

Celebrating The Year of Saint Joseph



Monthly Theme

*Son of David:
Joseph and the
Covenant*

*December 3
Saint Francis Xavier*

*December 7
Saint Ambrose*

*December 8
Immaculate
Conception*

*December 13
Saint Lucy*

*December 25
Nativity of the Lord*

*December 26
Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary, and Joseph*

*December 27
John the Evangelist*

*December 28
Holy Innocents*

What does it mean to say that Jesus is “Son of David?”

Seventeen verses in the New Testament describe Jesus as the “son of David.” So what do we mean when we acclaim Christ as “Son of David?” Christ (the “Anointed” or Messiah) was the fulfillment of the prophecy of the seed of David (2 Samuel 7:12–16). Jesus is the promised Messiah, which means He had to be of the lineage of David.

Matthew 1 gives the genealogical proof that Jesus, in his humanity, was a direct descendant of Abraham and David through Joseph, Jesus’ legal father. According to some scholars, the genealogy in Luke 3 traces Jesus’ lineage through his mother, Mary, even though this might not be readily apparent. Jesus is a descendant of David by adoption through Joseph and by blood through Mary.

While we generally associate this title from the genealogy of Joseph in Matthew (which will be proclaimed at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass), fundamentally, the title “Son of David” is more than a statement of physical genealogy. It is a Messianic title. When people referred to Jesus as the Son of David, they meant that he was the long-awaited deliverer, the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies.

A Prayer to Saint Joseph

St. Joseph, introduce the Holy Spirit to my will in order to ignite it with God’s holy love. Present my will to the Most Holy Trinity so that my desires may always be at God’s disposal. Offer my heart to God so that He may dwell in it as on a throne of love and mercy. Present the movements of my soul and all the affections of my heart to God so that through your intercession I will always be faithful to the grace and inspirations of the Holy Spirit. Teach me to love patience, prudence, kindness, modesty, and purity. Be my refuge and solace in all my pains, in all my needs, both now and at the hour of my death. *Amen.*

9 to 90 Advent Challenge

The journey Joseph led Mary and Jesus on from Nazareth to Bethlehem was 90 miles. He remained committed to the covenant, committed to the journey they were to take.

Resolve to walk from 9 up to 90 miles during the Advent season in imitation of St. Joseph’s journey with the Holy Family. Encourage your family to join you as a family devotional activity as often as possible each week. While walking, pray the rosary and/or contemplate the admirable life and virtues of St. Joseph. Make a holy intention for this activity: that your family will be strengthened in God’s grace through the intercession of St. Joseph, the patron saint of fathers and families. Include more special intentions for each member of your family!



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www.buffalodiocese.org/year-of-st-joseph

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The Jesse Tree A Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for Advent by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Each day of Advent, read a Bible story about someone on Jesus's family tree and hang an ornament symbolizing the story on your Jesse Tree. As you decorate your tree, you'll see how God prepared for Jesus to be born through many generations.



The Jesse Tree
Is. 11: 1-2



The Watch Tower
Hab 2: 1-4



Story of Creation
Gen. 1:26-31



The Fall
Gen. 3



Noah's Ark
Gen. 6



Promised Land
Gen. 12: 1-7



Abraham
Gen. 15: 1-6



Sacrifice
Gen. 22: 1-14



Jacob's Dream
Gen. 28: 10-22



Joseph
Gen. 37: 1-36



10 Commandments
Dt. 5: 1-22



Rahab
Josh. 2: 1-21



Ruth and Boaz
Ruth 2-4



David Chosen
1 Sam 16: 1-15



David Crowned
2 Sam 5: 1-5



God's Temple
1 Kings 5-6



Elijah and Baal
1 Kings 18



Esther's People
Esther 4



Prophecy of Savior
Is. 9: 2-7



Prophecy of
Second Coming
Is. 11: 6-9



Jonah and the Fish
Jonah 3: 1-5



Prophecy of
Bethlehem
Micah 5: 1-5



Elizabeth and
Zechariah
Luke 1: 5-25



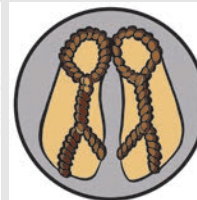
John the Baptist
Matthew 3: 1-6



Mary Chosen
Luke 1: 26-38



Angel Appears to
Joseph
Matthew 1: 18-25



Mary & Joseph go
to Bethlehem
Luke 2: 1-5



Jesus is Born
Luke 2: 6-21

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