

# Saints Sunday School Student Handout

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## WEEK 1 – ST. STEPHEN

**Theme: Faithful Witness and Forgiveness**

### SCRIPTURE

Acts 6:8–15

Acts 7:54–60

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### STORY

1. Stephen lived in the earliest days of the Christian Church, shortly after Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended into heaven. As the number of believers in Jerusalem grew, the apostles appointed seven men to help serve the community. Stephen was chosen because he was known to be full of faith and the Holy Spirit.
  2. Stephen did more than serve food and care for the poor. Scripture tells us that he performed great wonders among the people and spoke boldly about Jesus as the promised Messiah. Some religious leaders began to argue with him, but they could not overcome the wisdom given to him by the Spirit.
  3. False witnesses accused Stephen of speaking against the temple and the law of Moses. He was brought before the council to defend himself. Instead of speaking in fear, Stephen gave a powerful summary of Israel’s history, showing how God had always been faithful — and how the people had often resisted Him.
  4. Stephen declared that Jesus, whom they had rejected, was the Righteous One sent by God. These words made the council angry.
  5. As Stephen was taken outside the city and stoned, he looked up and saw a vision of Jesus standing at the right hand of God. In the moment of great suffering, Stephen prayed. “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.”
  6. Stephen became the first Christian martyr. His death was not the end of the Church — it strengthened it. Even a young man named Saul was present that day. Saul would later become the Apostle Paul.
  7. Stephen’s life teaches that courage and forgiveness reflect the heart of Christ.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” — Acts 7:60 (NKJV)

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. What made Stephen brave?
2. Why is forgiving others important?

Grades 5–8

1. How did Stephen reflect Jesus in his final prayer?
2. Why does faithful witness sometimes require courage?



## WEEK 2 – ST. ALBAN

### Theme: Courage and Sacrificial Love

#### SCRIPTURE

John 15:13

Matthew 10:32–33

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#### STORY

1. Alban lived in Britain in the third century, when Roman authorities persecuted Christians. At first, Alban was not a Christian. He was a Roman citizen living in the town that would later be called St. Albans.
  2. One day, a Christian priest fleeing persecution sought shelter. Alban welcomed him into his home. During the time they spent together, Alban listened to the priest speak about Jesus — about His death and resurrection, and about the hope of eternal life. Alban’s heart was changed.
  3. When Roman soldiers arrived searching for the priest, Alban made a courageous decision. He exchanged clothing with the priest and allowed himself to be arrested in his place. By doing this, he gave the priest time to escape safely.
  4. Brought before a judge, Alban was ordered to deny Christ and offer sacrifice to pagan gods. He refused. He confessed his faith openly and would not turn away from Jesus.
  5. Alban was sentenced to death. According to tradition, he was executed on a hill outside the city. He became the first British martyr.
  6. Alban’s story reminds us that faith often begins with hospitality, and courage grows from love for Christ.
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#### MEMORY VERSE

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” — John 15:13 (NKJV)

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. Why did Alban protect the priest?
2. What does it mean to be brave for Jesus?

Grades 5–8

1. How did hospitality lead to faith in Alban’s life?
2. What does sacrificial love look like in everyday situations?



## WEEK 3 – ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

### Theme: Mission and the Growth of the English Church

#### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:19–20

Acts 1:8

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#### STORY

1. Augustine was a monk living in Rome in the late sixth century. During this time, much of England had returned to pagan beliefs. Pope Gregory the Great desired to send missionaries to preach the Gospel to the Anglo-Saxon people.
  2. Augustine was chosen to lead this mission. The journey from Rome to England was long and uncertain. At one point, Augustine and his companions became discouraged and considered turning back. But Gregory encouraged them to trust God and continue.
  3. When Augustine arrived in the kingdom of Kent around the year 597, he met King Æthelberht. The king's wife, Queen Bertha, was already a Christian, which helped open the door for conversation.
  4. Augustine preached Christ respectfully and patiently. He did not force belief. He trusted the Holy Spirit to work in hearts.
  5. Over time, King Æthelberht accepted baptism, and many others followed. Augustine established the Church at Canterbury and became its first Archbishop.
  6. His mission laid the foundation for what would later become the Anglican Church.
  7. Augustine reminds us that obedience and perseverance are essential in God's work.
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#### MEMORY VERSE

"You shall be witnesses to Me." — Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. Why did Augustine travel to England?
2. How can you share your faith kindly?

Grades 5–8

1. What challenges might missionaries face?
2. Why is patience important in evangelism?

## ST. AUGUSTINE



## WEEK 4 – ST. COLUMBA OF IONA

**Theme: Repentance, Renewal, and Mission**

### SCRIPTURE

Psalms 51:10

2 Corinthians 5:17

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### STORY

1. Columba was born in Ireland around the year 521. He was educated in Scripture and became a monk and priest. He loved learning and was passionate about copying and preserving biblical texts.
  2. However, a dispute over a copied manuscript led to conflict between clans. The disagreement grew into violence, and lives were lost. Though historians debate the details, Columba believed he bore responsibility for the events. Columba chose repentance.
  3. As an act of humility and penance, he left Ireland and sailed to Scotland with several companions. They settled on the island of Iona in 563 and established a monastery devoted to prayer, study, and mission.
  4. From Iona, Columba preached to the Pictish tribes of northern Scotland. He baptized converts, trained leaders, and helped spread the Gospel across the region.
  5. Columba's life shows that repentance does not end a calling — it can begin a new one. God used his humility to strengthen the Church.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Create in me a clean heart, O God.” — Psalm 51:10 (NKJV)

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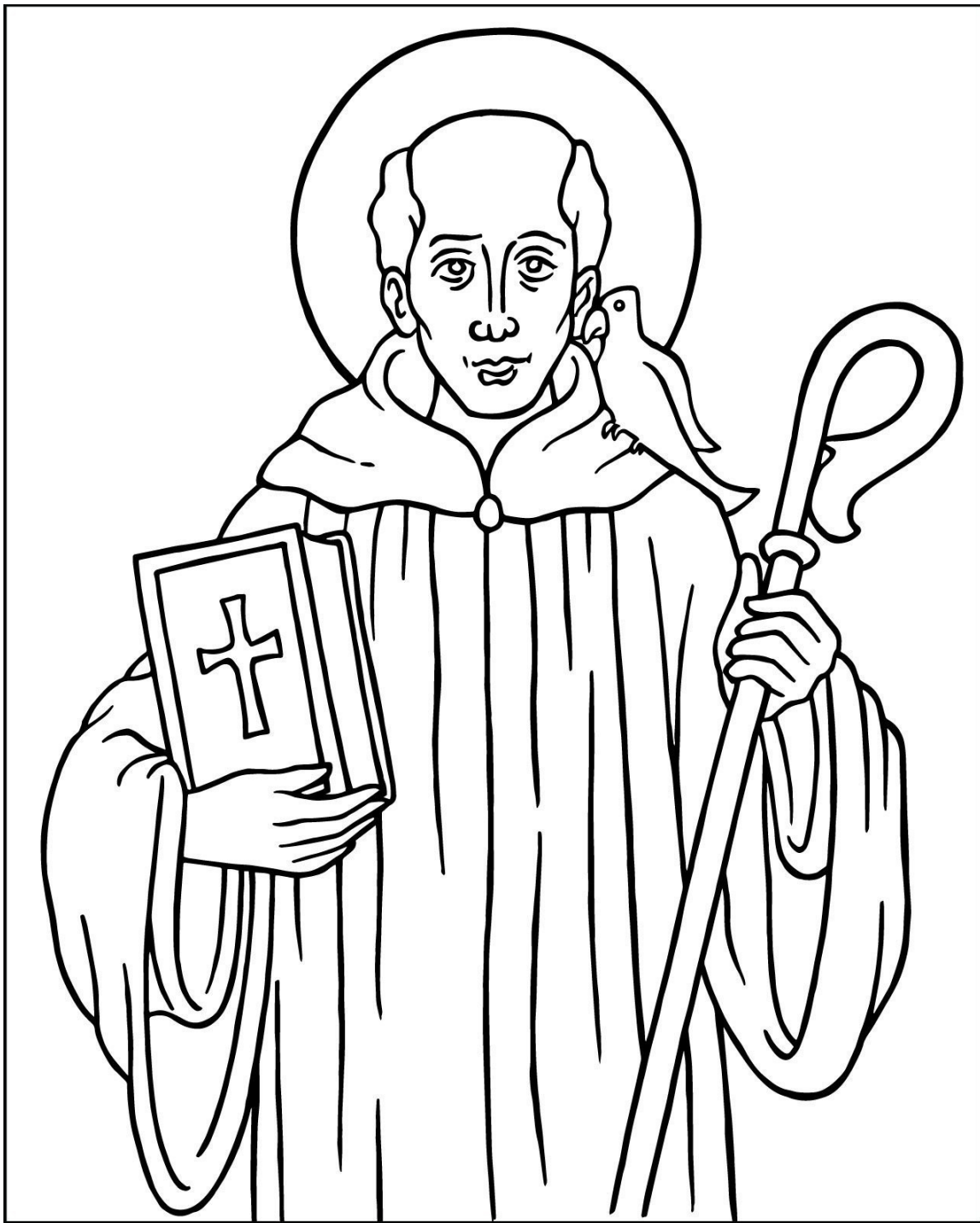
### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. What does it mean to say you are sorry?
2. How did God use Columba after he left Ireland?

Grades 5–8

1. Why is repentance important in the Christian life?
2. How can mistakes become opportunities for growth?





## WEEK 5 – ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE

**Theme: Gentle Evangelism and Pastoral Care**

### SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 2:24–25

Matthew 5:5

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### STORY

1. Aidan was a monk from the monastery of Iona in the seventh century. After the Christian faith began to grow in parts of Scotland, King Oswald of Northumbria asked for help teaching the people of northern England.
  2. At first, another missionary was sent, but he returned discouraged, saying the people were too stubborn. Aidan gently suggested that perhaps they needed patient instruction instead of harsh correction.
  3. Aidan was sent to Northumbria around the year 635. He established a monastery on Lindisfarne, an island off the northeastern coast of England. From there, he traveled on foot from village to village, speaking with people personally and explaining the Gospel in simple, clear language.
  4. King Oswald often translated Aidan’s words into the local dialect. Aidan did not rely on force or authority. He relied on gentleness, example, and careful teaching.
  5. He gave generously to the poor and trained young believers to grow in faith. His life showed that leadership requires humility and patience.
  6. Aidan reminds us that truth must be spoken with love. Gentleness opens hearts.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all.” — 2 Timothy 2:24 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. Why was Aidan patient with the people?
2. How can you show kindness when teaching someone?

Grades 5–8

1. Why is gentleness important in sharing the Gospel?
2. How does Aidan’s example challenge modern ideas of leadership?



## WEEK 6 – ST. PATRICK OF IRELAND

**Theme: Trinity, Forgiveness, and Bold Mission**

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:19–20

Romans 12:21

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### STORY

1. Patrick was born in Britain around the year 385. Though raised in a Christian home, he did not take his faith seriously as a young boy. At the age of sixteen, Irish raiders captured him and took him to Ireland as a slave.
  2. Patrick worked as a shepherd for six years. Alone in the fields, he began to pray constantly. In his writings, he later described how suffering strengthened his faith. What once felt like fear became trust in God.
  3. Eventually, Patrick escaped and returned home. But years later, he sensed God calling him back to Ireland — not for revenge, but for mission.
  4. Patrick returned as a bishop and missionary. He preached about Jesus Christ, baptized believers, and helped establish churches. Tradition says he used a shamrock to explain the Trinity — one God in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
  5. Patrick’s life is a testimony of forgiveness and obedience. God turned his captivity into a calling.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.” — Matthew 28:19 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. How did hardship change Patrick’s faith?
2. Why did Patrick forgive instead of seeking revenge?

Grades 5–8

1. How does Patrick’s story reflect the Great Commission?
2. What does the shamrock teach about the Trinity?

# ST. PATRICK



## WEEK 7 – ST. BENEDICT OF NURSIA

**Theme: Prayer, Discipline, and a Rule of Life**

### SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

Colossians 3:17

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### STORY

1. Benedict was born around the year 480 in Italy during a time of political and social confusion. As a young man studying in Rome, he saw disorder and moral decline. Instead of following that path, Benedict chose to seek God seriously.
  2. He withdrew for a time to live in prayer and solitude. Others recognized his wisdom and asked him to guide them. Eventually, he founded a monastery at Monte Cassino.
  3. There, Benedict wrote what became known as the Rule of St. Benedict — a guide for Christian community life. The Rule emphasized balance: prayer, work, Scripture reading, humility, and obedience.
  4. His motto is often summarized as “Pray and Work.”
  5. Benedict understood that holiness grows through daily habits. Spiritual growth is not accidental — it is cultivated through discipline and devotion.
  6. His influence shaped Christian communities across Europe for centuries.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Pray without ceasing.” — 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

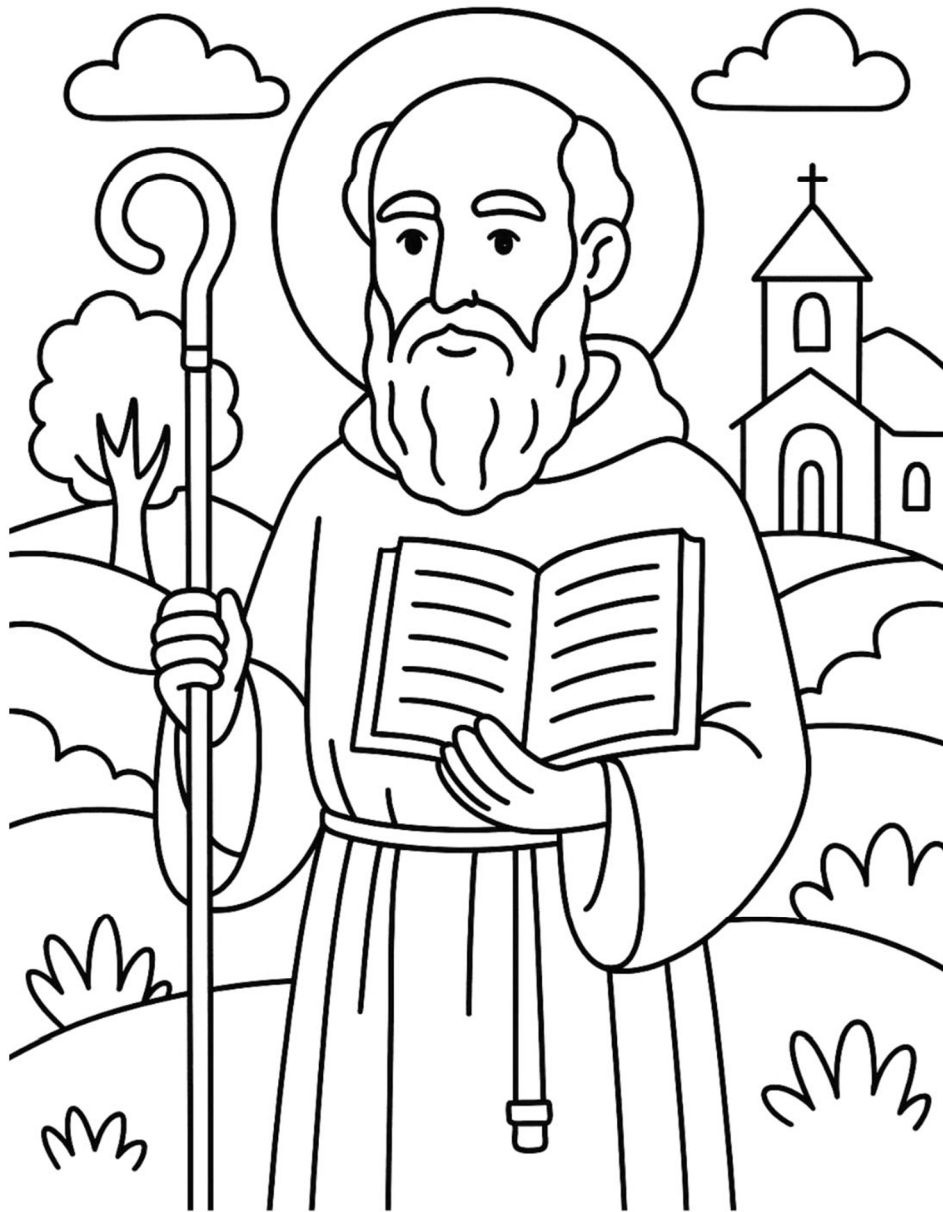
Grades 3–4

1. Why is daily prayer important?
2. What is one good habit you can practice?

Grades 5–8

1. What is a Rule of Life?
2. How do daily habits shape your spiritual growth?

# ST. BENEDICT



## WEEK 8 – ST. GEORGE

### Theme: Courage Rooted in Faith

#### SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 1:7

Ephesians 6:10–11

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#### STORY

1. George lived in the third century and served as a Roman soldier. He was also a Christian during a time when believers were persecuted.
  2. When Emperor Diocletian ordered Christians to renounce their faith, George refused. He openly confessed Christ, even knowing it could cost him his life.
  3. Later legends tell of George defeating a dragon. While symbolic, the dragon represents evil and fear. George's true victory was his refusal to deny Jesus.
  4. He was executed for his faith, but his courage inspired believers across generations. George became known as the patron saint of England.
  5. George reminds us that faith overcomes fear. Courage comes from trusting God's strength.
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#### MEMORY VERSE

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." — 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. What made George brave?
2. How can God help you when you feel afraid?

Grades 5–8

1. What does spiritual courage look like today?
2. How does faith overcome fear?





## WEEK 9 – ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**Theme: Simplicity, Joy, and True Treasure**

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:19–21

Psalm 24:1

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### STORY

1. Francis was born in 1181 in Assisi, Italy, to a wealthy merchant family. As a young man, he enjoyed comfort, fine clothing, and dreams of becoming a knight. He desired honor and recognition.
  2. After becoming ill and experiencing disappointment in battle, Francis began to question what truly mattered. While praying in a small, broken church, he believed he heard Christ calling him to “rebuild My church.”
  3. At first, Francis began repairing church buildings with his own hands. Over time, he realized that God was calling him to something deeper — rebuilding hearts through repentance and devotion.
  4. Francis gave up his wealth and chose a life of simplicity. He served the poor, preached about Christ, and trusted God to provide his needs. Others joined him, forming a community that later became known as the Franciscans.
  5. Francis is also remembered for his love of creation. He saw the world as belonging to God and gave thanks for its beauty. He did not worship nature — he worshiped the Creator.
  6. Francis teaches that Christ is our greatest treasure. Joy comes from devotion, not possessions.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” — Matthew 6:21 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. What did Francis give up to follow Jesus?
2. Why is Jesus more important than money?

Grades 5–8

1. How does simplicity free us spiritually?
2. What do your priorities reveal about your heart?

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSIS



## WEEK 10 – ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

**Theme: Servant Leadership and Mercy**

### SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:8

James 1:27

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### STORY

1. Margaret was born in 1045 into an English royal family. After political turmoil, she eventually married King Malcolm III of Scotland and became queen.
  2. Though she held great authority, Margaret did not seek power for herself. She devoted herself to prayer, Scripture, and caring for the poor. She invited orphans and needy families into the royal court and personally served them.
  3. Margaret worked to strengthen the Church in Scotland, encouraging faithful worship and Christian education. She helped reform practices that needed renewal and encouraged both clergy and laity to grow in devotion.
  4. Margaret also raised her children to love God and serve others.
  5. She believed that leadership must reflect Christ’s humility and mercy. Her life shows that influence is a gift meant for service.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” — Micah 6:8 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. How did Margaret help the poor?
2. Why is kindness important in leadership?

Grades 5–8

1. What does servant leadership look like today?
2. How does personal devotion strengthen public leadership?



## WEEK 11 – ST. JOSEPH

**Theme: Courage, Humility, and Trust in God**

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18–25

Matthew 2:13–15

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### STORY

1. Joseph was a carpenter in Nazareth who was engaged to Mary when he learned she was expecting a child. Troubled and confused, Joseph considered quietly ending the engagement.
  2. But an angel appeared to him in a dream, explaining that the child was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph chose obedience over fear. He took Mary as his wife and became the earthly guardian of Jesus.
  3. Later, when warned of danger, Joseph immediately took Mary and Jesus to Egypt to escape King Herod. His actions protected the Holy Family.
  4. Joseph speaks only a few recorded words in Scripture, yet his obedience speaks loudly. He trusted God’s direction and acted faithfully.
  5. Joseph teaches that courage is often quiet and humble. Trust in God leads to obedience.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Joseph... did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.” — Matthew 1:24 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. How did Joseph show bravery?
2. Why is it important to listen to God?

Grades 5–8

1. What does quiet obedience look like?
2. How does trust lead to courageous action?

# ST. JOSEPH



## WEEK 12 – ST. MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD

**Theme: Faithful Obedience and Humility**

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26–38

Luke 1:46–49

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### STORY

1. Mary was a young woman in Nazareth when the angel Gabriel announced that she would bear the Son of God. Though she did not fully understand how this would happen, she responded with humility and trust. “Let it be to me according to your word.”
  2. Mary’s song of praise, known as the Magnificat, glorifies God for His mercy and faithfulness. She understood that her role was part of God’s greater plan of redemption.
  3. Mary faced many challenges — fleeing to Egypt, raising Jesus, and witnessing His suffering. Yet she remained faithful.
  4. Mary does not point to herself; she points to Christ. Her obedience reminds us that trusting God often requires courage and humility.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” — Luke 1:38 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

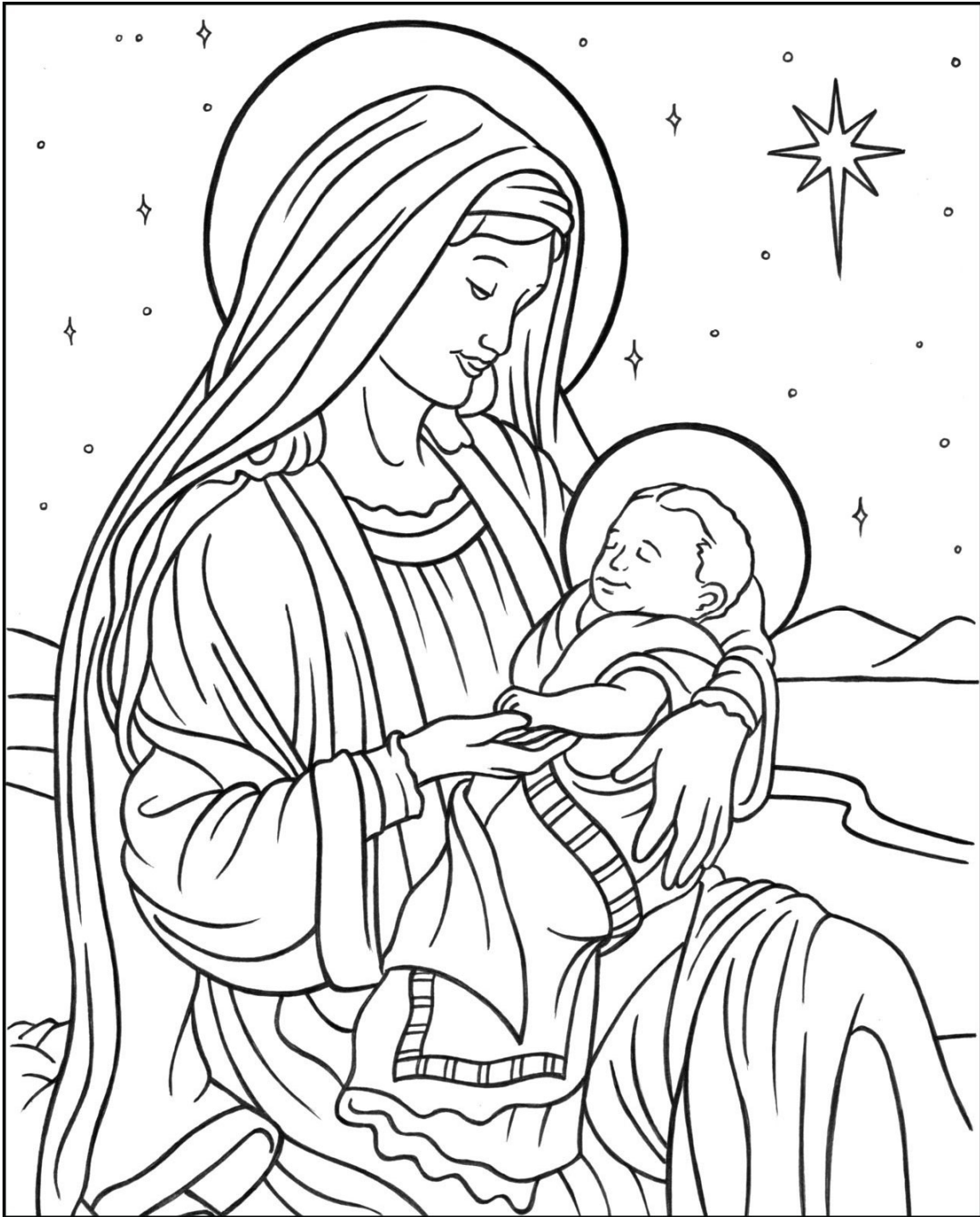
Grades 3–4

1. Why did Mary trust God?
2. What does obedience mean?

Grades 5–8

1. How does humility strengthen faith?
2. Why is Mary a model of discipleship?







## WEEK 13 – ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA

**Theme: Generosity and Joyful Giving**

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:1–4

2 Corinthians 9:7

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### STORY

1. Nicholas was born in the third century in Myra. Raised in a Christian home, he inherited wealth after his parents died. Instead of using it for himself, Nicholas gave generously to those in need.
  2. One well-known story tells of a poor father who could not provide dowries for his daughters. Nicholas secretly delivered bags of gold to the family at night so they would not know who had helped them.
  3. Nicholas later became a bishop and defended the Christian faith during times of persecution. He cared deeply for the poor and vulnerable.
  4. His generosity was quiet and joyful. He sought God’s glory, not attention.
  5. Nicholas reminds us that giving reflects God’s generous heart — especially as we prepare for Advent and the coming of Christ.
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### MEMORY VERSE

“God loves a cheerful giver.” — 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NKJV)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Grades 3–4

1. Why did Nicholas give secretly?
2. How can you share with others?

Grades 5–8

1. Why should generosity be humble?
2. How does giving prepare our hearts for Christ?

# ST. NICHOLAS

