

## Saint Ignatius of Loyola



### In Advance

Gather supplies, display the Saint Poster, and stock your presentation area. Study pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together* guide for general directions on facilitating the Saint Station, which should last 30 minutes. Use the following directions to introduce your saint.

### Welcome

Welcome participants and introduce yourself. Invite participants to introduce themselves.

Direct the group's attention to the poster and introduce Saint Ignatius of Loyola. Invite children to share what they see on the poster.

**Say:** *The saints are friends of God who now live with him in heaven. They show us how to live like Jesus. Saints teach us about Jesus and our faith. Let's learn more about Saint Ignatius and other important saints.*

### Carry Out the Activity



Read aloud the following information:

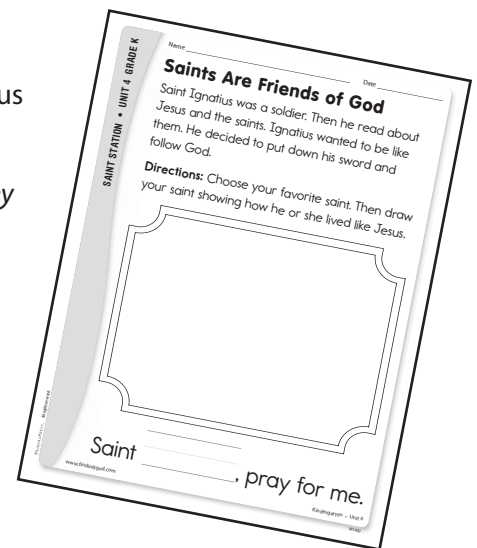
**Say:** *Ignatius was born in Spain in 1491. He was a soldier in the army. In battle, he was hit by a cannonball and badly injured. While Ignatius was healing, he read books about Jesus and the saints. Ignatius felt called to leave the army and follow God. He became a priest and spent the rest of his life telling others about Jesus.*

**Say:** *Saint Dominic lived a long time ago. He walked to faraway places, preaching and talking about God. Saint Francis wanted to be just like Jesus. He loved nature and animals. Saint Julie was always smiling. She smiled because she knew that God is always good. Saint Katherine set up schools and helped people in need.* **Ask:** *What are some things you can do to show your love for God? (Answers will vary.)*

**Say:** *The saints show us how we can be more like Jesus. Perhaps you or someone you love is named after a saint.* **Ask:** *Which saint is your favorite?* Invite participants to share their favorite saints and explain why they are their favorites. Ask them to share stories of other saints they know. Remind them how Saint Ignatius of Loyola chose to dedicate his life to God after reading books about Jesus and the saints.

### Materials

- Pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together: An Intergenerational Events Guide: Saint Stations*
- Poster of Saint Ignatius of Loyola
- Copies of the Blackline Master (go to [www.loyolapress.com/IGFE](http://www.loyolapress.com/IGFE))
- Art supplies



# Directions for Saint Station Leader

Arrange participants into small groups. Distribute the Blackline Master and other supplies. Invite children to draw and decorate the Blackline Master of their chosen saint.

**Say:** *You can follow the saints every day. They are in heaven and will help us if we ask. They will always pray for us.*

**Say:** *Ignatius of Loyola imagined that one day he would be a saint. You can be a saint someday too!*

## Wrap-Up

Bring the activity to an end and prepare the participants for prayer.

**Say:** *The saints are our friends in heaven. They will pray for us, and we can pray for others. Prayer is a great way to help people.*

Invite participants to fold their hands and bow their heads. Pray the Sign of the Cross together. Pause for a moment and then pray aloud the prayer as the participants pray silently.



*Loving God, I want to be close to you. Help me follow you as Saint Ignatius of Loyola did. Amen.*

