

Children's Newsletter

St Mary's

3rd Sunday
of Lent

John 4:5-42

Today Jesus talks to the woman at the well. Nothing very surprising you might think. But Jewish men did not speak to women they did not know and Jews did not speak to Samaritans. They were considered different somehow. Are we like that? Do we turn away from others because we think they are different? How would it feel if people treated us as 'different'? Perhaps we should be more like Jesus and treat everyone the way we would like to be treated.

Jesus was showing us that God loved everyone and sent His son to us all.



Tabernacle Lamp

In all Catholic churches a special lamp burns night and day before the Tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is held.

The candle is often in a red glass container. Can you find ours?



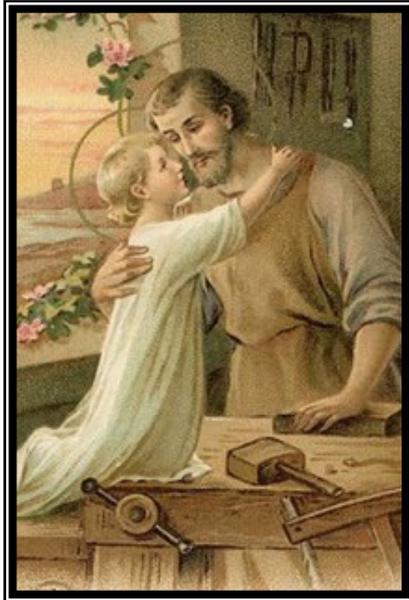
St Joseph

We do not know much about Joseph who was the husband of Mary and foster-father of Jesus.

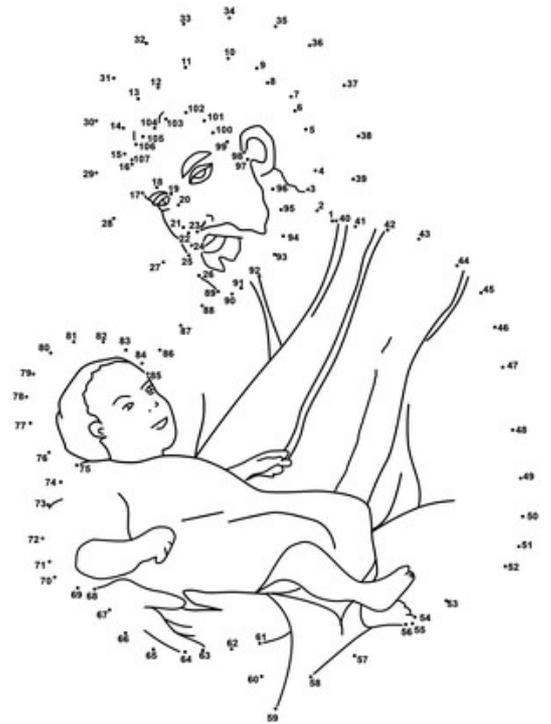
We do know that he was a carpenter and that he probably taught Jesus to be a carpenter also. We know that one of his ancestors was King David and the angel who comes to him calls him a son of David.

We know he respected God and obeyed God when he was asked to take Mary as his wife and to look after the baby, Jesus.

He must have loved Jesus and been a caring father because when the angel came 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.



St Joseph's feast day is March 19th



St Patrick

Patron Saint of Ireland

Patrick was born around 385 and his parents were Romans. As a boy of fourteen or so, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. During his captivity, he turned to God in prayer.

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he was reunited with his family.

He had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more." He studied for many years to become a priest. Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop, and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. Patrick began preaching the Gospel throughout Ireland, converting many. He and his disciples preached and converted thousands and began building churches all over the country.

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in his writings called 'Confessions'. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461. His feast day is March 17th.

