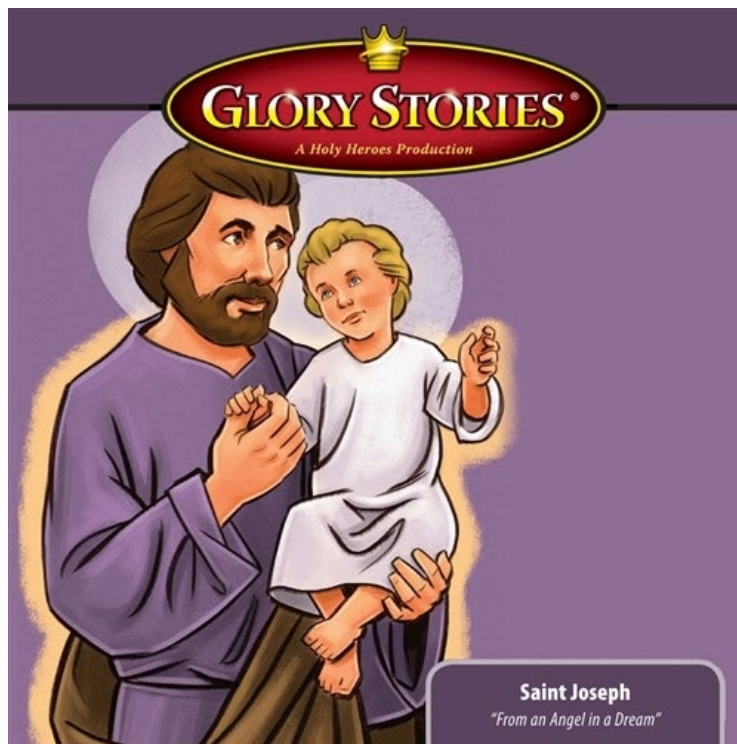




Saint Joseph
"You are Blessed by My Father"
EDUCATION GUIDE FOR PARENTS



Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on Saint Joseph!

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 Saint Joseph 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 March 19 and May 1 in your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to his story! Play the Glory Story, print some coloring pages, and have kids make a cool craft! For ideas on décor, activities, and more, check out our “Saint Joseph” 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 Joseph? 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 and comprehension 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: St. Joseph is featured on the same CD as St. Katharine Drexel (another Holy Hero with her own, separate study guide)! For questions connecting their two stories, see the next section. St. Joseph's story starts on Track 1 of the CD.

1. St. Joseph's story teaches us that true goodness lies in silent obedience to God. What does "silent obedience" look like for us today? How do our actions often speak louder than our words?
2. Who was one of Joseph's great great great great great great grandfathers? *King David*
3. What was Joseph's line of work? *He was a carpenter!*
4. What did the Angel say to Joseph in a dream (the first time)? *Mary was pregnant with the Savior, Jesus!*
5. Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem for the census, because Joseph was descended from the line of David (who came from Bethlehem). Do you know where you were born?
6. Did you catch how many miles it was to Bethlehem? *80 miles...1 hour and 20 minute drive today, but much longer by foot!*
7. Where was Jesus born? *Inside a cave used as a stable.*
8. Where did Joseph and Mary flee after Jesus was born? *Egypt.*
9. How old was Jesus when he was lost in the temple? *12 years old...probably not much older than you are!*
10. Why should we be obedient to our parents and teachers? Are there any situations where we shouldn't be obedient to them? *We should be obedient because Jesus was obedient to his earthly parents. St. Joseph was a good dad to Jesus, and never asked him to do anything wrong...we should disobey authority figures only if they ask us to do something that would offend God.*
11. What is St. Joseph the patron saint of? *A happy death, the universal church, fathers, and workers.*

Connecting the Saints

Use these questions to connect the two stories featured on the CD!

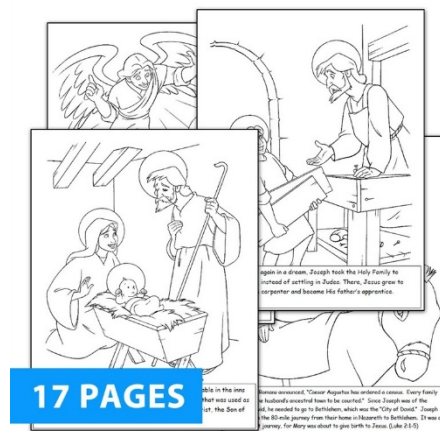
1. Do you see any similarities or differences between Joseph and Katharine? *Possible answers: were obedient, chose different vocations, came from different backgrounds, etc.*
2. Do you think they would have been good friends on earth? Do you think they are good friends in heaven?
3. When you get to heaven, what would you want to ask them? What do you think they would say?

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)!

- **Betrothed** - in the Jewish tradition, when a couple is engaged and not yet living together
- **Foster father** - another way to say adoptive father. Jesus was not Joseph's biological son, but he cared for him as if he was his own!
- **Census** - an official count or survey of a population
- **Planer** (pronounced "plane - er") - a tool used in carpentry to reduce the thickness of wood

Need an easy activity? [Download Holy Heroes St. Joseph Coloring Pages!](#)



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 Saint Joseph's virtues.

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

Incorporate wood into your learning!

St. Joseph was a carpenter, and passed on his trade to the child Jesus. Your little ones might be too young for woodcarving tools, but you can still incorporate wood into your curriculum! It has a unique tactile feel that intrigues kids, and is sturdy enough to withstand hours of play.

Kids can use their imaginations to play with wooden blocks ([check out these saint ones!](#)). Also, popsicle sticks make great craft bases...use them to make crosses, people, and more!

For older kids (especially boys) who are ready to work with real tools under supervision, [websites like this one](#) have some great beginning projects to do with dad!

Make St. Joseph pasta for dinner!

A hearty meal of spaghetti with breadcrumbs and parmesan cheese is a great vegetarian option for Lent! This is a popular dish for Italians on March 19th and Christmas Eve...the breadcrumbs and shaved cheese call to mind the sawdust which coated Joseph's carpenter's workshop!

The dish couldn't be simpler...use your favorite jarred pasta sauce, cook the noodles according to package directions, and sprinkle plenty of cheese! For the very adventurous, [try an authentic recipe like this one](#), one that contains the traditional anchovies and nuts!

Pray for your dad as a family or classroom!

Our dads work hard to protect their families...honor and encourage him by teaching your children this prayer! It is an ancient one from the early Christian church. For those who are missing their fathers, use this prayer to ask Joseph to be a heavenly father.

It takes only 30 seconds to pray...you may want to consider making it a novena prayer leading up to St. Joseph's feast day! [Here's a FREE printout](#) to hang on the fridge as a reminder!

*O, Saint Joseph,
whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God,
I place in you all my interests and desires.*

*O, Saint Joseph,
do assist me by your powerful intercession,*

*and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings,
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
So that,
having engaged here below your heavenly power,
I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.*

*O, Saint Joseph,
I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms;
I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart.
Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me
and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.
Saint Joseph, Patron of departing souls,
pray for me.*

Learn about the Works of Mercy!

St. Joseph quietly practiced virtue while leading the Holy Family. Use the [Works of Mercy Card Game](#) and its accompanying [activity book](#) to teach kids about these important acts. Then, brainstorm ways the family can put them into practice!

Perhaps the kids can make cards for their dad, grandfather, or a father figure in your life (it could be a pastor, principal, etc.). Include what you love about them, your favorite memories with them, etc. Older kids can write a longer letter, explaining how their example inspires them to be sons and daughters of God! The recipients are sure to be very touched by this!

St. Joseph is also the patron of a happy death...visiting a cemetery and praying for the souls in Purgatory is a Work of Mercy as well! Remind your kids that everyone can prepare for a happy death, and that this is a joyful thing—we have to die to get to heaven forever!

Additional Resources

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

Books:

Patris Corde (The Heart of the Father) - Pope Francis I

Day by Day with St. Joseph - Msgr. Joseph Champlin & Msgr. Ken Lasch

Staircase for the Sisters: A Story of Prayer and St. Joseph - Pamela Love

Consecration to St. Joseph - Fr. Donald Calloway

St. Joseph and his World - Mike Aquilina

[His Angels at Our Side](#) - Fr. John Horgan

[The Great Adventure Catholic Bible](#)

[Read-Aloud Book of Bible Stories](#) - Amy Steedman

[Who is Jesus / The Life of Jesus \(Set\) - Gaelle Tertrais](#)
[The Picture Bible - Iva Hoth and David C. Cook](#)

Websites / Pilgrimage*:

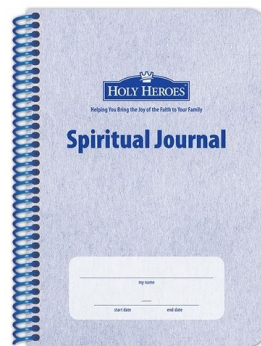
**We've provided links to virtual tours when available! If the church doesn't have a website, we've tried to link a website with good photos to show kids (or you can search on Google!)*

[House of the Holy Family, Loretto, Italy](#) (there are also replicas located in [Loretto, Prague](#), and [Ashbury, New Jersey](#)!)

[Grotto at Bethlehem, Holy Land](#) (now a church, there are several 360 degree videos out there of the place where Jesus was born!)

[Staircase of Loretto Chapel, Santa Fe, NM](#) (no virtual tours of the space exist; however, this article has a good explanation of the mystery of the staircase, as well as pictures to show kids!)

This Glory Story pairs well with these Holy Heroes Products!



[Holy Heroes Spiritual Journal](#)
[St. Joseph Coloring Page Download](#)
[The Joyful Mysteries / Childhood of Jesus Set](#)
[Works of Mercy Set](#)