



YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Family Activities: St. Isidore and Maria

ALL LEVELS

Pray the novena to St. Isidore found here:

<http://www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/english3/p02660.htm>

Sit down as a family and plan a family "Mary Garden" to plant this spring. See the instructions at

<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=223>

Or the information here: <http://campus.udayton.edu/mary/resources/flowers.html>

PRIMARY

Tell the story of St. Isidore and his wife, Maria, what a good farmer does. Then, plant a seed in a paper cup full of soil. Talk about the work of a farmer and how it is part of what God wants us to do: take care of the earth. As the seed grows, remind children about the saint who was also a farmer. Talk about what they can do to take care of the earth. Give each child a specific responsibility at home for recycling or taking care of the family pet.

INTERMEDIATE

Read together the child-friendly biography, discuss, and then view this short video, which includes a prayer. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rucX0NKgYNs>

JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

St. Isidore is the patron of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference and of American farmers. Visit the NCRLC webpage on the Catholic Rural Ethic at <http://www.ncrlc.com/page.aspx?ID=8>. Discuss these principles and why it is important for all of us to care about farm workers and the ethics of food production.