

Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María



September 2017

Dear Brothers and Sister:

In this month, we want to share with the children the Seven Sacraments, the important in our life. Dedicate time to show them to follow the rules in the families, church and school. And be a good example for others.

**Enclosed you will find some Feast and Saints of the month:**

September	08	Birth of the blessed Virgin Mary
September	14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September	15	Our lady of Sorrows
September	21	Saint Matthew
September	24	Our Lady of Mercy
September	27	Saint Vincent of Paul
September	29	St Michael, Gabriel and Raphael Archangels

**Enclosed material and activities:**

- 1) Calendar & Gospel month of September
- 2) Let's adopt a kid Spiritually
- 3) Fraternal Correction
- 4) Famous Phrases about Forgiveness

**Suggest Videos:**

- 1) Creations
2. The Good Samaritan
3. Prayer

**May God bless you, Friends of Jesus and Mary**



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Florida Center for Peace

September 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 FIRST FRIDAY  1Th 4, 1-8 Psalm 96 Mt 25, 1-13	2 FIRST SATURDAY  1 Th 4, 9-11 Psalm 97 Mt 25, 14-30
3 22 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Jr 20, 7-9 Psalm 62 Ro 12, 1-2 Mt 16, 21-27	4  1 Th 4, 13-18 Psalm 95 Lk 4, 16-30	5 S. TERESA OF CALCUTA  1 Th 5, 1-6. 11 Psalm 26 Lk 4, 31-37	6  Col 1, 1-8 Psalm 51 Lk 4, 38-44	7  Col 1, 9-14 Psalm 97 Lk 5, 1-11	8 VIRGIN MARY NATIVITY  Mic 5, 1-4 Psalm 12 Mt 1, 1-16.18-23	9  Col 1, 21-23 Psalm 53 Lk 6, 1-5
10 23 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Ez 33, 7-9 Psalm 94 Ro 13, 8-10 Mt 18, 15-20	11  Col 1, 24-2, 3 Psalm 61 Lk 6, 6-11	12  Col 2, 6-15 Psalm 144 Lk 6, 12-19	13  Col 3, 1-11 Psalm 144 Lk 6, 20-26	14  Col 3, 12-17 Psalm 150 Lk 6, 27-38	15  Hb 5, 7-9 Psalm 30 Jn 19, 25-27	16  1 Ti 2, 15-17 Psalm 112 Lk 6, 43-49
17 24 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Si 27, 33-28, 9 Psalm 102 Ro 14, 7-9 Mt 18, 21-35	18  1 Ti 2, 1-8 Psalm 27 Lk 7, 1-10	19  1 Ti 3, 1-13 Psalm 100 Lk 7, 11-17	20  1 Ti 3, 14-16 Psalm 110 Lk 7, 31-35	21  Eph 4, 1-7.11-13 Psalm 18 Mt 9, 9-13	22  1 Tm 6, 2c-12 Psalm 48 Lk 8, 1-3	23 S. PIO PIETRELCINA  1 Tm 6, 13-16 Psalm 99 Lk 8, 4-15
24 25 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Isaiah 55, 6-9 Psalm 144 Phil 1, 20-24. 27 Mt 20, 1-16	25  Esd 1, 1-6 Psalm 125 Lk 8, 16-18	26 S. COSME & DAMIAN  Esd 6, 7-8.12b. 14-20 Psalm 121 Lk 8, 19-21	27 S. VINCENT OF PAUL  Esd 9, 5-9 Int/Th 13. 2-8 Lk 9, 1-6	28  Hg 1, 1-8 Psalm 149 Lk 9, 7-9	29 ARCHANGELS  Dn 7, 9-10.13-14 Psalm 137 Jn 1, 47-51	30  Zec 2, 5-9. 14-15 Int/Jr 31, 10-13 Lk 9, 43b-45

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## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

***XXII Sunday in Ordinary Time September 3, 2017***

***Readings: Jeremiah 20: 7-9; Psalm 63; Romans 12, 1-2; Matthew 16: 21-27***

### ***The First Prediction of the Passion***

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct." (Matthew 16: 21-27)

### ***Reflection***

Following Jesus may be hard. But this is the only thing that has meaning and that gives abundant life. What are most of the things that are most difficult to give up? What would they want to keep for themselves without sharing with anyone? Have you ever felt very lonely when you have wanted to share with others? What might Jesus have wanted to say about losing when one refuses to give? Share.

### ***Activity***

Draw and cut out crosses. On one side write your name and something that is difficult but they know must accept. Place all the crosses in a basket and offer them at the time of prayer.

### ***Prayer***

Lord, we sometimes find it hard to accept the path of a sacrifice for the good of others. But that is what is holy and pleasant to you. Make us generous and confident that in such self-giving we will find your abundant life. Amen.





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Florida Center for Peace

## *Let's adopt a kid spiritually*



- Life is a gift from God, a present that he gave us.
- He made us all different and with much love.
- He thought of creating us since we were smaller than a small lentil.

Let's love each other like he loves us!! **We give each other a big hug** to feel the love of God and that he and the virgin Mary are with us.

And now that we know how much God loves us... we can give more love to others.

Prayer for spiritual adoption:

Dear Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we want to ask you for all the babies that will be born. Let them be born, grow and be able to do all the things we do.

I want to spiritually adopt a kid during the nine months of the school year. Help me, amen.

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## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

***XXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 10, 2017***

***Readings: Wisdom of Solomon 33, 7-9; Psalm 9; Romans 13, 8-10; Matthew 18, 15-20***

### ***It is better to reconcile than to fight***

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18, 15-20)

### ***Reflection***

Are there things you find difficult to forgive and forget? When someone hurts you, can you speak to those people calmly and affectionately so that you can be reconciled? How do you feel when you make up after a fight? What do you think about today's story? Would you tell Jesus he is asking for too much? Out of love, it is important to seek reconciliation with those who have offended us or whom we have offended. Share.

### ***Activity***

Bring a basket with pieces of paper. Motivate the children to write what bothered them this week. On the other side ask them to write a prayer to Jesus asking for his help to be able to forgive. Then share.

### ***Prayer***

Lord, Jesus, fill us with your love and your mercy to understand one another and forgive each other as we have been forgiven by you. Amen.





## ***Fraternal Correction***

**Personally, correct your brother  
Bring with you one or two witnesses to correct him  
Make all the community talk to him  
If he refuses to listen, leave him alone**

1. Place the altar in the center of the room with one large candle or several small candles. Light the candles. The room should be without light and instrumental music should be playing.
2. Read Romans 13, 8-10
3. Read Matthew 18, 15-20
4. Invite the group to meditate on the readings.
5. Motivate the group to pray for each other
6. At the end make a circle, join hands, be quiet for one or two minutes.

Sing a song that will tell us about the love and friendship of Jesus and how we should love one another. Make it a prayer.

### **Jesus Loves Me (Traditional words by Anna B. Warner)**

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong,  
They are weak but He is strong.  
**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**The Bible tells me so.**

Jesus loves me! He who died,  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
He will wash away my sin,  
Let His little child come in.  
**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!**

Jesus loves me! loves me still,  
When I'm very weak and ill;  
From His shining throne on high,  
Comes to watch me where I lie.  
**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!**

Jesus loves me! He will stay,  
Close beside me all the way;  
He's prepared a home for me,  
And some day His face I'll see.  
**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me!**

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## ***OUR LADY OF SORROWS*** ***The Seven Sorrows of Mary/September 15***

Mary, the Mother of Christ suffered with Him since He was a child. As a child, there were three sorrowful moments: the prophecy of Simeon, the flight to Egypt and the loss of the child for three days. As an adult, there were four sorrowful situations during His Passion: meeting Jesus on His way to Calvary, the crucifixion and death of Jesus, being taken down from the cross, and Jesus laid in the tomb.

### ***Act of Constriction***

#### ***1. First Sorrow/The prophecy of Simeon Luke 2, 22-35***

*When the day came to present Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, they consecrated Him to the Lord and offered up two turtledoves, according to the law of the Lord. Simeon, inspired by Holy Spirit, went to the temple and took baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God with these words: Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen the Savior of the World. Then he said to Mary. Behold this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed*

***Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father***



#### ***2. Second Sorrow/The flight to Egypt Matthew 2,13-15***

*The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him...Angel: Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him. Joseph took the child and his mother to Egypt.*

***Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father***



#### ***3. Third Sorrow/Jesus lost and found in the Temple Luke 2,41-50***

*Each year His parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when He was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After Passover was over, and they were returning home, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They returned to Jerusalem to look for Him. After three days, they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard Him were astounded at His understanding and answers. He returned with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart.*

***Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father***





**4. Fourth Sorrow/Mary meets Jesus on the way to Calvary**

Jesus carries the cross. The soldiers have already scourged Him, humiliated Him and tortured Him beyond recognition. The heavy cross is tied to His arms as He stumbles to Calvary. The Virgin Mary comes to His side and with her heart filled with sorrow, accompanies Him to His final mission.

**Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father**



**5. Fifth Sorrow/Jesus dies on the Cross John 19, 17-39**

From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, and gave up His spirit. Mary, His Mother, suffered with Him at the foot of the cross.

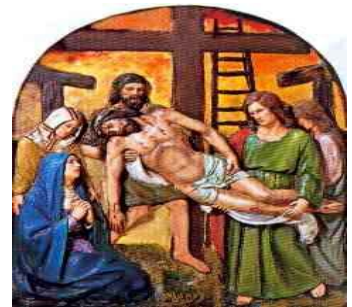
**Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father**



**6. Sixth Sorrow/Jesus being taken down from the cross Mark 15, 42-46**

Mary received the body of Jesus in her arms. John, the beloved disciple, accompanies Mary when she receives His body, her heart filled with sorrow.

**Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father**



**7. Seventh Sorrow/ Jesus laid in the tomb John 19,38-42**

None of His disciples dared claim His body. Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. He came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to Him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. They laid Him in a tomb and rolled a boulder to seal the opening. Mary suffers intensely to see her Son trapped by the kingdom of darkness. But relying on her faith in Jesus' words and supported by His spirit, she keeps hope of a reunion. She passes from the pain, the fear, the doubt, the uncertainty of the cross to a joyous and brave conviction announcing His resurrection.

**Our Father, 7 Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father**







## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

***XXIV Sunday in Ordinary Time September 17, 2017***

***Readings: Sirach 27, 33-28, 9; Psalm 102; Romans 14, 7-9; Matthew 18, 21-35***

### ***The Parable of the Unforgiving servant***

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart." (Matthew 18, 21-35)

### ***Reflection***

In the gospel of this week Jesus invites us to forgive always without thinking on offense or problem. Peter tells Jesus that he can pardon seven times; that means in every case. But Jesus answered you have to forgive seventy times seven that means always and every time. How much does the servant of the gospel owe? Did he have money to pay it? What did the king order for him to pay his debt? The king ordered him to be sold as a slave, with his wife and children and all that he had in order to pay the debt. What did the servant do? The servant fell on his knees before the king. Be patient with me, he begged, and I will pay you everything! What did the king then do? The king felt sorry for him and forgave him the debt and let him go. What did the servant do with a friend that owes him a little money? He did not have compassion for him and he had him thrown into jail until he should pay the debt. How did his friends react? They inform the king and the king called him and said: I forgave you the whole amount you owed me, and you did not have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you. The king was very angry and sent him to jail until he paid back the whole amount. Do you pardon from your heart when someone hurts you? Share.

### ***Activity***

On the next page, you will find an activity with some phrases of important persons on pardon. Try to do it with the children after you read and reflect on the gospel.

### ***Prayer***

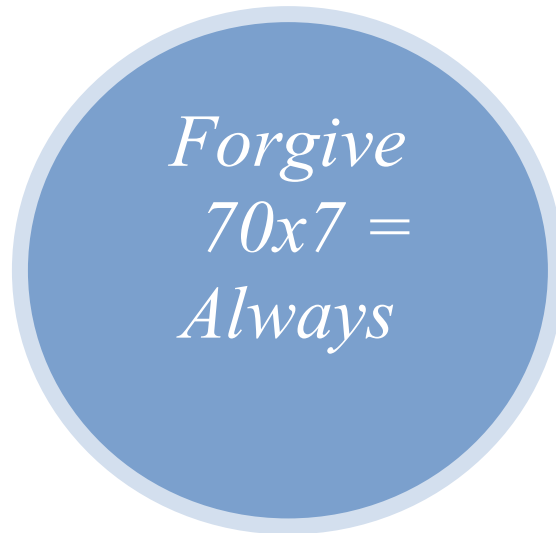
Lord we know that you always will be merciful with us. Let our hearts turn as merciful as your heart. May we be filled with your love and always be ready to forgive others. Amen.





## Famous Phrases about Forgiveness

**HUMILITY**  
**LOVE**  
**PEACE**  
**PIETY**



**COURAGE**  
**COMPASSION**

Read each phrase and carefully try to understand what the author wants to say. Pick up one that will help you forgive. Memorize it. When you have a problem trying to forgive, this phrase will come to your mind to help you always forgive as Jesus did.

1- "When one truly loves, one forgives, forgets, and continues to love."  
-Anonymous

2- "The community is called to make love and forgiveness the beating heart of the Church."  
-Pope Benedict XVI

3- "True forgiveness is only learned in life when one truly needs to be forgiven."  
-Jacinto Benavente

4- "Forgiving is not forgetting, it is remembering without pain."  
-Anonymous

5- "There is no peace without justice; there is no justice without forgiveness."  
-Pope John Paul II



## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

### ***Exaltation of the Holy Cross; September 14, 2017***

***Readings: Numbers 21, 4-9; Psalm 77; Philippians 2, 6-11; John 3, 13-17***

#### ***Jesus heals us***

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. (John 3, 13-17)

#### ***Reflection***

The cross was a most cruel punishment reserved for the worst criminals who were not only executed, but also publicly humiliated. For people in those times, the cross was a symbol of shame. For us however, the cross is the sign of glory and salvation. Jesus' cross symbolizes healing and hope for those who look for it. It is also an invitation to fight against our personal sins of selfishness and social sins of injustice and evil. What bad habits do you have? Do you ask Jesus for the help to break free of those bad habits?



#### ***Activity***

Draw and cut crosses on cardboard paper. Each child writes on one side a need or illness that he wants Jesus to heal. Put them in a basket. And place them on top of the altar of the prayer group, so that all the children can pray for the intentions.



#### ***Prayer***

Lord, when we find life hard, when we face our own sin and the sin of others, teach us to look at the cross, which gives us strength, both in joyful and sorrowful times. Thank you, Jesus, your cross saves the world. Amen.



## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

***XXV Sunday in Ordinary Time September 24, 2017***

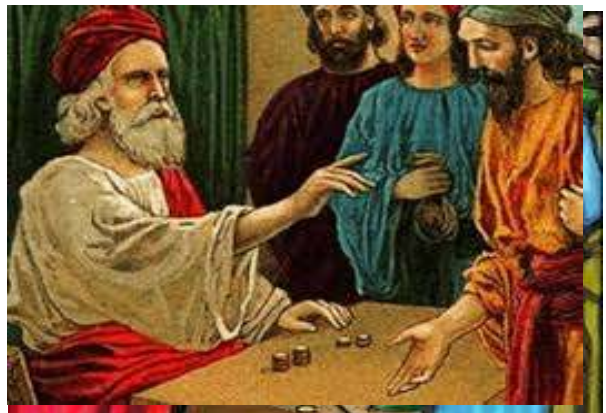
***Readings: Isaiah 55, 6-9; Psalm 144; Philippians 1, 20c-24.27a; Matthew 20, 1-16***

### ***The workers in the Vineyard; A merciful and fair master***

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So, they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So, when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Matthew 20, 1-16)

### ***Reflection***

God ways are not our ways. God is much more generous than we could ever imagine. God can be as generous as He wants with his gifts. God is as generous as the owner was with those who did not have anyone to hire them all day. When you saw that other friends got things that in your opinion, they did not deserve. How did you feel? What do you think about the owner of the vineyard? Do you think it was not fair for him to give equal pay to all? Why would he do something like that? The message today is the great compassion and generosity to which God calls us, because He is compassionate and generous.



### ***Prayer***

Lord, you are always compassionate and generous. Give us a heart free from resentment and jealousy so that we can rejoice in the good of others and in how you deal with each one of us with infinite love. Amen.

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