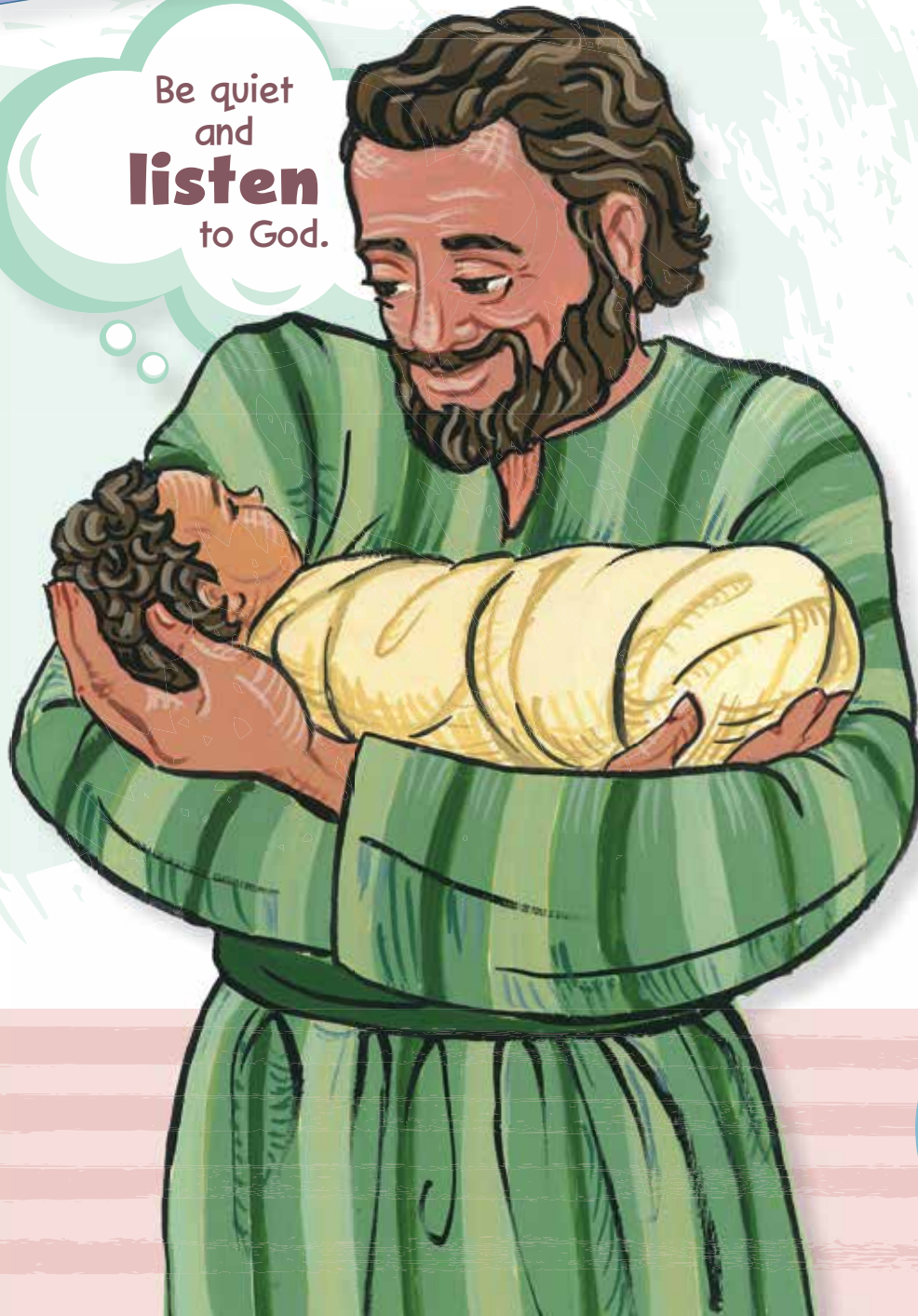


# Saint Joseph

(first century)

Be quiet  
and  
**listen**  
to God.



**Joseph** is the foster father of Jesus and the husband of Mary. We also know Joseph as "the silent saint" because not one word spoken by Joseph is recorded in the Gospels. Jesus, dying on the cross, gave the care of his mother to the Apostle John, and so we think that Joseph must have already died. Because he probably died in the presence of Mary and Jesus, we call Saint Joseph "the patron of a happy death."

Saint Joseph also has another title: the Patron of the Universal Church. Because Saint Joseph took such good care of Mary and Jesus, he also takes good care of the Church. As he once held the tiny body of the infant Jesus, he now holds the Church in his arms.

Because Joseph was a carpenter and probably made furniture for homes, people ask his prayers for any needs they have in regard to their own homes, especially when they are buying or selling a home.



## Prayer

**Saint Joseph**, as you watched over Jesus, pray to God for me and watch over me.

Saint Joseph was a family man. Take some time to write a prayer to Saint Joseph, asking him to pray to God for your needs and the needs of your family. Name some of these needs.

