



# EXPERIENCE THE SAINTS OF MAY

## MAY 3-MAY 9

We have some popular saints we celebrate during the month of May. This week we are going to take a closer look at some of them!



### LEARNING TARGETS:

- ❖ Discover that the Communion of Saints is the community of believers in Heaven and on earth.
- ❖ Define the term *saint* - A saint is a holy person whom the having practiced heroic virtue and lived a holy, faithful life worthy of imitation and who is in Heaven with God.
- ❖ Recognize that we are all called to be saints.
- ❖ Identify the saints as examples of how we can live our lives.



### VOCAB

- ❖ Saint
- ❖ Communion of Saints

### PREPARATION

This week we are going to take a closer look at some popular saints whose feast days are found in the month of May. Youth will learn why we honor the saints and how we are all called to be saints, as well.

### MOVEMENT – SAINT BINGO

The saints are holy men and women who lived a holy and faith-filled life. Saint Bingo uses pictures of the saints to help children visualize the saints in the same way they visualize cartoon characters. The excitement of the game will help get them excited to learn about the saints in a fun and interactive way!

#### You'll need:

- Saint Bingo Card (1/child) (found on Google Drive in "Saint Bingo" folder)
- Saint Cards (found on Google Drive in "Saint Bingo" folder)
- 20 to 25 chips/pennies or something to mark off the bingo spots (per child).

#### Set Up:

Print a Bingo card for each child.  
Print the Saint cards.



#### Game Instructions:

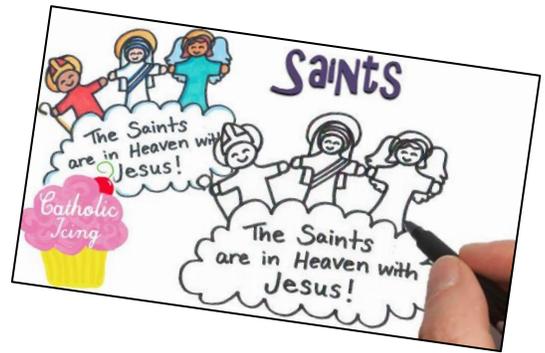
1. Get your supplies! Print and cut out your bingo cards and saint cards. You'll also need a bunch of pennies or something to use as bingo chips.
2. Put the saint cards in a container like a hat or a bowl to mix them up. One person will pick a saint out for each turn.
3. Each time a saint is drawn from the container, put a penny or chip on that saint on your bingo card. The cross in the center is a free space. Put a chip on there when you start.
4. The first player to get 5 in a row wins!

## **CRAFT – LET’S DRAW**

Learn how to draw the saints with a “how to” video!

### You’ll need:

- White paper
- Pencil/Eraser
- Crayons
- Computer with Internet Access
- Website - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5BV\\_IvJToM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5BV_IvJToM)



### Instructions:

1. Go to the link above.
2. Make sure your child has a flat surface, paper, and something to draw with.

## **HANDOUTS / RESOURCE INSTRUCTIONS**

### ❖ CLOW-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: St. Joseph the Worker

Introduction/Discussion:

Ask: I wonder – do you know who Mary, Jesus’ mother, was married to? (Joseph)

Joseph was engaged to Mary and became Jesus’ stepfather. He was a really wonderful stepfather and made sure to teach Jesus how to be a good person and how to work hard. Joseph worked as a carpenter. What do you think a carpenter does? (Someone who works with wood and builds and/or repairs structures made of wood – such as chairs, tables, houses, etc.)

One of the things we really admire about Joseph was how dedicated he was to working and doing a good job. He taught Jesus how to be kind, obedient, and responsible. He reminds us that family is important.

Watch movie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4NBV840xTc&t=235s>

After watching the movie, have them complete the Resource page included in this packet. As a follow-up activity, children can draw a picture of their family to hang in the house to celebrate St. Joseph’s the Worker Day on May 1.

### ❖ Grades 3-5: St. Joan of Arc

Use the included Resource and have the children read through a short biography about St. Joan of Arc. Following the reading, they will be looking at her coat of arms to learn how symbols were used that described the family.

The children will then be able to create their own coat of arms using symbols that would describe them and their personality.

An additional activity is to have them watch a short video about her:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wmPsBqovrVU&t=58s>

### ❖ Middle and High School Youth: St. Job

The question of suffering and why people hurt and why some people don’t is a question that people have asked since the beginning of time.

How many of you have asked why there is suffering, but worried that asking this makes you seem like you have little faith?

Well, the book of the Bible called “Job” is God’s way of saying that these are normal questions to ask.

The book of Job is about a man who seems to have a really great life and family.

And then everything, and I mean EVERYTHING seems to fall apart.

Watch the video to find out more about Job -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GswSg2ohqmA&t=310s>.

**Bottom Line:** Life can and probably will be hard, but God is with us and wants to speak to us in the storms.

Use the included Resource to dive deeper into the story of Job and how it connects to you.

### ❖ Older Children and Adults: St. Philip

St. Philip is known as the patron saint of pastry chefs. When people feel anxious, they look for something to do, a distraction of sorts, and baking provides just that for many people. There are a whole host of reasons for this: Dr. Mary McNaughton-Cassill, a clinical psychologist with a disaster stress management background and a professor of psychology at the University of Texas, San Antonio, says some of it's just allowing yourself to be creative—adding flavor, changing color, forming shapes. Then you've got the sensory triggers. "The smell of spices and vanilla are comforting, and often remind us of happy times. Scents are particularly linked to areas of the brain that involve emotions and memory," she suggests. There's also the magic of it all: "Mixing inert substances together, and watching them rise can bring out the mystic, or the chemist, in all of us."

Baking feels familiar and can even lead to a mindful state. So, take a break from the stresses of life and spend some time with St. Philip in the kitchen.

Use the included Resource to make an Almond Puff Pastry.



# **EXPERIENCE THE SAINTS OF MAY**

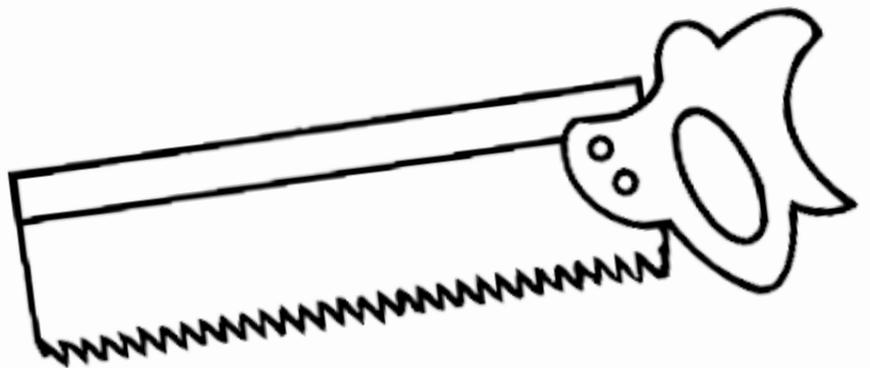
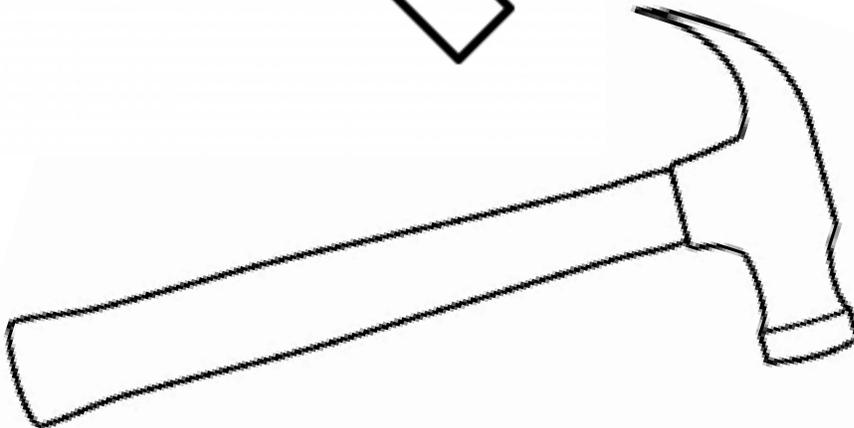
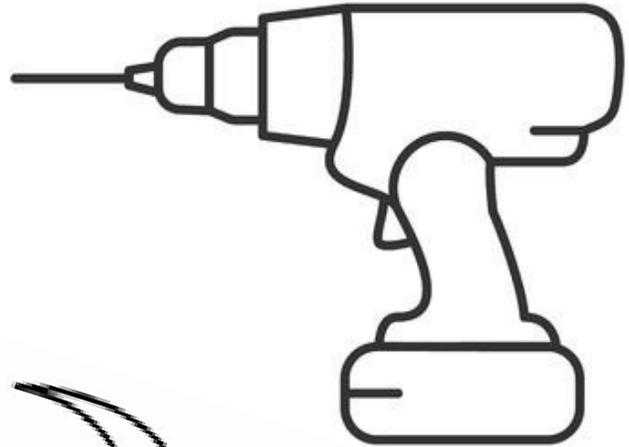
CLOW-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

St. Joseph the Worker – May 1



## **TOOLS TO HELP GOD**

Just like a carpenter uses tools to do a job, we can use actions (or “tools”), such as praying, to help spread God’s words and love every day. What are things you can do to help God and to spread His love and words to other people? Write at least one thing you can do on each tool below.





# **EXPERIENCE THE SAINTS OF MAY**

Grades 3-5

St. Joan of Arc – May 30



## **OVERVIEW OF ST. JOAN OF ARC**

Joan of Arc, also known as Jeanne d'Arc or Jeanne la Pucelle-the Maid, was born in Domremy near the province of Lorraine, France on January 6, 1412. Her parents, Jacques d'Arc and Isabelle Romee, were peasant farmers. Joan and her family were illiterate, but devout in their faith. As a young girl, she began hearing the voices of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Saint Margaret of Antioch, and Saint Michael the Archangel. They told Joan marvelous predictions of her future-that she would use to help save France. They challenged her to raise the siege of Orleans, conduct the Dauphin Charles to Reims for his coronation as king, and drive the English from the country. For a young girl whose life revolved around tending sheep and spinning wool, such things seemed impossible. However, in May of 1428, the voices urged her to go to Charles, the heir to the French throne. Charles had been too fearful to try to claim his crown from the English king and the French Duke of Burgundy who was siding with the English against Charles. Joan convinced the French leaders to give her a small army and, with the successful siege of Orleans on May 8, 1429, she began to rally French troops and enjoy great military victories. Charles VII was crowned King of France on July 17, 1429, with Joan at his side. However, the king began to ignore Joan, and ultimately, in May of 1430, as she was leading a campaign, she was captured. The King of France did nothing to save her and eventually Joan was turned over to the English. At the age of nineteen, on May 30, 1431, Joan was burned at the stake as a heretic in Rouen's market square. After a review of the verdict against Joan in 1456, she was exonerated of all guilt. Joan was finally canonized by the Church in 1920.



### Feast Day

May 30

### Mission

The youngest of five children, Joan drew her mission in life from her parents' example of faith. From her earliest years, Joan was known for her generosity, goodness, kindness, obedience, and religious devotion. Others who lived near Joan remembered her tender ministries when she nursed a friend back to health or when she gave up her bed for a homeless stranger. They reported that she was often teased for being too pious. Joan's good heart and strong faith allowed her to listen obediently to the voices that urged her to boldly undertake what seemed an impossible task. Although she was young, female, and untrained as a military leader, Joan accepted God's direction for her life. She bravely faced those in authority and convinced them of her sincere purpose. As a result of her willingness to follow in faith, she single-handedly rallied a nation and saved her country.

### Legacy

Joan of Arc is the patron saint of France; however, her life inspires faith throughout the Christian world. Her legacy is not one of blind patriotism or nationalism, but rather one of faithful obedience to God's call in our lives. Joan serves as a witness that we can undertake the impossible and triumph if we trust ourselves completely to God's care. Her life reminds us that, although others may discount us as too young or untried, God sees our potential. Saint Joan's legacy is the reality that God can bring about mighty works through the lives of those who are open to the prompting of the Spirit.

# CREATE A PERSONAL CREST

By creating a personal crest, participants will focus on their important values for life, like those depicted on the crest of Saint Joan of Arc.

## Items Needed:

- ❖ Blank Crest
- ❖ Crayons or Markers
- ❖ Pencil

## Lead

Because of her remarkable accomplishments, King Charles VII of France granted Joan of Arc and her family a place in nobility. This meant that they were entitled to a special crest that distinguished their family, identifying members of their household and any of their descendants. The crest was a sword surmounted by a crown on a field of blue, with a fleur-de-lis on each side of the sword. The fleur-de-lis had both national and religious significance. The ancient fleur-de-lis was the emblem of the French royal family, literally "fleur-de-Louis," with the three leaves symbolizing faith, valor, and wisdom. Religiously the fleur-de-lis or iris was the symbol of the Trinity because of the three-in-one nature of the blossom. Thus, Joan of Arc was reminded by the crest's design of her loyalty to her king and her faith in the triune God.

The crest was often found on a shield as a "coat of arms," a symbol associated with protection. However, the crest is also used as an emblem simply to depict personal traits of an individual. Think about the unique qualities that God has given to you. What are some of the gifts or qualities you possess? What symbols represent those qualities?

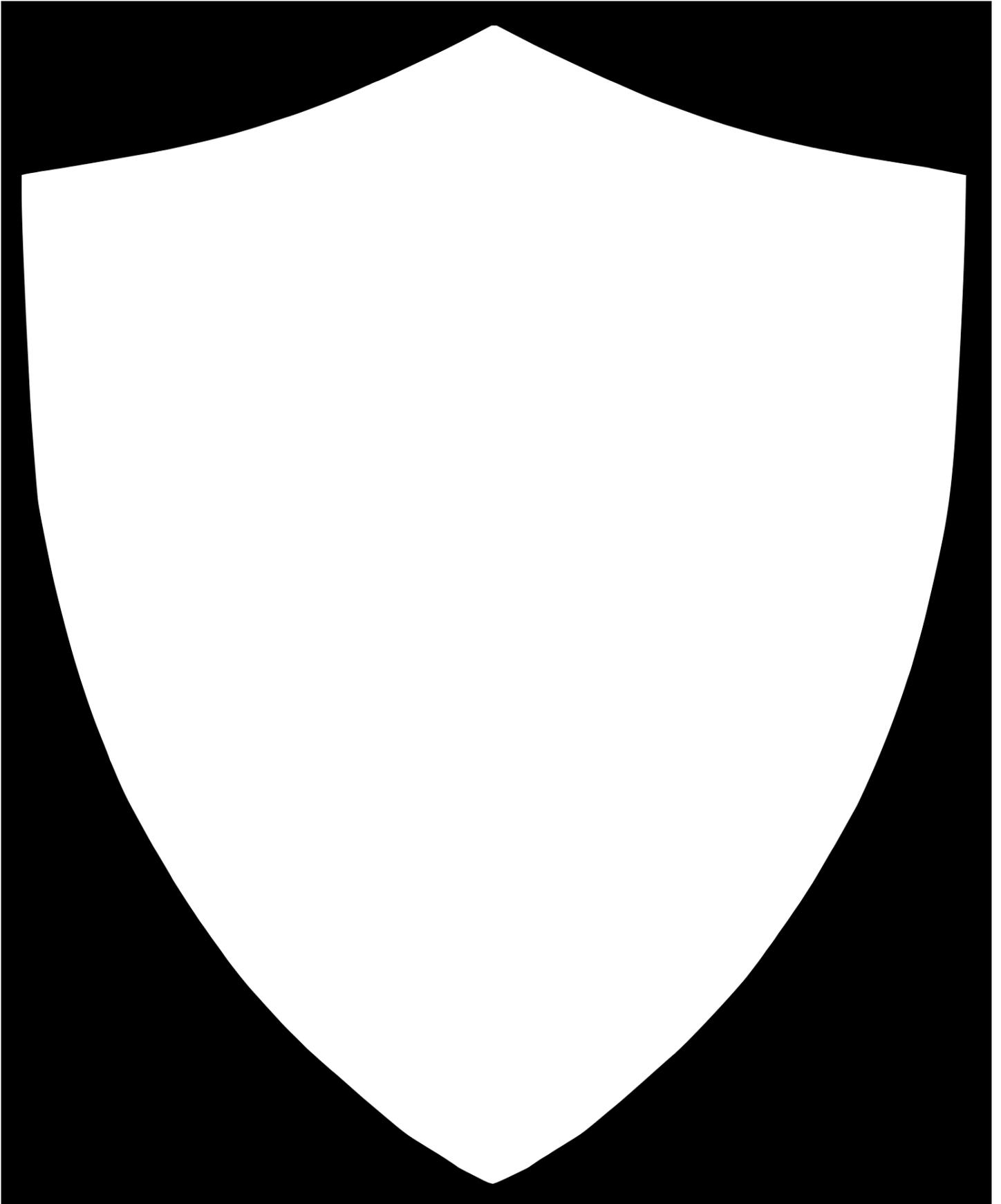
Use the included blank crest to create your own family crest using the symbols of your gifts and qualities.



Crest of St. Joan of Arc

My Gifts, Passions, and Qualities

# ***MY FAMILY CREST***







# **EXPERIENCE THE SAINTS OF MAY**

Older Children and Adults  
St. Philip – May 3



## **SHORT BIOGRAPHY**

Philip is listed as one of Jesus' apostles in all four apostolic lists: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Acts. He plays the largest role in John and appears little in the other gospels. The name Philip means "lover of horses." His feast day is on May

The interesting thing about Philip, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, is that he was personally reached by Jesus himself. While Philip brought Nathanael to Jesus, and Andrew brought Peter to Jesus, no one brought Philip to Jesus. Instead, Jesus came right to him. John's Gospel tells us, "The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow Me'" (John 1:43). Normally God reaches people through people, but this was an exception to the rule.

It also would appear from John's account of the Feeding of the Five Thousand that Philip may have been in charge of the supplies and food, the road manager of sorts. He was the kind of guy who was practical, always thinking about the bottom line.

And on this occasion, Jesus, trying to stretch Philip's faith, posed a question to him as the crowd gathered: "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" (John 6:5). Philip responded, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little" (verse 7).

Philip didn't do so well on that test. He wasn't the first to have the most faith, but he was a follower of Jesus who was used by God. Because of his role in this scripture he is known as the patron saint of pastry chefs.

To celebrate St. Philip – take some time and bake something sweet and savory!

Recipe below or you can find the recipe with photos here:

<https://sweetiepieandcupcakes.com/recipe/easy-almond-puff-pastry/>



# ALMOND PUFF PASTRY RECIPE

Servings  
8Pieces

Prep Time  
10minutes

Cook Time  
35-45minutes

## **INGREDIENTS**

Easy Almond Puff Pastry

- 1 Egg
- 1tbsp Water
- 7ounces Almond Paste (see below)
- 1sheet Puff Pastry
- 1/4cup Sliced Almonds

Homemade Almond Paste

- 1 1/2cups Raw Almonds
- 1 1/2cups Powdered Sugar
- 1 Egg White
- 1 1/2tsp Almond Extract
- 1/4tsp Sea Salt
- 1/4cup Coconut Sugar or Regular Sugar
- 2tsp Pure Vanilla Extract
- 1/2cup Powdered Sugar extra



## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Homemade Almond Paste

1. Add almonds to food processor and process until completely fine.
2. Add in 1 and 1/2 cups powdered sugar, egg white, almond extract and sea salt combine for a minute or two.
3. Add in the coconut sugar (or regular sugar) and vanilla extract and process until the mixture turns into a paste and starts to combine and gather in the processor. You may add 1/4 cup of powdered sugar extra at a time if the paste is runny. Add the powdered sugar and pulse in the food processor until it gathers together.

Easy Almond Puff Pastry

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Prepare a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silpat.
2. Note that we use half the puff pastry dough from our original recipe. Save half in a freezer safe Ziplock bag. Use the other half of the puff pastry for this recipe. Roll the dough out to about 1/2" thick (thinner if needed) so it will fit a baking sheet. Transfer the puff pastry to the parchment paper on the baking sheet.
3. Cut triangles from the left side of the pastry as shown.
4. Cut 1-inch slits in the top and bottom of the puff pastry as shown. These pieces will create the braid.
5. Break the almond paste up with your fingers and spread it throughout the center of the puff pastry as shown.
6. Start at the right side and fold it towards the center. Then braid the pieces by simply laying them over the center and pressing the ends of the dough in.
7. Fold the left end in and press down into the down to seal up the ends. Prepare egg wash by scrambling one egg with a tablespoon or two of water. Paint the egg wash onto the top of the puff pastry dough.
8. Sprinkle sliced almonds onto top and sides of pastry dough. Bake in a 400 degree for about 10 minutes and then lower the temperature to 375 for another 20-30 minutes. Wait until the puff pastry turns a light golden brown. Check it often once it reaches this stage and look for the inside parts to firm up. Remove from oven. Sprinkle with powdered sugar and slice into serving sizes. Enjoy warm!!!