

# mary and Joseph

Models of Faith and Love

**First century**

**Feast of the Holy Family:**

**Sunday after Christmas**  
**(or December 30 if Sunday after**  
**Christmas is January 1)**

**Patronage:**

**Christian families**

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**Liguori**

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## Dedication

To my family:  
my parents Jim and Peg,  
my husband Bill,  
our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin,  
and our precious grandchildren  
Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege of  
teaching throughout the years.

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First Edition

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## Dear Parents and Teachers:

*Saints and Me!* is a series of children's books about saints, with six books in each set. The first set is titled *Saints of North America*. This second set, *Saints of Christmas*, selects seven heavenly heroes who teach us to love the Infant Jesus. Some saints in this set have feast days within Advent and Christmas time, but others are celebrated within ordinary time and Easter time. We selected these saints based on their connection to the Christmas story and how they inspire us to let the mystery of Christ's birth grow within our hearts.

*Saints of Christmas* includes the heroic lives of seven saints from different times and places who loved Jesus. Saints Mary and Joseph witnessed the miracle of God's abundant love for humanity as our Infant Savior entered the world to bring us home to God. Saint Lucy followed Jesus in a time when Christianity was against the law. The story of Saint Nicholas was so incredible that it inspired our secular notion of Santa Claus. Saint Francis of Assisi added much flavor to our current Christmas traditions. Saint Martin de Porres is a biracial saint who teaches us about divine love for all people. And a saint of our own era, Gianna Beretta Molla, witnessed a deep belief in the gift of life.

Which saint cared for slaves from Africa? Who became a doctor and mother? What saints were present at Jesus' birth in Bethlehem? Who desired to be a knight? Which saint was a bishop of a seaport city? Do you know which saint's name means "light?" Find the answers in the *Saints of Christmas* set, part of the *Saints and Me!* series, and help your child identify with the lives of the saints.

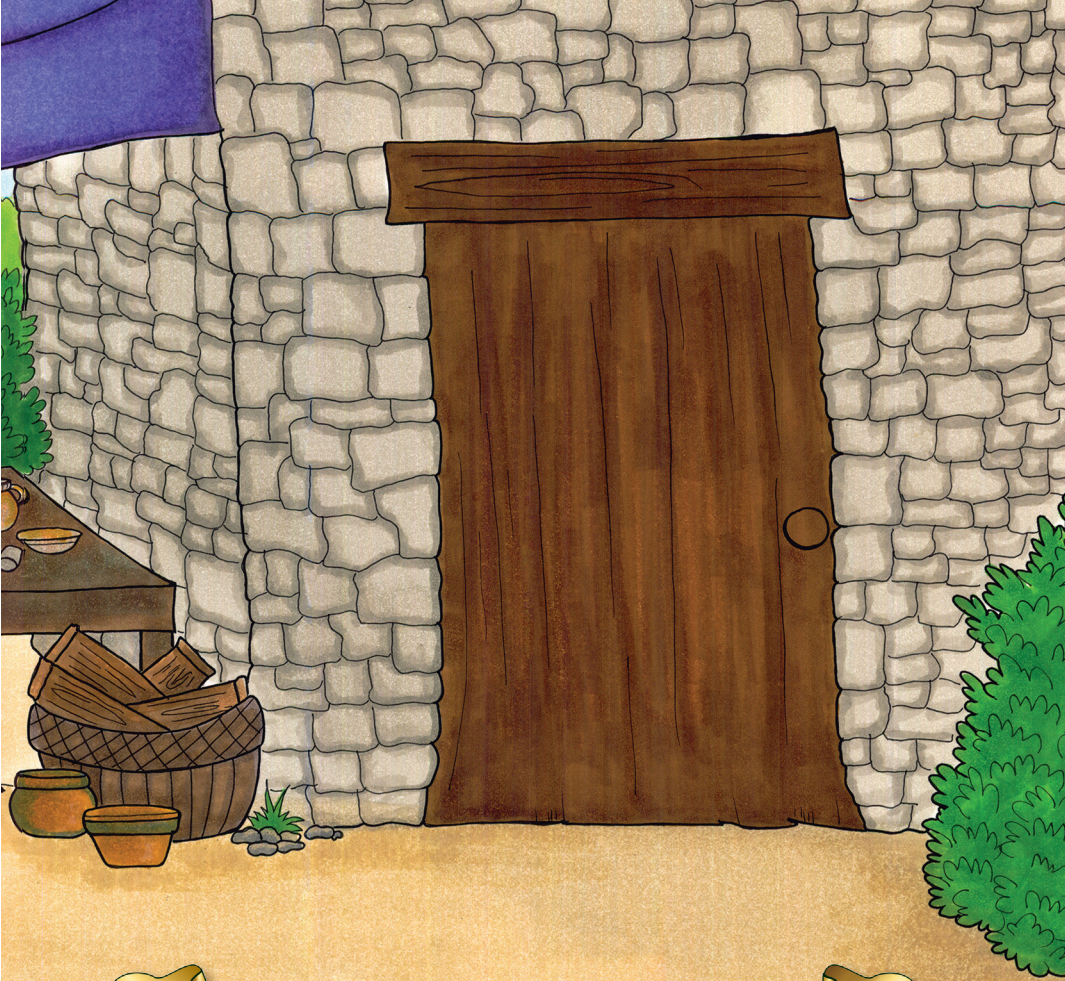
Introduce your children or students to the *Saints and Me!* series as they:

- READ** about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.
- PRAY** to the saints for their intercession.
- CELEBRATE** the saints and relate to their lives.









Jesus grew up in a loving family. Mary was his mother. Joseph was his foster father. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are called the Holy Family. The Holy Family shows us how to be a happy and holy family.



Mary grew up in the town of Nazareth. Her parents, Anne and Joachim, loved Mary very much. They taught her about God. Mary prayed every day. She loved God with all her heart.





Joseph was a kind and gentle man. He lived in Nazareth, too. Joseph was a carpenter. He worked all day in his shop making tools and wooden furniture. Joseph loved Mary, and they were going to be married.

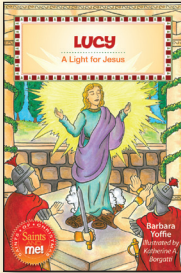


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## saints and me! series

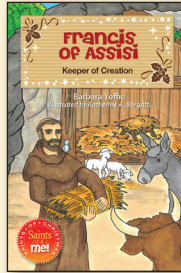
### SAINTS OF CHRISTMAS

*Collect the entire set!*



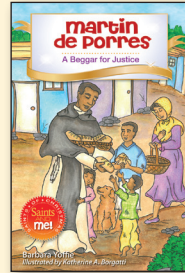
**lucy**

A Light for Jesus



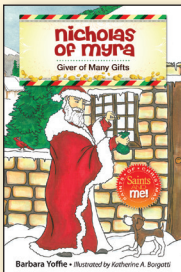
**francis of assisi**

Keeper of Creation



**martin de porres**

A Beggar for Justice



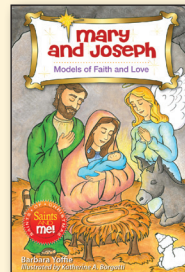
**nicholas of myra**

Giver of Many Gifts



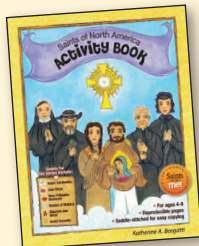
**gianna beretta molla**

Wife, Mother, and Doctor



**mary and joseph**

Models of Faith and Love



**SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA**  
**Activity Book**

Reproducible activities  
for all 6 saints in the series