

◆◆◆ ***SAINT JOHN MASIAS*** ◆◆◆
MARVELOUS DOMINICAN GATEKEEPER OF LIMA, PERU

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Saint John Masias: Marvelous Dominican Gatekeeper of Lima, Peru* by Mary Fabyan Windeatt, is represented by the abbreviation **SJM**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first lines of the week's daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON, TUES, WED, THUR** and **FRI** abbreviations. We suggest assigning the weekly written assignment at the beginning of the week, to be completed by the following Monday. This will allow the student time to think about the assignment while reading. **The chapter study questions, chapter vocabulary and glossary are located in the Elementary Literature Study Question booklets available for purchase from Kolbe Academy.** Answers should be given in complete written or oral sentences.

This book is one of a series of biographies by Mary Fabyan Windeatt. It introduces young readers to the exemplary sanctity of John Masias, a contemporary of Martin de Porres and a Dominican, like him. John's mystical experiences will catch the attention of children, encouraging them to think about and aim for Heaven.

Characters

John Masias A young man visited by St. John the Evangelist. John Masias later travels to Peru and becomes a saintly Dominican.

Mary John's younger sister, who he cares for in the absence of their parents.

John the Evangelist The author of the fourth Gospel, who appeared to John Masias often and encouraged him on his journey to Heaven.

Brother Paul of Charity Formerly known as Ferdinand Palomeque, Brother Paul is a converted sinner and a Dominican who befriends John. John takes over for Brother Paul as gatekeeper of the convent.

Father Gonzalez de Guzman A Dominican who recognizes John Masias' great sanctity and documents it.

Martin de Porres A fellow Dominican from a neighboring convent in Lima, who, like his friend John Masias, becomes a great saint.

Don Francisco de Bustamante A hard-hearted businessman who is reluctant to assist John Masias in his mission of helping the poor, or to listen to the holy man's advice.

Alonso Martin de Orrelana A devout businessman who opens a bakery as John Masias advises him to do.

Luis de Espina The son of Captain Michael de Espina, Luis becomes a Dominican due to the influence of John Masias.

Anthony de Alarcon A man who is healed of his deafness after the death of John Masias, as John predicted.

WEEK 1	
SJM	Chapter 1-Chapter 7. Have the student look up all the vocabulary words for Chapters 1-7 in the glossary prior to reading. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed. Written Assignment: As a young man, John had strong and weak points. Name at least one thing he was good at, and one thing he was not good at. Does a person have to be successful the way the world defines success, in order to become a saint? Express your answer in the form of a well-crafted paragraph.
MON	Read Chapter 1-2 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 1. Shepherd Boy. John Masias converses

	with a passing traveler, revealing that his own aspirations are very different from those of most young men of the time. He too wants to travel to the New World, but because he believes God is calling him there, not because he wants to become wealthy. Chapter 2. The Journey. John supports his sister, prays intently, receives visits from St. John the Evangelist, and eventually sets out for the New World. He takes a temporary job at a farm along the way.
TUES	Read Chapter 3-4 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 3. Incident at Seville. Uneducated and naïve, John Masias is taken advantage of by a baker in the city of Seville. A priest helps straighten things out, and advises young John to become a Dominican. Chapter 4. Westward the Course. John spends time with the Dominican friars and learns about the order, gaining a reputation for sanctity. At last he gets his chance to travel to the New World, working as an accountant for a wealthy man. He does not prove to be much of an accountant, but arrives at his destination safely.
WED	Read Chapter 5-6 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 5. The City of the Kings. Continuing his journey on foot, John faces many challenges bravely. Finally, he meets a boy named Michael, who shows him the way into Lima, Peru. Michael brings John to the ranch of his friend Peter Jimines Menacho, to find work. Chapter 6 . A Son of St. Dominic. For two and a half years, John works on the ranch. Then he decides to join the Dominicans and becomes a novice. He is filled with great joy, but is also assaulted by the Devil.
THUR	Read Chapter 7 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 7. Keeper of the Gate. John becomes the assistant of Brother Paul of Charity, the gatekeeper. He also makes his vows as a Dominican. A year later, he is sent away due to an infection in his leg. When he returns, Brother Paul has departed, and John takes his place.
FRI	Work on written assignment, due Monday. You may have the student answer the Extra Credit questions in their Study Booklet.
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