you can pray all year 'round (not just during Lent)! [These Stations of the Cross Prayer Booklets](#) help everyone follow along! To make things easy on the parents, we've created a [Holy Heroes Stations of the Cross Audio CD](#); with this option, children lead the devotionals and prayers, helping your kids feel included!

To keep the littles focused, give them the [Road to Calvary Coloring Book](#). It's bilingual, so it can be used with multiple groups of kids!

- o **Get outside and go on a hike!** If your family is on the adventurous side, why not learn to kayak? St. John Paul II loved nothing more than to be in God's nature and appreciate the beauty of the created world!
- o **Take a virtual tour of Poland!** The country continues to have a strong Catholic culture, and like most of Europe, there are churches, cathedrals, and shrines everywhere! Check the "Additional Resources" page in this Education Guide for some relevant sites to St. John Paul II's life!
- o **Eat perogies!** They're dumplings usually filled with a cheesy potato filling. Find them in the frozen section of the grocery store, or make your own! Authentic pierogi can be time consuming, so [here's a recipe that even the kids can help with](#) (courtesy of Chef John from [Food Wishes.com](#)). Alternatively, there might be a nearby Eastern European restaurant, or even a Polish cultural group at your parish that is willing to do a demonstration for your family or co-op!
- o **Put on a play in St. John Paul II's honor!** Did you know that John Paul II was a poet, playwright, and actor? He founded the Rhapsodic Theater as part of the Polish Cultural Resistance during World War II. Since conditions were dangerous, they had to keep props, sets, and movement simple (in case they were discovered by German soldiers).

Instruct your kids to write their own play! Perhaps they could retell St. John Paul II's story, or another saint's story! It doesn't have to have the perfect costumes or fancy props...remember, even St. John Paul II didn't have a lot to work with! Challenge them to use their imaginations and create what they need using what they have around the house! Also, say a prayer to St. John Paul II before you start the show!

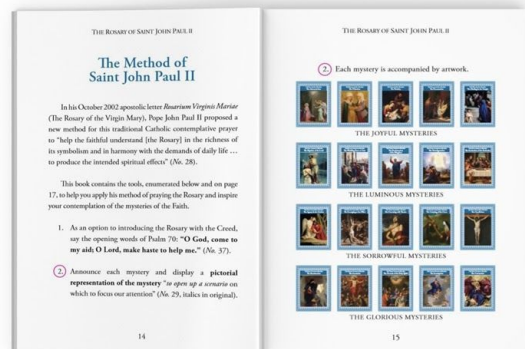
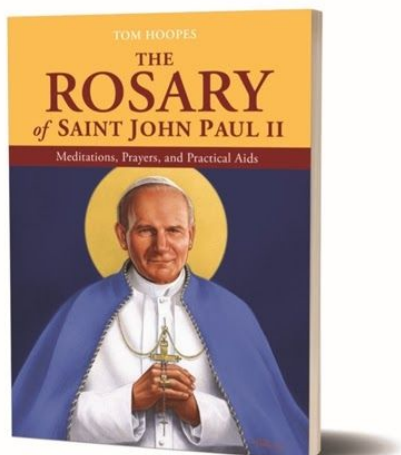
- o **Create an art gallery on the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary!** We have these mysteries thanks to St. John Paul II. Have them draw or paint one picture for every mystery, then display them for all to admire...even little ones can join in with fingerpaint!
- o **Interview an adult or two about what they remember from St. John Paul II's papacy!** You can film it like a news special (get permission from the adult first!) or have your child write up the answers like a newspaper article. St. John Paul II died on April 2, 2005...maybe you even remember where you were when you heard the news that John Paul II had entered heaven!

Have your kid come up with relevant questions to ask! For example: did they get to visit Rome and see him? What was the Pope's effect on their life?

- o **Contact some other families and do your own Living Rosary!** You could give each child and parent one decade to pray every day for a week (or if you have a large parish or school, one decade per family or classroom)! Remember, although there were only 15 mysteries of the rosary when Karol was a young man, there are now 20 ([Joyful](#), [Sorrowful](#), [Glorious](#), and [Luminous](#))!

While you're at it, why not order [The Rosary of Saint John Paul II](#) book for every family involved? It contains everything you need to rediscover the Rosary by praying the way Saint John Paul II recommended. It comes with gorgeous sacred art to aid in meditation, and has received critical acclaim from Catholics across the globe.

Younger ones will love using the [Bead-by-Bead Picture Prayer Books](#) during family prayer time; the pictures both engage and keep wandering minds on track! You can purchase these adorable books [individually](#), or as a complete set.



Additional Resources

Need more ideas? Check out these cool books, websites, and more!

Books:

Witness to Hope - George Weigel

Love and Responsibility - Karol Wojtyla

St. John Paul the Great: His Five Loves - Jason Evert

The Place Within: The Poetry of Pope John Paul II - Saint Pope John Paul II

The Jeweler's Shop - Karol Wojtyla

[*Catechism of the Catholic Church* - promulgated by Saint Pope John Paul II](#)

[*The Rosary of St. John Paul II* - Tom Hoopes](#)

Movies:

Witness to Hope: The Life of John Paul II - 2018

Karol: The Man who Became Pope - 2005

Pope John Paul II (feat. Jon Voight and Cary Elwes) - 2006

The Jeweler's Shop (feat. Olivia Hussey and Burt Lancaster) - 2006

Websites / Pilgrimage:

[St. John Paul II National Shrine \(Washington, DC, USA\)](#)

[The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa \(Doylestown, PA, USA\)](#)

[Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary / Bazylika Wadowice \(childhood parish\)](#)

[St. John Paul II's Family Home \(now a museum\)](#)

[The Sanctuary of Kalwaria Zebrzydowska \(a favorite pilgrimage spot for the pope\)](#)

[The Wawel Royal Cathedral \(where Karol served at Mass\)](#)

This Glory Story pairs well with these Holy Heroes Products!

[Holy Heroes Spiritual Journal](#)

[The Luminous Mysteries: Holy Heroes CD and Coloring Book](#)

[Saint John Paul II Tiny Saints Charm](#)

[Pope Saint John Paul II Prayer Pillowcase](#)

[Blessed Brothers Prayer Pillowcase](#)

[Pope Saint John Paul II 15-Page Coloring Book](#)

[Pope Saint John Paul II Prayer Card](#)





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