

Most children love superheroes. Superheroes possess superhuman strength and demonstrate courage. Some of the most well-known superheroes are Captain America, Ironman, the Incredible Hulk, Spiderman, Batman, and of course, Superman.

We like superheroes because they stand up for what's right and are willing to risk their lives for others. They inspire us to become better, protect what is good, and give us hope in a challenging world.

Today, the Church celebrates one of our greatest heroes, St. Joseph, who is our superhero and great saint. St. Joseph is the patron saint of the universal Church.

Oddly enough, while we deeply admire and respect St. Joseph, we do not have a single word recorded from Him in the bible. His greatness, then, lies not in words, but in his character and actions. Let us look at a few examples.

First, he is **open to God**. It's interesting that whenever God asks Joseph to do something, he does it. He takes Mary as His wife, and when asked to take them to Egypt, he does it.

Furthermore, he is asked to bring them back to Nazareth and he does it. Joseph never complains or resists. When asked to do something, he did it with great joy. He was completely obedient to God and what was asked of him.

Second, like a superhero, **Joseph protects**. He protected Mary and Jesus when they needed him most. Today, we ask St. Joseph to protect our families and our parish.

Finally, **Joseph provides**. He provided for Mary and Jesus. According to tradition, Joseph was a carpenter. He worked hard with his hands, providing for Mary and Jesus.

For us today, some great questions to reflect upon are: "In what way am I like St. Joseph? In what way am I not? How can I grow to be more like Joseph?" He is the ideal husband and father: obedient, protector, and provider. He reminds us that actions speak louder than words.

On this feast day St. Joseph, our superhero, may we ask for his intercession that little by little, we will imitate his character, virtues, and faith in carrying out what God asks of us. St. Joseph, pray for us!