



Essential Evangelization

One Great Saint

He was a great man of faith. He did everything that God asked of him. Yet we do not know a whole lot about this great saint. Through God's Word we only see glimpses of greatness in this caring, compassionate faith-filled father of One. He was a simple man, not of great means, yet he was a direct descendant of the royal King David of the Old Testament. A carpenter by trade who loved his family and his God. In the New Testament, he does not speak and is not directly quoted, not even once. Yet the Bible, pays him the most high praise that he was a "just" man.

Today, he is the Patron Saint and protector of the Universal Church, Workers, Fathers, Travellers, Social Justice, Canada, China, Death, and even a Happy Death. At least 14 cities, counties, and places in the United States are named after him - we even have one in Michigan! A famous cathedral in Montreal, with a dome second only in size to that of St. Peter's in Rome, bears hundreds of crutches of spontaneous healing attributed directly to him. This God chosen leader of the Holy Family became the chaste husband of Our Blessed Mother, and an eyewitness to the birth of the Saviour of the world!

He was the great protector, who patiently brought his young pregnant wife out of harm's way, and even potential death, and then lead his young family out of danger to Egypt for several years before settling down in the obscure town of Nazareth. Because we see no mention of him in Jesus' ministry, tradition has it that he died peacefully in the "arms of Jesus and Mary". Ironically, even his feast day, March 19th is usually overshadowed by the revelry and festivity of that other great saint of Ireland who's feast day is two days before. But men and fathers, if you need a miracle in your life right now, please pray to this one very great saint, Saint Joseph.

*This is one of a series of articles
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