Catholic tradition says Saint Joachim and Saint Anne were the parents of the Virgin Mary and the grandparents of Jesus. They are not specifically mentioned in the Bible, but there are a number of legends and traditions about Mary’s parents. While there might not be any history books that tell us about Mary’s mother and father, we know they cared for and nurtured her, and taught her about God. Mary was prepared to be the mother of Jesus because her mother, Saint Anne, was a good role model and taught her what it means to trust in God.

**Praying with Saint Anne**

Just like we can ask our friends and family to pray for us, we can also ask the Saints to pray for special intentions. There are many prayers and novenas to Saint Anne.

**Younger Girls:** Find a prayer to Saint Anne—or make one up—and say it every day for a week.

**Older Girls:** Make a novena (a prayer for nine days for a special intention) to Saint Anne.

**Create Your Own Activity**

Feast days are days the church sets aside to honor a certain Saint or Saints. The feast day of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne’s is July 26.

What could you do to celebrate the feast day of Saint Anne and Saint Joachim? Or, create your own activity about Saint Anne.
For Younger Girls

Have an adult help you find a book on saints where you can read more about Saint Anne. See if you can find the answers to the following:

- How do we know about Saint Anne?
- Why should we honor Saint Anne?
- Saint Anne is the patron saint of what special intentions?
- Is there a church in your diocese whose patron saint is Saint Anne?

For Older Girls

Find some books or trustworthy website to do some research on Saint Anne. www.catholic.org is a good place to start. Use these questions to guide your research:

- How do we know about Saint Anne?
- Why should we honor Saint Anne?
- Saint Anne is the patron saint of what special intention?
- Learn about a church dedicated to Saint Anne and try to find a photo of the church.

Saint in the Making

Saints do not just “happen” by accident. We are all saints in the making and we have many mentors and role models that serve as saintly examples. Choose someone that you know who inspires you, someone you admire. Find out more about them. For example, you can interview them. Here are some sample questions:

- Ask them to tell you about their childhood or someone a special time in your life;
- Ask about a time they felt close to God;
- Tell them why you admire them and ask for suggestions how you can be like them. What else could you ask them?

Share with others why you think this person is a “Saint in the Making”.

Why Is It?

The symbols on the Saint Anne patch are a green shawl and a book.

Why do you think those symbols were chosen to represent Saint Anne?

Special Grandmothers

Saint Anne was a very special grandmother and mother. There are women in our lives who are special too.

Choose a special grandmother (or mother) figure and do something nice for her to let her know how special she is to you.

Saintly Service

Perform a service project that benefits the elderly. Check out our website for ideas. www.nccgscf.com