

"Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words." - St. Francis of Assisi

FEAST DAY MAY 26

On June 7, 1606, St. Joseph of Cupertino was born in a stable, just like Jesus! Growing up, he struggled with feeling like he didn't belong. Townspeople would make fun of Joseph because he was slow at learning, scatterbrained and forgetful - so forgetful that he would sometimes forget to eat meals! Unfortunately, Joseph had a bad temper which only made matters worse.

However, Joseph's love for God made him persevere. Joseph frequently had dreams of St. Francis of Assisi, which greatly inspired him to enter the Franciscan brotherhood. But Joseph had a difficult time finding a monastery that would accept him. Whether he was washing the dishes or sweeping, Joseph would randomly stop what he was doing, kneel wherever he was and go into a prayerful trance. Joseph eventually found a monastery that would allow him to take care of the stables. Slowly, the friars grew to like him and Joseph felt at peace knowing he belonged there.

People would often find Joseph praying in random places and he would wake up from his trance not knowing how he got there. He even performed miracles like healing the sick, and when he was deep in prayer, he often levitated!

Joseph desired to further commit himself to God and become a priest. However, this was very difficult for him with his learning disability. He couldn't keep up with everyone else in his class. Joseph kept failing his tests until his teacher allowed him to take a test verbally. Joseph passed his test and was able to continue his journey of becoming a priest.

Pray through the intercession of St. Joseph of Cupertino for courage and strength when you are feeling alone or before taking a test.

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