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SERIES 3 **CURRICULUM** **VIRTUE CAMPAIGN #1**



GOOD SAINT JOSEPH
Book by Father Lovasik, S.V.D.



SAINT STORY

SERIES 3
VIRTUE CAMPAIGN
#1

SAINT JOSEPH



Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture. We know he was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?" (Matthew 13:55). He wasn't rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24). Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage.

He was a relative of David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38). Indeed, the angel who first tells Joseph about Jesus greets him as "son of David," a royal title used also for Jesus. We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He planned to divorce Mary according to the law but he was concerned for her suffering and safety. We know Joseph was man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23). We know Joseph loved Jesus. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48). We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son for over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4:22) We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary purified after Jesus' birth. We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man. Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry. We celebrate two feast days for Joseph: March 19 for Joseph the Husband of Mary and May 1st for Joseph the Worker.



VIDEO: A video "Discovering our Saints – St. Joseph the Worker" can be found on the Adult Leader USB drive.



WEEK #1

SERIES 3
VIRTUE CAMPAIGN
#1



#1

SET UP, CHECK IN AND ARRIVAL



- Make sure the boys turn in the Conquest membership cards at this time each week.
- Please see the “Check-In and Arrival Time” chart in Chapter 6 - Section 1 - Goals and Methods for assistance.



#2

OPENING PRAYER



Dear Lord, thank you for everything you have given to us, especially our families, our friends and Conquest. Please help us to grow in the virtue of **LOYALTY** so we can become more like you in all that we say and do. We also ask Mary, our tender, loving Mother in heaven and St. Joseph to pray for us this day. May we all show respect and **LOYALTY** toward our leaders today and have an enjoyable meeting. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Christ Our King. | Your Kingdom Come! |
| ▪ Mary, Queen of the Family. | Pray for us! |

POINT TALLY

- An ongoing tally of points is shared with the participants at the beginning, middle, and end of each meeting time.
 - Program leadership should briefly announce the updated scores among squads beginning with 4th place and continuing to 1st place.
 - Make sure to use the Conquest Points Tracker Poster each meeting to keep tally of the points.
- The points system is a simple, yet vitally important element of the program methodology as it serves to keep the competitive, motivational environment enlivened at all times.



TRANSITION TO COMPETITIVE SPORTS

- Please see “Transition Times” chart in Chapter 6 in Section 1 - Goals and Methods for assistance.



SPORTS OR DYNAMIC ACTIVITY



Competitive Sports or Dynamic Activity (See Appendix II - Ideas) are a vital part of our program. It is within this segment that the boy experiences fun and physical activity in a structured and healthy environment. Reward is given for effort, courage, and team work, as well as, sportsmanship, respect, self-discipline and more.

- Code Checks are an essential part of the Junior Leadership Program and they should be conducted during the competitive sports or dynamic activity. They serve as a viable means by which each boy is continually being reinforced and challenged in the area of virtue development in his life. See Chapter 5 in Section 1 - Goals and Methods for assistance.



SNACK AND MIDWAY POINT TALLY



It is suggested to have a mid-meeting snack period during the meetings. Here, families are encouraged to take turns in providing a simple snack (i.e. water and pretzels, milk and cookies, chips and juice). A meal prayer is said before the snack time and after the snack time. Boys receive and consume their snack in an orderly fashion within their squad.

Typically, the squad with the highest number of points at the beginning of the meeting will receive their snack first, followed by second, third and so forth. A competition for cleanest area after the snack should be implemented, as well as, points for self-discipline, order and more. This is a good time for Program Leaders to also do a mid-meeting tally of points so as to maintain maximum motivation in the boys.

Snack time is also a good time to less formally quiz boys on particular faith related topics such as liturgical feast days, mysteries and/decades of the rosary, various trivia and memorization items involving the 10 commandments and the like. The snack time should take no longer than 10 minutes.

As snack time is ending, program leadership should briefly announce the updated scores among squads beginning with 4th place and continuing to 1st place.



FAITH AND VIRTUE INSTRUCTION



ROSARY:



Start by praying a decade of the Rosary. This campaign we will pray the “Joyful Mysteries”. We will pray the first Joyful Mystery, the “Incarnation of the Son of God.”

Choose a boy to lead, and pray together - 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, and 1 Glory Be.

Quiz the boys on the names of all 5 decades of the Joyful Mysteries and reward points for correct answers.

1. The Incarnation of the Son of God
2. Our Lady visits her cousin Elizabeth
3. The Nativity – The birth of our Lord Jesus
4. The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple
5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

What days are the Joyful Mysteries prayed? - (Mondays and Saturdays)

Please see “Transition Times” chart in Chapter 6 - Section 1 - Goals and Methods for assistance.

LOYALTY DEFINED



Faithfulness to God and others.

WEEK 1 VIRTUE FOCUS: LOYALTY WITH GOD



Give the boys some concrete examples of living this virtue in their daily lives.

- I will use **loyalty** to say my prayers faithfully every day and grow closer to God.
- I will use **loyalty** to be faithful to my commitments on my Conquest member card every day.
- I will use **loyalty** to take an extra minute out of the day and say hello to Jesus before I play.
- I will use **loyalty** to trust in God even when I don't like something that is happening.
- I will use **loyalty** to focus on God in Mass and not be unfaithful by distracting others.

- Ask the boys for their own examples.

LIVE VIRTUE AT HOME



Choose one of the examples above to have the boys work on throughout the week at home. Ensure that you stop (or ask another adult leader) and take the time to write that commitment on their Conquest membership cards before giving them back to the boys. Remind the boys to tell their parents the daily commitment to earn points at home.

FAITH AND VIRTUE INSTRUCTION READING



“GOOD SAINT JOSEPH” book by Fr Lovasik

Read pages 1-16

For point distribution, please review the “Faith and Virtue Instruction Time” chart in Chapter 6 - Section 1 - Goals and Methods for assistance.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION



Page 2

1. What town was Joseph, the young carpenter, from? A: Nazareth
2. Yes or No - Was Joseph loyal to God by loving Him and serving him faithfully? A: Yes
3. What was the name of the angel that appeared to Mary? A: Gabriel
4. Yes or No - Mary showed loyalty to God by saying “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.” A: Yes

Page 3

5. Yes or No – Joseph was not loyal to God because he didn’t listen to the angel and ended up leaving Mary. A: No
6. What name did the angel tell Joseph to give the child? A: Jesus

Page 4

7. Yes or No – Joseph became the true husband of the Virgin Mary? A: Yes

Page 5

8. Fill in the blank. No one, after God, loved Joseph as much as _____ did. A: Mary
9. Fill in the blanks. _____ and _____ are an example of the kind of love husbands and wives should have for each other. A: Mary, Joseph

Page 6

10. What Roman Emperor ordered all the people to be counted in the places in which their families had come? A: Augustus
11. Fill in the blank. Mary and Joseph, being of the family of _____, left their home in Nazareth and traveled to _____. A: Bethlehem

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12. Since the town was crowded, where did Joseph take his wife to stay? A: Stable

13. Yes or No – Joseph was very sad that he could not find a better place for his wife to rest peacefully. A: Yes

Page 8

14. Fill in the blank. Mary and Joseph wrapped baby Jesus in soft clothes and laid him in a _____. A: Manger

Page 9

15. Yes or No – Joseph knew this child was the Son of God, the Savior of the World. A: Yes
16. Who were tending their sheep in a field near Bethlehem? A: Shepherds

Page 10

17. Fill in the blanks. The angels in the field with the shepherds were praising God and saying “_____ to God in high heaven, _____ on earth to those on whom his favor rests”. A: Glory, Peace
18. Yes or No – Did the shepherds go to Bethlehem to seek the child Savior? A: Yes

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19. How many days after the birth of the child was the name “Jesus” given to him? A: Eight
20. What does the name “Jesus” mean? A: “Savior”

Page 12

21. How many days old was Jesus when Mary and Joseph brought him to the temple? A: Forty
22. According to Jewish law, the first child born in a family belonged to whom? A: God

Page 13

23. What was the name of the pious man from Jerusalem who was told he would not die until he had seen the Messiah? A: Simeon
24. Yes or No – When Simeon picked up and held the baby Jesus in the temple; did he know that the child was the Messiah? A: Yes
25. Fill in the blank. Simeon said to Mary “This child will bring salvation to many, and you will be pierced with a _____ of suffering”. A: Sword
26. Yes or No – Joseph was going to be loyal and stand by Jesus and Mary and any suffering which God wanted them to bear. A: Yes

Page 14

27. What were the wise men called who arrived from the east to visit the newborn King? A: Magi

Page 15

28. Who was the King of Jerusalem that was fearful of the newborn King? A: Herod
29. What did the Magi follow to find the newborn King? A: Star
30. Yes or No – Were the Magi loyal in following God’s instructions from their dream? A: Yes

Page 16

31. In Joseph’s dream, who did the angel say wanted to kill the child Jesus? A: Herod



LEADER TALK AND REFLECTION



Tell a story about the virtue and use the scripture below for a quick reflection. Talks should never exceed 10 minutes in length in an effort to maximize the attention span of the boys.

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR WEEK 1 SIRACH 15:15

“If you choose you can keep the commandments; it is loyalty to do his will.”

POINT TALLY



Program leadership should briefly announce the updated scores among squads beginning with 4th place and continuing to 1st place. This serves to maintain motivation between meetings.



CLOSING PRAYER



Dear Lord, thank you for all the gifts and blessings you have given us during our meeting today. Help us to live the virtue of **LOYALTY** with our families, our friends and our neighbors so we can be more like you. We also ask St Joseph to pray for us and Mary to be with us. May she place her mantle of protection over us and lead us to her Son. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Christ Our King. | Your Kingdom Come! |
| ▪ Mary, Queen of the Family. | Pray for us! |



DEPARTURE

Program leadership must assure a safe and orderly departure from the meeting.

A systematic plan should be established by which parents enter the facility to pick up their son from his squad.

- A boy should not depart from his squad until his parents arrive.
- A boy should never be released from a meeting to anyone other than his parents unless otherwise requested or authorized by the parents themselves.