

# ALL SAINTS' PARTY

## Costume Ideas

(A more complete list with pictures and more ideas can be found on the school blog:  
[www.educationexcorde.wordpress.com](http://www.educationexcorde.wordpress.com))

## Calling All Saints

Celebrate the season with creative costumes and faith-filled fun  
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By Susie Lloyd

Halloween as we commonly celebrate it is the offspring of two unlikely parents born centuries apart — the ancient druids and the modern market. The druids marked the day of the dead with bonfires, ghoulish tricks, and scary costumes. Centuries later, retailers cashed in. Yet, somewhere in between the vast ages, Halloween got baptized and thus received its Christian name, All Hallows' Eve. It even has two godparents, the feasts of All Saints and All Souls.

One way to celebrate this unusual holiday is with an All Saints party. It's a night of fancy and frivolity, in the company of friends from both down here and up above.

### Choosing a Saint — Where to Begin!

The possibilities are as numerous as the saints in heaven. FamilyFun.com is a great place to find directions to make simple costumes. Below are some suggestions to “sanctify” your costumes.

**-Popular Pick.** Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha, the Huron maiden, is a perennial All Saints favorite. Our Bernadette says “how” to the friendly blackrobes in a soft light brown felt dress. No pattern required. Add enough trim to go around the dress and to pin together to make a matching headband. Use a glue gun to attach craft feathers. Pants underneath add warmth. Don't forget the sandals!

**Work Backwards.** Let your child choose a costume, then you find a saint for it. Dominic Six wanted to carry his brother's katana (Japanese sword). Mom Julia looked up Japanese warrior



saints and behold, St. Gaius Francis appeared. Dom wears a kimono over black pants. Socks with flip flops complete the look.

**Princess Saints.** Our Melanie presents St. Elizabeth of Hungary, who at the age of 4 was betrothed and sent to live at the court of Thuringia. Her Sleeping Beauty dress-up comes straight from the discount store, but more battered versions litter the bottom of our closets. Topping off her outfit is a cone hat made from fun foam, staples, and some leftover scarf material. Other princess saints include St. Bathildas, St. Dymphna, and St. Adelaide.

**Got Dress-up?** Imagine the saints as they looked before they became famous. Well before she was the foundress of an order, St. Elizabeth Seton was a debutante — her dancing slippers are on display in Emmitsburg, Md. Claire Hess looks regal as a young British princess, St. Helena.

**Roman Saints.** T-shirts, sheets, or pillow cases make great togas. Here Gabriel Horn spots his persecutors in the distance. As St. Tarcisius, the youth who died protecting the Blessed Sacrament, he wears an oversized torn T-shirt plus a little makeup around the eye. Other robed Roman saints include St. Polycarp, St. Genesius, and St. Cassian of Tangiers.

**Props Make the Saint.** Margaret Six as a mini St. Bernadette gathers a bundle of firewood just before Our Lady appears to her. A single thick walking stick and a stuffed lamb help portray shepherds like St. Germaine or Bl. Jacinta of Fatima.

**Visionary.** Ann Hess as St. Bernadette may well be tired of her celebrity status. You need a longish plain skirt with a shawl, small afghan, or fabric remnant. Pull it over the head or wear a kerchief or bandana on top.

**Sword-Wielding Saints.** What boy doesn't own a set of play armor, helmet, and sword? Check the toy box for props that inspire a variety of soldier saints like St. George, St. Martin, or St. Joan of Arc. Here, Tommy Hess stands ready as the Archangel Michael. Check out HalloweenCostumes4U.com for a pair of deluxe feathered wings (\$14).

For more game ideas, check out these two valuable family resources: A Year With God (\$58.95 at CHCWeb.com) and A Treasure Chest of Traditions for Catholic Families by Monica McConkey, Arma Dei Family Ministry (call 905-642-6414 or email [ArmaDei@aol.com](mailto:ArmaDei@aol.com)).

Susie Lloyd wields a hot glue gun and sews up saints in Whitehall, Pennsylvania.



## OTHER IDEAS:

- ★ Angels: St. Michael (with armor), St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, guardian angel
- ★ Queens: Mary Queen of Heaven, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Margaret of Scotland
- ★ Ghost: Holy Ghost (how about a “Holey” Ghost?)
- ★ Mummy: Lazarus as he’s raised from the dead, Blessed Damian the Leper
- ★ Bishop: St. Patrick
- ★ Priest: your parish priest (get a bald skullcap if he's bald!)
- ★ Knight: St. George
- ★ Lamb: of God
- ★ Shepherd: the Good Shepherd

- ★ Hobo: Lazarus, the poor man (add sores like the dogs licked if you're so inclined!)
- ★ Robber: the Good thief on the cross
- ★ Wounds in hands & Feet: Padre Pio or St. Francis of Assisi
- ★ Vine or tree: "I am the Vine, you are the branches"
- ★ Old Man: Noah, Moses, Methuselah, Simeon
- ★ Old Lady: Sarah, Elizabeth, the prophetess Anna
- ★ Sheriff or policeman: "the Law"
- ★ Arrows stuck in you: St. Sebastian
- ★ Nun: St. Clare or St. Therese (holding roses)- brown habit
- ★ Hold a lamb: St. Agnes
- ★ Fisherman: St. Peter, St. John, St. Andrew
- ★ Doctor: St. Luke or St. Gianna Molla
- ★ Musician: St. Cecilia
- ★ Farmer: St. Isadore
- ★ Female in armor: St. Joan of Arc
- ★ Builder with tools: St. Joseph
- ★ Housekeeper: St. Martha
- ★ Prisoner: St. Maximilian Kolbe
- ★ Wear a yellow star of David: St. Edith Stein
- ★ Carry a cross: St. Helen
- ★ Any kind of worker : St. Joseph the Worker
- ★ White robe : martyr
- ★ Group idea: come as Noah & a bunch of animals, a shepherd & sheep, three Kings...