

Reflection for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Ages 5-6

Luke 2:22–40

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

JESUS MARY JOSEPH

Loving

Draw a picture of Joseph and Mary caring for Jesus at their home

Prayer

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us.

Living

- Draw a picture of your home. Show how you are learning to love God and care for others
- Show your picture of your home to your family and talk about the ways your home is a place where you are helping each other grow in God's love.

Reflection for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Ages 7-8

Luke 2:22–40

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:39–40

Loving

Who taught Jesus to grow strong and learn God's way?

Who teaches you to grow strong and learn God's way?

Draw a picture of how your family cares for each other.

Prayer

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us.

Living

- Share your picture with your family and explain it to them. Talk about how each of you learns God's ways from each other.
- Each day, pray for a family that sent you a Christmas card.

Reflection for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Ages 9-11

Luke 2:22–40

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

When the time for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Luke 2:22–24

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed..."

Luke 33–34

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

Luke 39–40

Loving

Imagine how your family members would feel if someone had said these things about you when you were an infant. How do you think Mary and Joseph helped Jesus become strong and wise? What are some of the ways family members help you grow strong and wise? What things do you do together that Jesus, Mary and Joseph might have done as well?

Imagine a day with Jesus when he was your age. What would you do together?

Prayer

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us.

Living

- Find out from a family member who greeted you when you were brought home for the first time.
- Write a story about your coming home for the first time.

Ages 12-14

Luke 2:22–40

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

When the time for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

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Luke 33–34

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 39–40

Before you listen to God's word, make a cross on your forehead as you say, "God, your word be on my mind." Make a cross on your lips, as you silently say, "God, your word be on my lips." Make a cross over your heart and say, "God, your word be on my heart."

Loving

Imagine the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. What does a typical day look like? What are some of the ways they grow strong in body, mind, and spirit? Now think of your home and a typical day. In what ways do you help each other to grow strong in body, mind, and spirit? Imagine a day with Jesus when he was your age. What would you do together?

Living

- Write down your weekly schedule and see if there are opportunities to grow strong, grow wise, and appreciate God's blessings.
- Compose a prayer to say each day that expresses your gratitude for your family.