

Introduction

The Holy Quest is a brand-new Catholic board game, drawing inspiration from the ancient Hindu game of Pachisi yet expanded with rich, innovative gameplay. Designed for the entire family, this captivating and educational experience offers multiple ways to play that will engage children as young as five and thoroughly entertain teenagers alike.

The game board is filled with Action Tiles and Action Cards, complemented by a Directional Card, multiple Dice, Alliance Tokens, and Ice Markers. At its heart are Personalized Saint Pawns, each representing a beloved saint. Players select their favorite saints and embark on a sacred quest to reach Heaven. As you journey, you'll naturally discover fascinating details about the lives and distinctive appearances of the saints depicted on your chosen Pawns.

Visually, The Holy Quest is stunning. Its design incorporates authentic photos of stained glass windows from churches worldwide, creating a truly immersive and beautiful experience. While having fun, players will gain new insights into the saints and explore life's ultimate aspiration: reaching Heaven. Are you ready to achieve this holy quest?

Components



The Game Board

1 x extra large 24" x 24" 4-fold board

Alliance Tokens

4 x token chips (1 of each color)



Saint Pawn Bases



x 4



× 4



x 4



The Dice



2 x golden metallic die

Ice Markers



10 x transparent clear mini clips

Booklets

1 x Religious orders Info Booklet

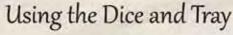
1 x Rules booklet (this publication)

1 x Quick Start Guide



1 x leather dice tray







The Holy Quest includes two golden metallic Dice and a leather Dice Tray. While most gameplay situations use a single die, certain actions or rules require rolling both Dice. These specific instances are clearly explained in the Action Tile section and directly on the Action Cards themselves.

Using the **Dice Tray** is entirely optional, but we highly recommend it. It makes passing the **Dice** between players much easier and effectively prevents them from accidentally rolling onto the game board, which could disrupt the setup or game pieces.

Alliance Tokens / Teammate Tokens



The Holy Quest includes four Alliance Tokens, one for each Religious Order. The use of these tokens depends on the chosen Game Play Mode and whether Scoring is kept.

Alliance Gameplay:

- If your chosen Game Play Mode permits Alliances and you choose to use them, each player places their Religious Order's Alliance Token on their Home Base at the start of the game.
- When Alliances are formed during gameplay, players exchange their Alliance Tokens with their ally. Each player then places their ally's token on their own Home Base to signify the active alliance.
- Alliances can only be formed between two players; three-against-one alliances are not permitted. (Note: Alliances cannot be formed when only two players are playing the game.)

Teammate Mode:

- In Teammate Play Mode, players exchange Alliance Tokens at the very beginning of the game to clearly indicate team pairings.
- No further Alliances can be formed or broken during Teammate Play Mode gameplay.

Game Scoring:

- In Game Play Modes where Scoring is used, Alliance Tokens are not used in the conventional way to signify active alliances during gameplay.
- Instead, when Scoring is kept, Alliance Tokens are used solely for scoring purposes, awarded to players when specific scoring conditions are met. (Refer to specific "Scoring" sections for details).

Ice Markers

The Holy Quest includes ten transparent, spring-loaded mini-clips, called ice markers. These markers indicate when a saint pawn is frozen and unable to move.

If all ten ice markers are in use, no further saint pawns can be frozen. While unlikely, if a player attempts to freeze a pawn when no markers are available, they forfeit their turn, and play proceeds to the next player.

Saint pawns are frozen and unfrozen in various ways (see Freeze Tile, Fire Tile, and Wild Tile on page 6, as well as Action Cards 7 and 11). A frozen saint pawn remains clipped with an ice marker until unfrozen or bumped. When unfrozen, the ice marker is returned to the game box or a designated area on the table.

Any frozen pawn can be bumped by any other pawn regardless their location, even if they are a Captain.

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Holy Ground Tile

Each player has three Holy Ground Tiles, positioned just before the entrance to their Heaven Tiles. While a saint pawn occupies a Holy Ground Tile, it is immune to attacks from other players. The only exception is a Freeze Tile: an opponent landing on and successfully using a Freeze Tile can freeze a saint pawn even on a Holy Ground Tile. This is a rare occurrence, adding an element of surprise to the game.



Fast Forward Tile

The game board includes four **Fast Forward Tiles**. Landing on a **Fast Forward Tile** immediately grants advancement to the next **Fast Forward Tile** in the current direction of play. If the landed-on **Fast Forward Tile** is the last one before a player's **Heaven Tile** entrance, it functions as a **Regular Tile**, and the pawn does not advance. If the next Fast Forward Tile is occupied by an opponent they are legally bumped.



Cross Over Tile

The game board features four **Cross Over Tiles**, each marked with an arrow pointing toward the board's center. When a **saint pawn** lands on a **Cross Over Tile**, it immediately moves to another **Cross Over Tile** across the board's center. This move can be either **helpful or harmful**, potentially advancing the pawn closer to its **Heaven entrance** or moving it further away. It is possible to bump two opponents in one move.



Freeze Tile

Landing on a **Freeze Tile** allows a player to freeze one of an opponent's **saint pawns**. However, successfully freezing a pawn requires a specific die roll: the player must roll both dice and achieve **any double**. This is the **only way** for a **regular saint pawn** to freeze an opponent's **Captain saint pawn** or any pawn currently on **their Holy Ground Tiles**, as **no immunity applies** when a **Freeze Tile** is successfully used.



Fire Tile (Melt the Ice Tile)

The game board features two Fire Tiles. Landing on a Fire Tile allows a player to unfreeze one of their own frozen saint pawns. Additionally, if an alliance exists, players may unfreeze a teammate's or ally's saint pawn. This tile provides one way to counteract the effects of Freeze Tiles. Once a saint pawn is unfrozen, the current player's turn ends. If the player has no pawns to unfreeze, their turn simply ends, and play proceeds to the next player.



Saint Tile

When a player lands on a **Saint Tile**, they draw the top **Saint Card**. If the saint is unfamiliar to any player, or the card hasn't been read previously, another player or an adult reads the card aloud. Otherwise, any other player may ask a question based on the **Saint Card's** information (e.g., "What did St. Dominic receive from the Blessed Mother?"). The player who landed on the **Saint Tile** must then answer.

A correct answer allows the player to roll the die (or both dice, if they are a Captain or matching saint) and move that many spaces. If scoring is used, the player also earns the Saint Card. Otherwise, or for an incorrect answer, the Saint Card is placed at the bottom of the deck. An incorrect answer also forces the player to move back four spaces. If the card is simply read aloud (no question asked/answered), the player's saint pawn remains on the Saint Tile, and the Saint Card is placed at the bottom of the deck. In all cases, play continues with the next player.



Action Card Tile

Landing on an Action Card Tile requires a player to draw the top card from the Action Card deck. The deck contains three sets of 12 shuffled action cards, so the action to be performed is always a surprise. Players must follow the instructions on the drawn Action Card. Some Action Cards instruct players to draw a Saint card.



Wild Tile

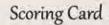
Landing on a Wild Tile grants a player four strategic options. The player must choose one of the following:

- Draw an Action Card: Draw the top card from the Action Card deck and immediately follow its instructions.
- 2.Roll Two Dice: Roll both Dice and move your Saint Pawn the corresponding number of spaces. If you roll Double 6s, you take an additional turn.
- 3. Bump Any Opponent: Choose any opponent's Saint Pawn to attempt to bump. (Exclusions: Captains, ally/teammate Pawns, or Pawns currently on their matching Holy Ground tiles cannot be targeted). To successfully bump, you must declare your target, then roll a 6 on a single die. If successful, the targeted Pawn is immediately returned to its Home Base, and your current Saint Pawn moves to occupy the space it just vacated.
- 4. Unfreeze a Saint Pawn: If you, an ally, or a teammate have at least one Frozen Pawn, you may choose to unfreeze one of them.



Certain game events can cause the Direction Card to be flipped, reversing the direction of play to counterclockwise; when this occurs, players must use the appropriate **Starting Tile** for their Saint Pawns based on the newly indicated direction. When physically flipping the card, rotate it along its short axis (width) to ensure the arrow remains continuously visible to all players.

Note that in One-Way Game Mode, the Direction Card is set at the beginning and never changes. Importantly, while the Direction Card affects Saint Pawn movement, player turns always proceed clockwise.



The Scoring Card outlines how to calculate scores, which applies at the end of each game played in Competition and Easy game modes. While detailed scoring methods are explained later in these rules (see pages 11 and 13), the Scoring Card serves as a quick, handy reference at the end of play. Keeping score adds an extra layer of engagement, especially in Competition Mode. For younger players, scoring is optional and should only be introduced once they're comfortable with counting and addition.

Action Cards

The game includes 36 **Action Cards**, divided into three identical sets of 12 unique **Action Types**. Each of these 12 distinct Actions is represented by three identical cards, with each card bearing a number from 1 to 12 that identifies its specific action. For example, you'll find three cards marked "5" (all performing the same Action), three marked "6," and so on.

At the start of the game, shuffle all 36 Action Cards to form the Action Card deck. Place this deck face-down on the designated "ACTIONS" space on the game board. Once an Action Card's instructions are followed, place it face-down at the bottom of the deck.

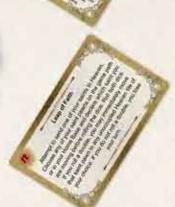
Saint Cards

The base game includes 16 Saint Cards, color-coded to match the religious orders and their corresponding Saint Pawns. The Expansion Pack adds another 16 Saint Cards, bringing the total to 32. While each player only uses four Saint Pawns per game, players can choose to play with either the initial 16 matching Saint Cards or all 32 (if the expansion is available). Using all 32 cards increases the game's difficulty.

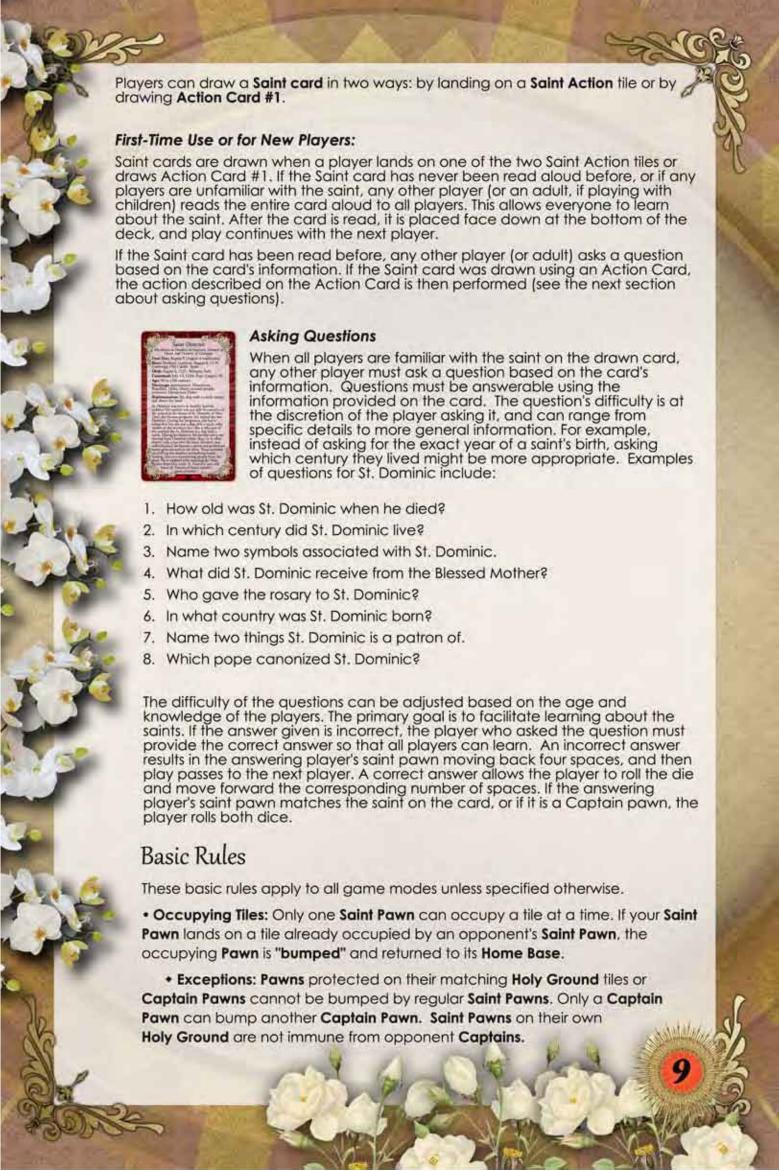
Each Saint Card has a face (the side providing biographical information, including alternate names, feast day, dates of birth, death, and canonization, age, century, patronage, representations, and a short biography) and a back (the side featuring the stained-glass image of the saint, their name, and the crest of their religious order).

To prepare the **Saint Card** deck, shuffle the chosen Saint Cards (16 or 32) and place the deck face-down (biography side hidden) on the designated "SAINTS" space on the board. After shuffling, and with eyes closed, randomly draw one card from the center of the deck and place it face-down on top of the deck.

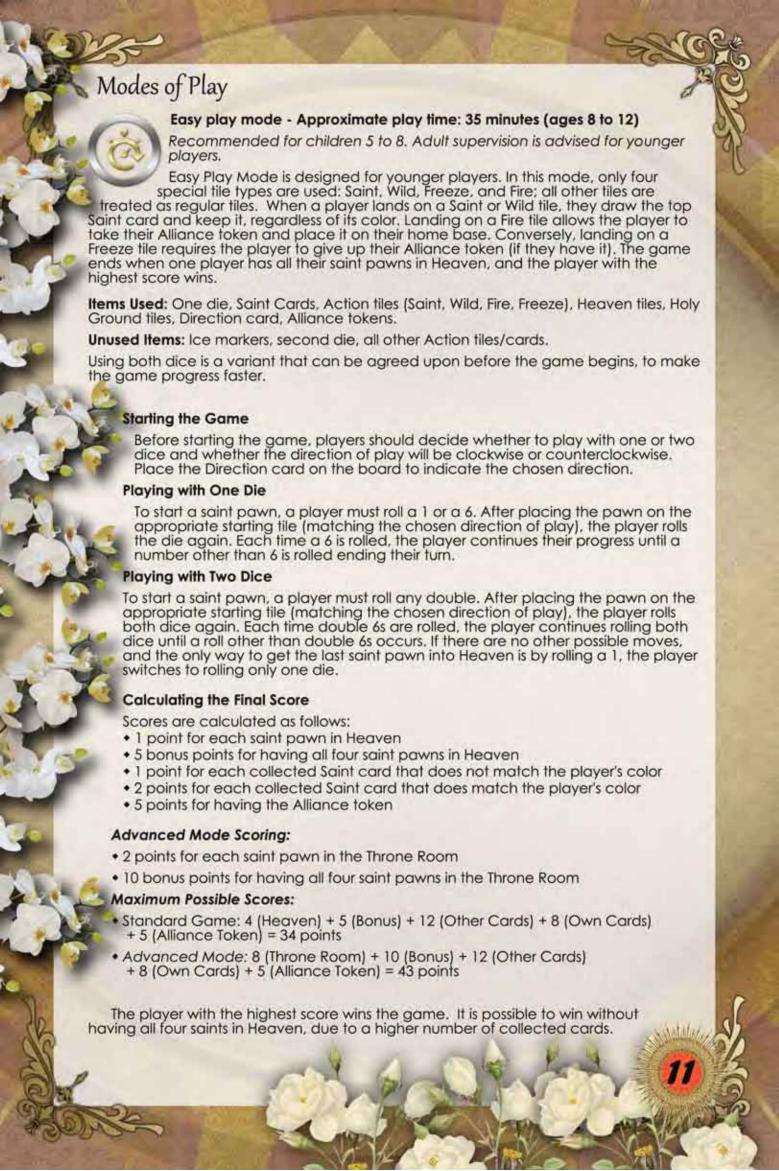
If the **Expansion Pack** is available and you are playing with only 16 Saint Cards, we recommend selecting the cards that match the **Saint Pawns** chosen for the game, especially if playing a game mode that involves scoring.







- Frozen Pawns: A Frozen Pawn can still be bumped. If this occurs, the Ice Marker is removed from the Pawn and returned to the game box.
- Entering Heaven: To move a Saint Pawn onto its corresponding Heaven Tile, an exact die roll is required. If a player cannot roll the exact number needed, they lose their turn.
- Rolling a Six (No Legal Moves): If a 6 is rolled and there are no possible legal moves for any of your Pawns, the player may roll again. (This specific rule applies only to a roll of 6, not other numbers.)
- Single Die Variant Rolling a 6: In the Single Die Variant, rolling a 6 allows the player to continue rolling and moving until a roll other than 6 occurs.
- Single Die Variant Starting a Pawn: In the Single Die Variant, rolling a 6 or a 1 allows a player to start a new Saint Pawn from their Home Base onto the board path instead of moving an existing Pawn. After starting a Pawn, the player rolls again to advance it on the path.
- Double Dice Variant Rolling Double 6s: When using two dice, rolling Double 6s
 allows the player to continue rolling and moving until a roll other than Double 6s
 occurs.
- Double Dice Variant Starting a Pawn: In the Double Dice Variant, rolling any double allows the player to start a new Saint Pawn from their Home Base onto the board path.
- Player Turns: Players always take turns in a clockwise direction, regardless of the direction of play on the board.
- Starting the Game: To determine the starting player, each player rolls one die. The player with the highest roll goes first. In case of a tie, the tied players roll again until a clear winner emerges. Alternatively, the youngest player may go first. Subsequent turns proceed clockwise.
- Bumping Opponents (General Rule): Whenever your Saint Pawn lands on an occupied tile, you bump that opponent's Saint Pawn back to their Home Base.
 You cannot bump Saint Pawns protected by their Holy Ground or Captain Pawns, unless your own Pawn is a Captain.
- Unfreezing Saint Pawns: There are three ways to unfreeze a Frozen Pawn.
 - 1. Land on a Fire Tile (see page 6).
 - 2. Land on a Wild Tile and choose Option 4 (see page 6).
 - Unfreeze with a Die Roll: On your turn, instead of moving your Pawns, declare which Frozen Pawn you wish to unfreeze. Roll both dice. If you get any double, you may remove the Ice Marker from that Pawn, and your turn ends.
- Alliances: Alliances cannot be formed when only two players are playing the game. If the game mode allows for alliances, remove card #10 from the Action Card deck before play.
- Rolling a 6 / Double 6s on an Action Tile: Whenever you roll a 6 (in the Single Die Variant) or Double 6s (in the Double Dice Variant) and land on an Action Tile, you perform the required action and then roll again. If an Action Card is drawn and it explicitly states that you lose your turn, that instruction overrides this rule, and the next player gets their turn.
- Opponent Captain on Starting Tiles: When an opponent's Captain Saint Pawn occupies your Starting Tile, the only way to start your own Saint Pawn from Home Base is to bump them with your own Captain Pawn. If you do not have your own Captain Pawn in your Home Base, you must wait until that opponent's Captain Pawn moves away before you can start any of your remaining Saint Pawns.
- Legal Moves: A Legal Move is any possible move that can be made with your die roll. If you have only one possible move, even if it seems harmful to your strategy, you are required to take it. If there are no possible Legal Moves, the player loses their turn.



Simple play mode - Approximate play time: 25 minutes (ages 5 to 8)

In Simple Play Mode, Saint cards are not used. The Saint Action tiles are treated as regular tiles, and Action Card #1 is removed from the Action Card deck. The objective is simply to be the first player to get all their saint pawns into Heaven. The first player to achieve this wins the game; there is no score calculation in this mode.

One-Way Play Mode

In One-Way Play Mode, the Direction Card usage is permanent, and Action Card #5 is removed from the Action Card deck. Players decide on a direction of play (clockwise or counterclockwise) before starting the game, and this direction remains fixed for the entire game. The Direction card is placed on its designated space on the board, indicating the chosen direction, and is not changed. Otherwise, the game is played according to the other mode selected (Easy, Standard, or Advanced etc.)

Full Play Mode - Approximate play time: 35 minutes (ages 12 to adult)

Full Play Mode utilizes all game components except Alliance tokens. Action Card #10 is removed from the Action Card deck. This mode incorporates all Action tiles and cards, Saint cards, and the Direction card. Players may choose to keep score in Full Play Mode (see "Calculating the Final Score" on page 13). If score is kept, players retain Saint cards of their own color after correctly answering a question; these cards are used for scoring at the end of the game. The player with the highest score wins. If score is not kept, the first player to get all their saints into Heaven wins. In this case, after a question is answered (correctly or incorrectly), the Saint card is returned to the bottom of the deck. The game always ends when the first player gets all their saints into Heaven.

Multiplayer Play Mode

Multiplayer Mode is designed for groups of more than four players, with an unlimited number of players allowed per team. Players form teams, with a maximum of four teams possible. Teams can have varying numbers of players. Within each team, players take turns rolling the dice, ensuring that a different team member rolls each time it is their team's turn. Alliances are not permitted in this mode; therefore, Action Card #10 is removed from the Action Card deck, and Alliance tokens are not used. This mode allows everyone to participate, making it ideal for parties and large gatherings.

Teamwork Play Mode

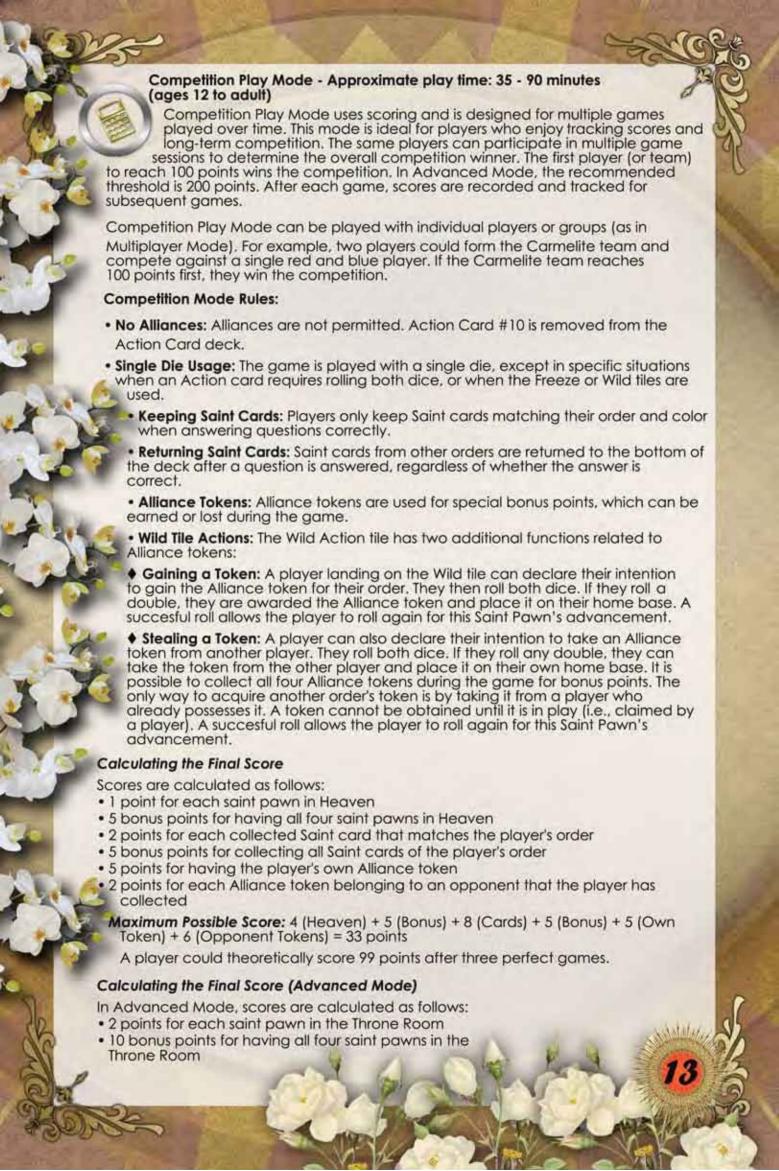
Teamwork Mode requires four players or groups. Before the game begins, players choose their partners, forming two teams. Team members exchange Alliance tokens and then compete against the other team. Alliance Action cards are not used in this mode; therefore, Action Card #10 is removed from the Action Card deck. To win, each team must get all eight of their saint pawns into Heaven, onto Heaven tiles corresponding to the colors of their saint pawns. Each player can move their own pawns or those of their teammates. No harmful actions can be taken against a teammate pawn.

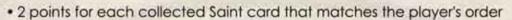
Alliance Play Mode

In Alliance Play Mode, players do not form permanent teams. While alliances can be formed during the game, each player ultimately competes individually. Alliances can help players, or their allies, reach Heaven faster. To form an alliance, players exchange Alliance tokens. When an alliance is broken, tokens are returned to their original owners. While an alliance is active, players cannot harm the saint pawns of their allies. Alliances can enable weaker players to progress against stronger players. Scoring is not permitted in this mode and you can move pawns of your ally when you roll if it benefits your goal.

For example, if the Carmelite player is significantly ahead, the Dominican and Franciscan players might form an alliance to challenge the Carmelite player by working together. They could assist each other, such as unfreezing allied saint pawns or strategically moving pawns to bump opponents—actions they might not be able to accomplish individually.

Alliances are formed and dissolved solely through drawing the Alliance Action card. Alliances are proposed, accepted, and are entirely voluntary. This adds a strategic element, requiring players to carefully balance the benefits of cooperation with the ultimate goal of winning individually. It is possible to assist an ally but still lose the game.





- 5 bonus points for collecting all Saint cards of the player's order
- 5 points for having the player's own Alliance token
- 2 points for each Alliance token belonging to an opponent that the player has collected

Maximum Possible Score (Advanced Mode): 8 (Throne Room) + 10 (Bonus) + 8 (Cards) + 5 (Bonus) + 5 (Alliance) + 6 (Opponent Tokens) = 42 points

A player could theoretically score 210 points after five perfect games.

Competition Scoring

After each game is completed, player scores are recorded and added to their cumulative competition score. The first player (or team) to reach 100 points wins the overall competition.

Custom Play Mode

This mode allows players to create their own unique game experience by setting custom rules. Players can combine elements from different game modes, accept or reject existing rules, and experiment with various combinations to develop a personalized playing style. The possibilities are endless! The following are just a few suggestions to inspire custom game creation:

- 1. Adjusted Score Threshold: The 100-point threshold in Competition Mode can be modified. For a longer competition, players might choose a higher target, such as 200 points.
- Modified Scoring: Point values for various scoring criteria can be customized. For example, each Alliance token could be worth 1 point instead of 5.
- 3. Keeping All Saint Cards: Players could keep any Saint card after answering a question correctly, regardless of the card's color. This can influence card availability for other players.
- 4. Using All Saint Cards (Expansion): With the expansion pack, using all 32 Saint cards adds more variety, challenge, and scoring opportunities.
- 5. Removing Fast Forward Tiles: Players can choose to treat Fast Forward Action tiles as regular tiles, ignoring their special function.
- Treating Captains as Regular Pawns: Captain saint pawns can be played as regular pawns, without their special abilities.
- 7. Create Your Own Rules: Players are encouraged to experiment and create their own custom rules to maximize their enjoyment of the game.

Advanced Play Mode

Advanced Play Mode can be combined with any other play mode. In Advanced Play, after completing the initial objective (getting all saints into Heaven), players undertake a second challenge: being the first to move all their saints into the Throne Room of God.

This second "mini-quest" cannot begin until all of a player's saints are in Heaven. While this may sound easy, it can be quite challenging. To move a saint into the Throne Room, a player must roll the exact number required. Because the path around the Throne Room is shorter, rolling the precise number can be difficult. While waiting for the correct roll, other players may catch up and bump the player's saints, sending them back to their Heaven tiles. Once a saint is in Heaven, it cannot be removed from Heaven. If bumped while circling the Throne Room, the saint pawn is moved to the unoccupied Heaven tile closest to the Throne Room.

