



## Games

### Saint and No Saints

This game would be good for a group before a teaching session about saints or just about their patron saint in their parish. It will work with groups of any size and rooms of any size too.

**You will need:** 4 sheets of card headed as follows in large writing: SAINT, VENERABLE, PRIEST, NO SAINT; a list of people that fall into the different categories (best places to look are Saints indexes on the internet or a printed Saints dictionary)

The idea is to see who can guess (or knows?) the right answers. Call out the name of someone and the young people have to run to the corner which they think is appropriate. Then call out another and so on. The winner is the one who ran to the correct corner most times. Make sure you include some easy ones and use the 'no saint' for your own name, your bishop's and priest's name, and even one or two of the group to make it more fun.

### Saints in Mime

This game will work with any sized group and it doesn't matter what sized room you have. It will teach about the huge range of things that have assigned patron Saints – and how obscure some are (did you know St Gertrude of Nivelles is the patron Saint of the fear of mice?). If you have a group that love acting this is the game for them.

**You will need:** a number (one each or more for a small group) of pre-prepared cards each with the name of a saint and what they are patron Saint of (you can find a patron Saint index on <http://saints.sqpn.com/indexsnt.htm>).

Divide the group into teams of 3 or 4. Give out the cards and give them time to read what they say. Now they have to mime what their Saint is patron of. If anyone guesses correctly their team gets 2 points. If no one guesses in the time then the mime artist can say the name of the saint as a clue. If someone guesses correctly after the clue their team gets 1 point. The winners are the ones with the most points.

### Guess who?

You will need nothing except a good knowledge of Biblical names!

This is a good game for a bigger group though it could be used with smaller ones. It works well with mixed ages – and the grown ups don't always win either. It helps to build knowledge about the Bible. With a group who you feel may not manage too well just use the New Testament.

Choose a letter and ask everyone to think of someone in the Bible whose name begins with that letter. Give them a moment to think and write the name down. Ask them all to stand. You call out names beginning with that letter and as their name is said they sit down. When you are down to the last person (or you run out of names) ask them what their name was. Now the winner chooses a letter and you begin again.

## Alphabet Singing

You won't need any props or preparation for this game. It works with any number of people. For a small group they can play individually or in pairs. For larger numbers divide you group in more / larger teams.

This is an adaptation of old singing game: The group is divided into teams around the room and you stand in the middle. Each group is competing against the others

Everyone sings ABCDEFG..... Then when the XYZ is reached whichever group you point to has to shout out the name of a saint (or Biblical character). Then all sing ABCDEFG... and so on. When a group can't think of any more they drop out and the winners are the group left at the end. To make it harder/quicker you can choose a letter and each answer has to begin with that letter.

## Make a Story

This game is a fun introduction to the stories of saints and can be played by any number. If you have a small group they can work together as one group or as individuals. A great game if you have a lot of time to fill or you don't want them running around this session.

**You will need:** old newspapers (without page 3's please!), a sheet of paper for each group, glue stick for each group

Each group has to make up an amazing story that could be the story of how someone became a saint. They write it using words/headlines from the papers. After a set time they each read their story to the others. You could give points for various things - the most fantastic, funniest, best imagination, most realistic etc.

## Look Alikes

This is a good game to play with a smaller group and could be a good way of looking at the lives of particular Saints.

**You will need:** A number of pictures (at least A4) of Saints – get them from the internet; on the back of each have a (brief) synopsis of the life of that Saint.

Sit in a circle and on the floor put out all the photos. Decide between you who looks most like which saint. When you have all agreed which is 'yours' take the photo and read out what 'you' did.