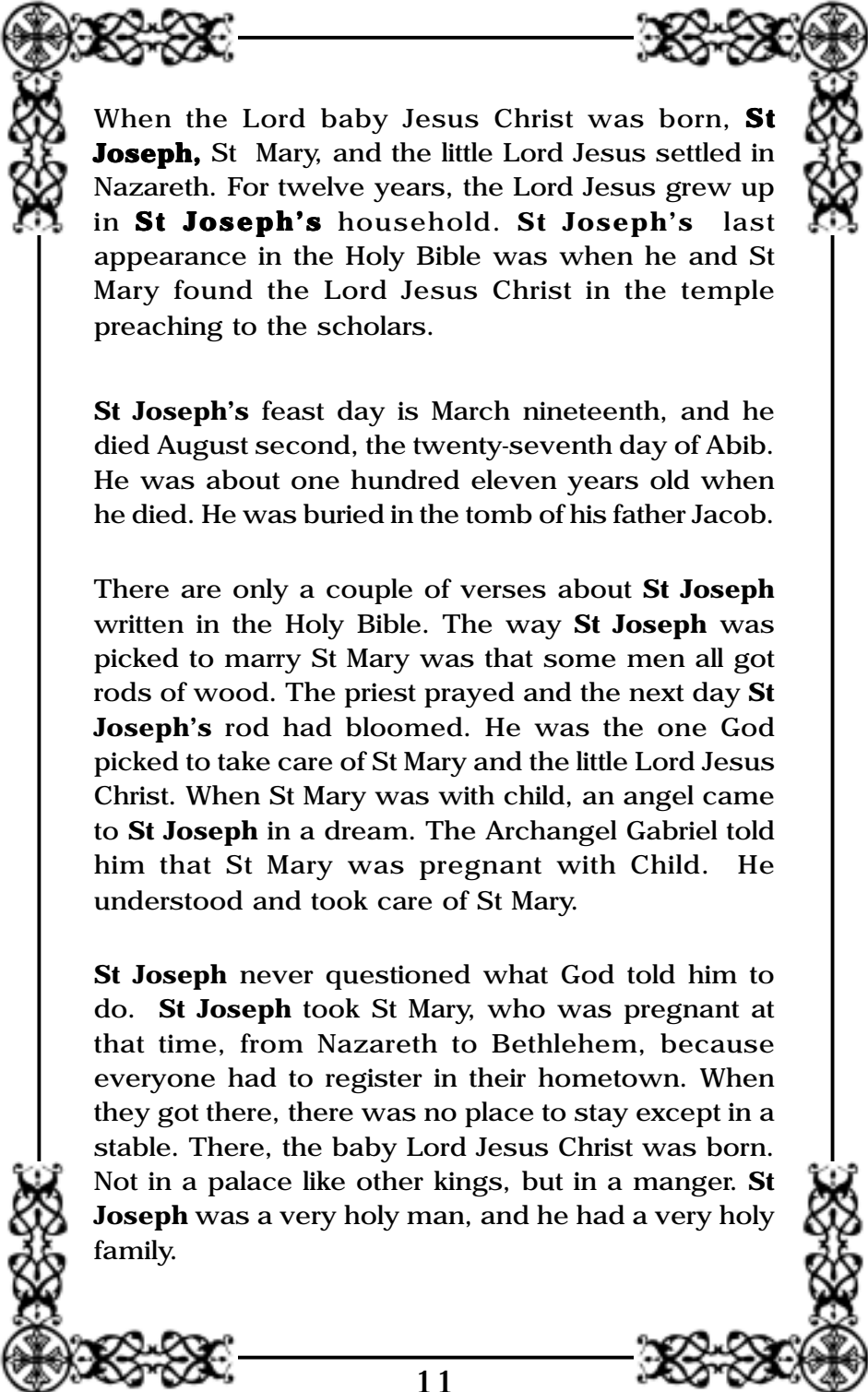




Saint Joseph

Written by Christine Rizk

Most of what is known about **St Joseph** is contained in the first two chapters of the Holy Gospels of St Matthew and St Luke. Several other passages mention him as the father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and a few refer to him as the carpenter from Nazareth. He was a descendant of the royal line of King David, and his family was from Bethlehem, like King David's family.



When the Lord baby Jesus Christ was born, **St Joseph**, St Mary, and the little Lord Jesus settled in Nazareth. For twelve years, the Lord Jesus grew up in **St Joseph's** household. **St Joseph's** last appearance in the Holy Bible was when he and St Mary found the Lord Jesus Christ in the temple preaching to the scholars.

St Joseph's feast day is March nineteenth, and he died August second, the twenty-seventh day of Abib. He was about one hundred eleven years old when he died. He was buried in the tomb of his father Jacob.

There are only a couple of verses about **St Joseph** written in the Holy Bible. The way **St Joseph** was picked to marry St Mary was that some men all got rods of wood. The priest prayed and the next day **St Joseph's** rod had bloomed. He was the one God picked to take care of St Mary and the little Lord Jesus Christ. When St Mary was with child, an angel came to **St Joseph** in a dream. The Archangel Gabriel told him that St Mary was pregnant with Child. He understood and took care of St Mary.

St Joseph never questioned what God told him to do. **St Joseph** took St Mary, who was pregnant at that time, from Nazareth to Bethlehem, because everyone had to register in their hometown. When they got there, there was no place to stay except in a stable. There, the baby Lord Jesus Christ was born. Not in a palace like other kings, but in a manger. **St Joseph** was a very holy man, and he had a very holy family.