

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 19, 2020



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
Parish Office: 713.738.2311; Fax: 713.738.3337
CCE Office: 713.731.2775; SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com
Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston>

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

PASTOR:

Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins

Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Curtis Jones 713.731.2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER

Anthony Ray Gobert

MAINTENANCE

Violet & Harold Champ

NEW WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:15p.m. - 4:45p.m.

Sundays: 6:45a.m. - 7:15a.m.

9:20a.m. - 9:45a.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Judah Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

God's Chosen Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Youth Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

BIBLE STUDY/

ADULT CATHECHISM:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to proposed date.

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS

To register, call, come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com

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MASS INTENTIONS

NOTE: THE SUNDAY 12:15PM MASS INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE 10:00AM MASS.

SAT. 07/18/2020 5:00PM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Theresa A. Seals (D)
Wanda Johnson & Florence
Jasmine N. Johnson (L) – Wanda Johnson
Rev. August Thompson (D)
Levan & Dolores Ledet
Dcn Albert Henry (D) – The Family

SUN. 07/19/2020 7:30AM

People of the Parish

SUN. 07/19/2020 10:00AM

Ronald Crowley (D)
James & Bonnie Jefferson
Patrick Martell (D) – The Chaney Family
Peter Buckman (D) – Agnes Thompson
Joseph L. Broussard, Jr. (D)
Leona Washington
Ella Collins Reed (D)
Theresa Chambers
Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.
Wanda Dixon/Family

MON. 07/20/2020 7:00AM

Peter Buckman (D) – Florence & Wanda
Michael Johnson (L) – Margaret Chaney

TUE. 07/21/2020 7:00AM

Michael Johnson (L) – Margaret Chaney
Pamela Thibodeaux (D) – Gloria Dargin

WED. 07/22/2020 7:00AM

A. Casby (L) – P.A. Piper
Ulysses LaVergne (D) – Gloria Dargin

THUR. 07/23/2020 7:00AM

Ruth Celestine (L) – Tywana Navy
Jerard Savoie (D) – Orell Dargin

FRI. 07/24/2020 7:00AM

Lessie L. Cross (D)
Levan & Dolores Ledet
Joseph Broussard Jr (D) – Audrey Jones



Deacon Alfred Abram, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Mary Augustine Chenier, Dalton Cooper Jr., Joseph Fontenet, Nicole Fontenet, Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Ann Kennerson, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Shannon Martin, Willie Martin Jr., Dorothy Milstead, Carson Morris, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsort, Cynethia Pichon, William Pierre Sr., Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose, Faith Samuels, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Emanuel & Felecia Ward, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

Let us Know

Please let us know when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having a surgery, especially if the illness or surgery is serious. Call the Parish Office so that we can put the name on the sick list for prayers and/or visitation if needed. **After 30 days, please call the office to remain on the prayer list.**

Lord, we pray for all our current military service members and first responders who put their own lives on the line every day in order to protect our families and our country.

Army:

Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Shanta Charles, Josiah Charles, Patrick Clay Jr, Stephen Jones, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, David Stagnoli, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel

Navy:

Alvin Balthazar, Debreaanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell, Christian Johnson, Hope Bethany Johnson

Air Force:

Roderick Jones, Joffre Lander, Bena Sellers, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

Marines

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday..... Closed
Tuesday.....9:00am to 5:00pm
Wednesday.... 9:00am to 5:00pm
Thursday..... Closed
Friday..... 9:00am to 3:00pm

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



God's lenience and mercy are extolled throughout today's scriptures. Wisdom teaches us that God's mercy gives us all "good ground for hope." The Holy Spirit helps us

in our human imperfection, Saint Paul explains. Jesus' parables illustrate that with God's patience we can rise and shine like the sun, even as part of a field of weeds or as seemingly insignificant as a tiny mustard seed. Reassured, we sing together, "Lord, you are good and forgiving."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – July 19

The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Monday – July 20

Saint Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr
Micah 6:1-4, 6-8
Psalm 50:5-6, 8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Matthew 12:38-42

Tuesday – July 21

Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor of the Church
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
Psalm 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8
Matthew 12:46-50

Wednesday – July 22

Saint Mary Magdalene
Song of Songs 3:1-4 or 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
John 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday – July 23

Saint Bridget, Religious
Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13
Psalm 36:6-7, 8-9, 10-11
Matthew 13:10-17

Friday – July 24

Saint Sharbel Makhuf, Priest
Jeremiah 3:14-17
Psalm 31:10, 11-12, 13
Matthew 13:18-23

Saturday – July 25

Saint James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4:7-15
Psalm 126:1-2, 4-5, 6
Matthew 20:20-28



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- AMBER MARIE BYAS
- JORDYN CAMPBELL
- KAIDENCE E. DORSEY
- JOSELYN M. RUIZ NUNEZ

RCIA

The initiation of catechumens and candidates will be scheduled at an appropriate time before the year ends. Registration for the 2020-2021 Class is available on the Parish Website:

www.sfxhouston.com



KPC SCHOLARSHIPS

NOTICE: The deadline to submit Knights of Peter Claver Council and Court 138 Scholarship Applications is Monday, July 20, 2020.



Purpose and Mission

The Young Adult Christian Ministry is a Social, Spiritual, Spiritual, Supportive,

and Service Group. We will help strengthen your Spiritual relationships with God, Support each other, and Serve the Church Community.

CAR WASH

The Young Adults will sponsor two upcoming car washes: Saturday, July 25th, and Saturday, August 1st, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

Join Us: 19-39 years; Service Projects; Worship and Social Events.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

NISSAN SENTRA SV 4DR SEDAN

2nd Prize....\$1000.00 Gift Card

3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card

4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card

5th Prize.\$300.00 Macy's Card

Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 20 for \$100.00. Each household is asked to sell at least 2 books.

Drawing: October 18, 2020 after the 10:00am Mass.

Winner Need Not Be Present

Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion?

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Assistance for Parishioners in Need

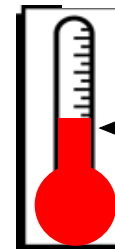
Texas Pandemic Food Benefits: Through the CARES Act, children who qualify for free and reduced lunch may be eligible for \$285 per month, per child. Applications are due by **July 31**. To see the full announcement from Gov. Greg Abbot, go to the following website:

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-hhsc-extend-deadline-for-pandemic-food-benefits-for-families-affected-by-covid-19-school-closures>.

The link also includes registration information and more about the program.



Victoria Powell passed away on July 13, 2020 at the age of 95. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, July 25th, at 10:00am. Visitation begins at 8:45am.



DSF Status as of
07/13/20
40% Paid

Goal \$62,000.00

To Pledge/Pay Online:

www.archgh.org/dsf

DSF participation enables us to impact the lives of thousands and thousands of our Archdiocesan brothers and sisters through the evangelizing, healing, nurturing, and pastoral ministries of the Church. Make your donation today and experience God's call to express love and compassion.

Stewardship Reflection

That we may allow stewardship to blossom in our hearts and joyfully share our gifts. "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." Matthew 13:24, 37-38 As children of God, we are all "good seeds". We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on July 11th and 12th was **140**. Please come worship with us and bring a friend. You must wear a mask to attend our Sunday services.

God, Please Don't Pull Up My Weeds Early

My brothers and sisters-in-Christ at St Francis Xavier, Happy Sunday! Today we have some powerful parables from Jesus that challenge us to look inward. We have the parables about the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, and the leavened bread.

Last week, we had the parable about sowing seeds on different kinds of soil. In the wheat and the weeds parable, Jesus tells us that the farmer, who is God, sowed good seed in his field. At night, an enemy sneaked in and scattered weeds through his whole crop.

As the crop grew, so did the weeds, all mixed up with the wheat.

What a mess.

The farmer's helpers asked him, "**Do you want us to go and pull them up?**" "**No,**" he replied, "**let them grow together until harvest.**"

Brothers and sisters, doesn't this represent our world? Our world today consists of wheat and weeds. Our world today consists of good and evil.

The good news today is about God's tolerance of evil.

While the farmers were ready to pull the weeds, God says, no, and gives the weeds a chance.

Where do you think you fall today? Are you a wheat or are you a weed?

I'd say... All of us are wheat and all of us are weeds.

We can see in ourselves both good and evil. In other words, wheat and weeds can be present in our hearts, in our thoughts, and in our actions.

- We are wheat when we are choosing to be loving and caring people.
- We are wheat when God's seed grows in us and transforms us.
- We are wheat, when, in our free will, we love God and follow him.

God gives us his seed in his word. For example, Jesus tells us in scripture to:

- Love one another as ourselves
- Take care of the least among us
- Go and make disciples of all nations
- Let our yes be yes and let our no be no
- Go first and be reconciled with our brother
- Confess our sins to one another and pray for one another, that we may be healed

When we do this, we are wheat.

So, Deacon Darryl, when are we weeds?

- We are weeds when we choose to hurt rather than to love
- We are weeds when we don't make Jesus a priority in our lives
- We are weeds when we follow the world view when it's contrary to God's word.

Here's an example of what I mean:

Jesus tells us to serve others, to put others first. But the world is telling us to put ourselves first. We are number one. That it's all about me, myself, and I. That we should want wealth and material things in life over helping others.

Jesus also tells us to forgive 7 x 70 times. The world tells us differently. The world tells us to get revenge. An eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth. The world tells us that we have to pay back. You've heard it said, "Don't get mad, get even."

Or, what about people who live together intimately and are not married, in other words, they are shacking up. The world tells them it's okay, God's word says differently.

What about people who know that we shouldn't kill, but they support abortion. The world says it's okay. Our legal system says it's okay.

These are but a few examples of weeds.

God, please don't pull up my weeds early

Again, aren't we glad God is patient with us when we are weeds?

Aren't we glad that He doesn't pull us up right after some of the bad choices we have made?

He gives us a chance until the harvest...

The gospel says, "**Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.'**"

God, please don't pull up my weeds early

There was a man who was born in the 1100's. He was born into wealth. His father was in the clothing and textile business and owned lots of farmland. When he was a teenager, he was spoiled and spent money freely, drank, and had wild parties. (He sounds like the prodigal son) He dropped out of school at the age of 14 and was a rebellious teenager.

At this point, would you consider him a wheat or weed?

His father wanted him to follow in his footsteps in the textile business, but instead he wanted to be a knight.

When he was 21, he joined the army and got captured in combat. It was while he was in prison that he heard the voice of God.

It was God, the sower, who planted the good seed in him.

God told him to rebuild the Christian Church and to live in poverty.

When he got out of prison, he did just what God told him to do. He started working in the Church and he lived in poverty.

Brothers and sisters, do you know who I'm talking about yet? Well, I'll tell you in a minute.

So this young man, now in his early 20s, kept committed to rebuilding the Christian Church. He was now keeping God a priority in his life. He had devoted his life to Christ. He took some of his father's cloth and sold it, along with his horse, to help rebuild the Church.

That man was Francis of Assisi or today we know him as Saint Francis of Assisi. He became wheat.

He put God's purpose first above all else. He even put it above following his father's wishes that Francis help him with his textile business.

He did not let his father or wealth eclipse his service of his God. He truly became a disciple. At harvest time, he was put into the barn of heaven.

Today we are challenged by the words of Jesus' parables. We should reflect deeply on them and determine where we are. If we determine that we are not majority wheat, then how can we get there?

We must pray and open our hearts to God's Word. We must ask God to reveal those weeds in our heart which are keeping us from Him. We can't get there on our own, we must have God's grace and mercy to help us. We must have his love and forgiveness.

And if we are majority wheat today, let us pray that God continues to keep us as wheat. God wants us all to take root from the good seed and grow into those beautiful people that God calls us to be.

So I leave you with this question...how can we become wheat this week and ready ourselves for God's harvest?

Deacon Darryl Drenon

Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



As God's child, you are the wheat in God's field. As you love and trust God more, your faith will grow. You will see others around you who love God, too. God will be happy to see you growing up in God's love. As you grow taller and stronger, you will also notice others around you who ignore or hate God. God will get rid of those weeds. Then he will bring you into heaven.

PRAYER

God, help my love and faith to grow strong.

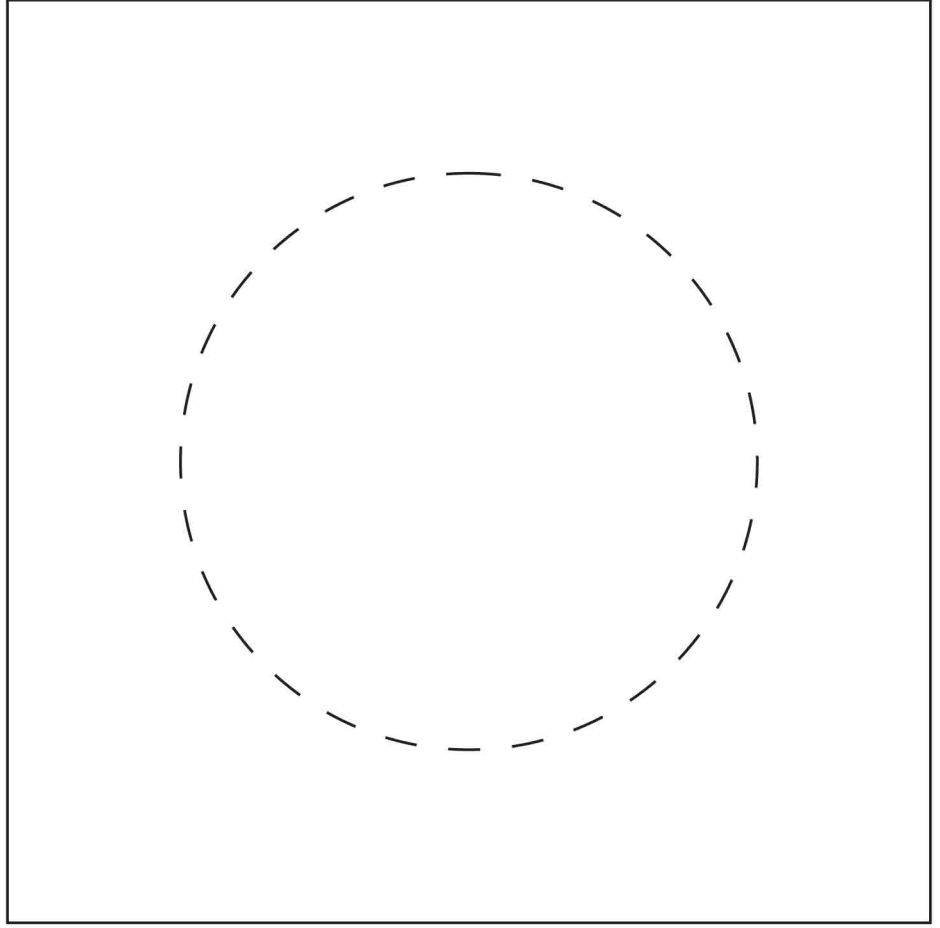
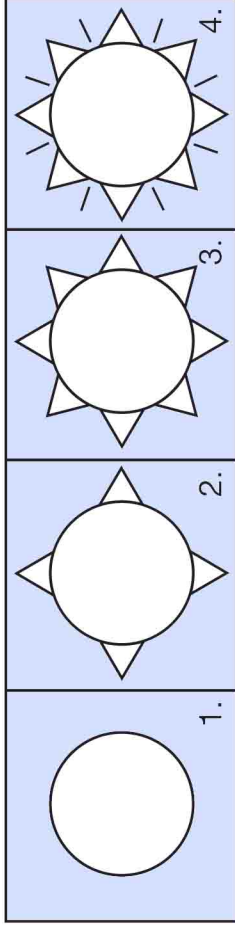
MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Help your parents in the garden. Watch how carefully weeds need to be pulled, so you don't pull up the good plants, too.

JULY 19, 2020

Jesus said, "The righteous will shine like the sun."

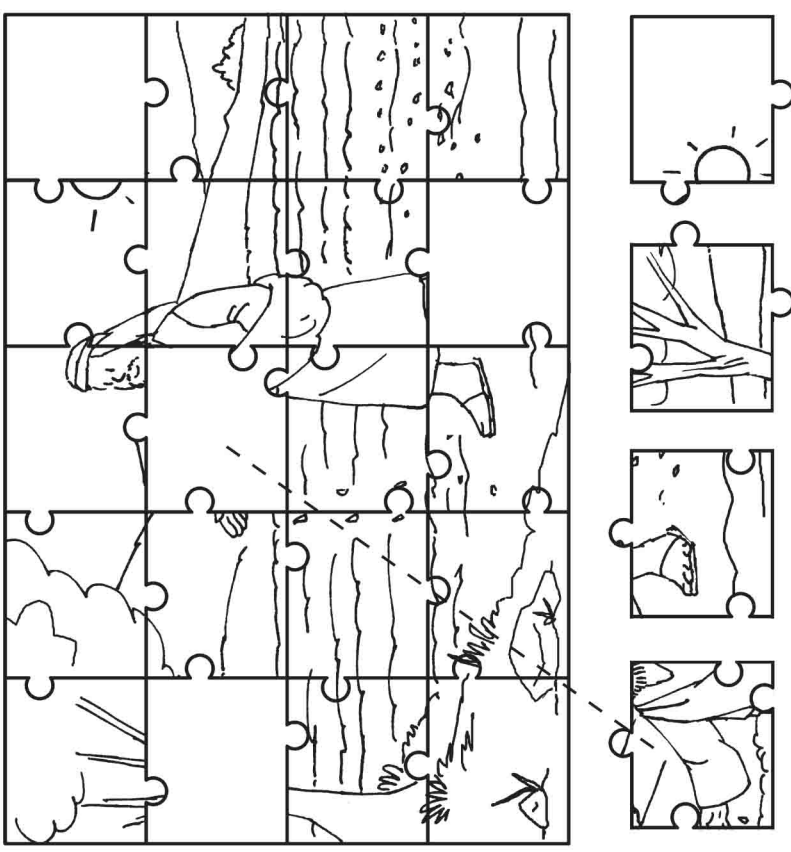
Follow the drawing steps.



The Parable of the Weeds

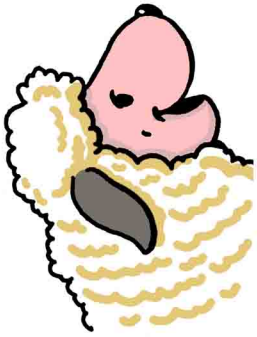
A man planted good seed in his field.

Match the puzzle pieces.



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SECRET CODE!
WVGK94



Then Jesus said the Son of Man would send special messengers out at the end of the age. What are they?

Write the word that means the opposite of the one given.
The letters in the boxes spell the answer.

sad _ _ _

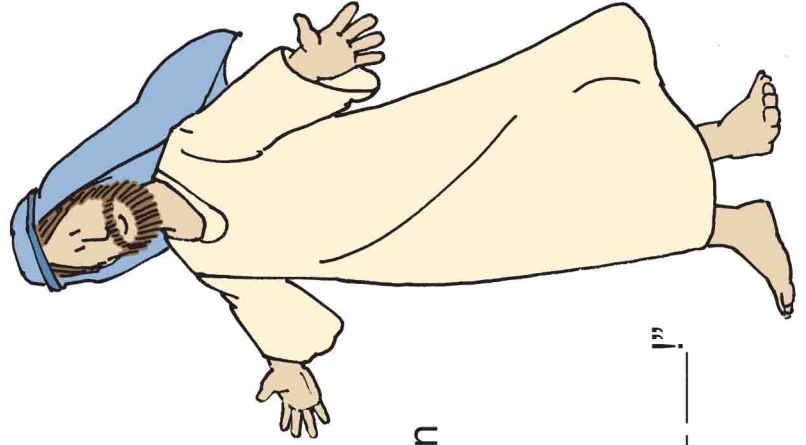
old _ _ _

boys _ _ _

odd _ _ _

hate _ _ _

future _ _ _



“The Son of Man

will send out

His

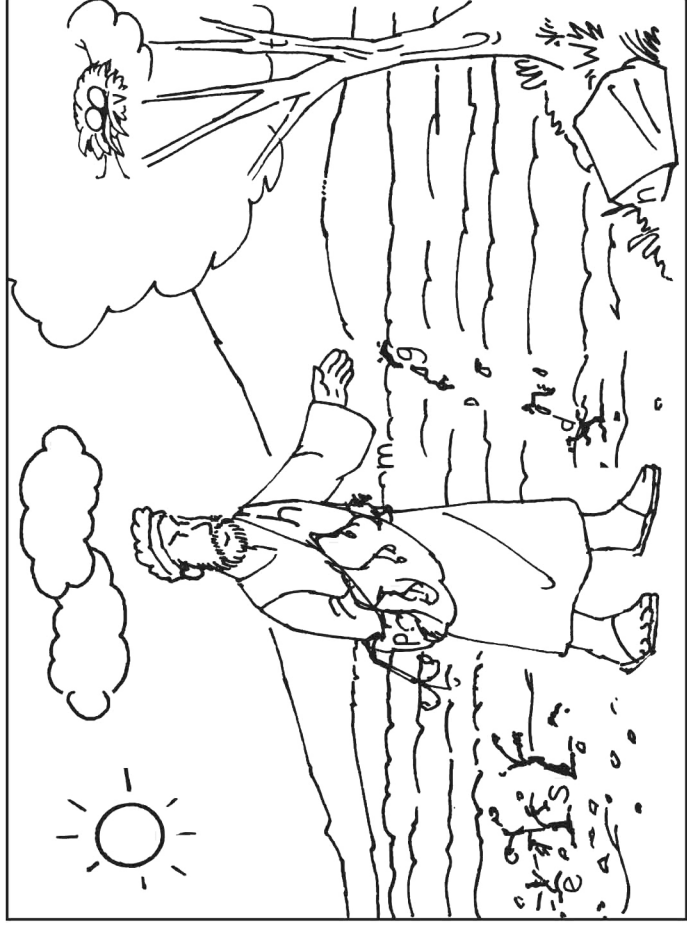
_____!”

The Parable of the Weeds

Jesus said, “The kingdom of Heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.” But then something happened.

Find the underlined letters in the picture below.

While everyone was sleeping, the man's enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat.



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SECRET CODE!

PFQRQ3



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