



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

December 2014
Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Advent started and Christmas preparations begin. We should prepare our hearts to receive Jesus we can do little sacrifices and acts of love. Is time to give love to those people that are alone and don't have family near them. Visit your family more often and share the good news about Jesus love.

Important Feast and Saints:

December 03 Saint Francis
December 06 Saint Nicholas
December 08 Immaculate conception
December 09 Saint Juan Diego
December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 13 Saint Lucy
December 14 Saint John of the Cross

December 25 Christmas Day
December 27 Saint John the Apostle
December 28 Holy Innocents
December 30 Holy Family

Enclosed materials:

- 1) Monthly calendar & Sundays Gospel

Activities:

- a) Can you guess which Saints we are
- b) Christmas card
- c) Immaculate Conception
- d) Our Lady of Guadalupe
- e) Taking the right path
- f) The Holy Family
- g) Jesus Family
- h) Saint Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio
- i)

Suggested videos

1. Saint Martin de Porres
2. Saints & Heroes
3. Gratitude Attitude
4. Anointing of the Sick

The Ministry Friends of Jesus and Mary, Hope you Christmas is wrapped in warmth, touched with wonder and filled with love. Thank you for your support and have a Happy New Year
God bless you,

FLORIDA

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December 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 ST EDMUND Isaiah 2, 1-5 Psalm 121 Mt 8, 5-11	2 Isaiah 11, 1-10 Psalm 71 Lk 10, 21-24	3 ST. FRANCIS XAVIER Isaiah 25, 6-10 Psalm 22 Mt 15, 29-37	4 ST JOHN DAMASCENE Isaiah 26, 1-6 Psalm 117 Mt 7, 21.24-27	5 FIRST FRIDAY ST. SABAS, ABBOT Isaiah 29, 17-24 Psalm 26 Mt 9, 27-31	6 FIRST SATURDAY ST. NICHOLAS Isaiah 30, 19-21.23-26 Psalm 146 Mt 9, 35-10, 1.6-8
7 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 40, 1-5.9-11 Psalm 84 2P 3, 8-14 Mk 1, 1-8	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Gn 3, 9-15.20 Psalm 97 Eph 1, 3-6.11-12 Lk 1, 26-38	9 ST JUAN DIEGO Isaiah 40, 1-11 Psalm 95 Mt 18, 12-14	10 OUR LADY OF LORETO Isaiah 40, 25-31 Psalm 102 Mt 11, 28-30	11 ST DAMASUS I, POPE Isaiah 41, 13-20 Psalm 144 Mt 11, 11-15	12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Isaiah 7, 10-14;8,10 Psalm 66 Lk 1, 39-48	13 ST. LUCY Si 48, 1-4.9-11 Salmo 79 Mt 17, 10-13
14 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 61, 1-2a.10-11 Psalm/Lc 1, 46-50 1Th 5, 16-24 Jn 1, 6-8.19-28	15 ST. FLORENCE ABBOT Nu 24, 2-7.15-17a Psalm 24 Mt 21, 23-27	16 ST ADELAIDE QUEEN OF ITALY Sgs 3,1-2.9-13 Psalm 34 Mt 21,28-32	17 ST LAZARUS Gn 49, 2.8-10 Psalm 71 Mt 1, 1-17	18 Jr 23, 5-8 Psalm 71 Mt 1, 18-24	19 Jr 13, 2-7.24-25a Psalm 70 Lk 1, 5-25	20 ST. ANASTASIA Isaiah 7, 10-14 Psalm 23 Lk 1, 26-38
21 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2S 7, 1-5,8b-12 Psalm 88 Ro 16, 25-27 Lk 1, 26-38	22 1S 1, 24-28 Psalm/ 1S 2, 1 Lk 1, 46-56	23 Mic 3, 1-4.23-24 Psalm 24 Lk 1, 57-66	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 2S 7, 1-5.8b-12.14a.16 Psalm 88 Lk 1, 67-79	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Isaiah 52, 7-10 Psalm 97 Hb 1, 1-6 Jn 1, 1-18	26 ST STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR Ac 6, 8-10; 7, 54-60 Psalm 30 Mt 10, 17-22	27 ST JOHN APOSTLE 1 Jn 1, 1-4 Psalm 96 Jn 20, 2-8
28 HOLY FAMILY FEAST HOLY INNOCENTS Si 3, 2-6.12-14 Psalm 127 Col 3, 12-21 Lk 2, 22-40	29 ST THOMAS BECKET 1 Jn 2, 3-11 Psalm 95 Lk 2, 22-35	30 1 Jn 2, 12-17 Psalm 95 Lk 2, 36-40	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 1 Jn 2, 18-21 Psalm 95 Jn 1, 1-18			

FLORIDA

Can you guess which Saints we are?

Mysteries Saints for December



1 ○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○



2 ○○○○○○ ○○○○○○



3 ○○○○ ○○○○
○○○ ○○○○○○○○



4 ○○○○○○
○○○○○○○○○



5 ○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○
○○○○○○○



6 ○○○○○○
○○○○○○○○○

Hits for December's Mystery Saints

A. He love Jesus very much and followed wit loyalty. He was there in the Calvary, along with Virgin Mary, At the foot of Jesus' cross. He wrote the fourth gospel, the Gospel of Love.

December 27

C. Her name means "full of light", and she is also known as the patron of good eyesight. Her mother was gravely sick and she took her to the miraculous tomb of Saint Agatha. The graces she received there were double, since her mom was physically and spiritually cured. She was accused of being a Christian by her fiancé, and died decapitated on December 13 of the year 300.

December 13

E. He was a bishop who loved little children and told them about Jesus. Children believed that he would leave presents in their shoes or stocking in December

December 6

B. He was born in Rome, around the year 305; the successor of Pope Liberio, in an era were there was an anti-pope. He faced many hardships and fought to keep all Christians united and expand the Christian faith. He is the patron of the catacombs and Christian arqueology

December 11

D. He was born in 1506, the same year that Columbus died. As a youth he studied in Paris, and met with Ignatius of Loyola, who made him realize that the most important thing is to save the soul. He joined the Company of Jesus and went to missions in India. He translated many prayers and Christian articles, and performed baptisms as well. He died in China, while planning one of this missions to go to Japan.

December 3

F. He was one of the first Christians. He was very kind and helpful to others. He was not afraid to tell about Jesus, even though people were cruel to him because he was a Christian. One of the first martyrs, he was stoned to death.

December 26



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Second Sunday in Advent; December 7, 2014

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 84; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8.

The Preaching of John the Baptist

This is the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It began as the prophet Isaiah had written: God said, "I will send my messenger ahead of you to open the way for you. Someone is shouting in the desert, 'Get ready for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel!'" So John appeared in the desert, baptizing and preaching. "Turn away from your sins and be baptized," he told the people, "and God will forgive your sins." Many people from the province of Judea and the city of Jerusalem went out to hear John. They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan River. John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. He announced to the people. "The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals. I baptized you with water but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:1-8)

Reflection

The readings of this week call us to conversion and also invites us to participate in the creation of a new world by preparing the way to receive Jesus. To prepare, we need to eliminate selfishness, deceit, and violence in ourselves and in the world around us. We have to bring hope, joy happiness and peace to all.

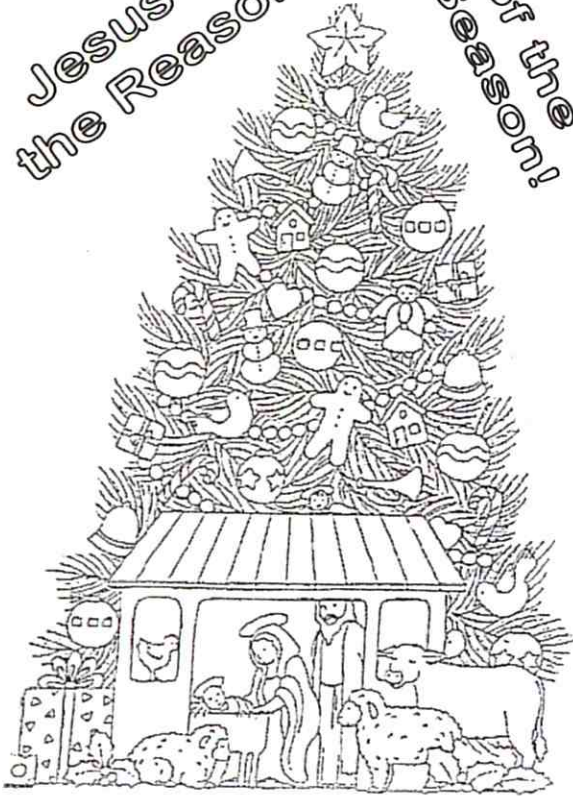
Activity and Prayer

Encourage the children to share the things they are going to offer Jesus this week. As they express their commitments for the week each one turns on a light on the altar. (Use battery lights). Then the second Advent candle is lit for the second week of this season. All together pray saying: "Jesus we want to prepare the way for you! Come!"



Jesus is
the Reason

Of the
Season!



TO: _____

FROM: _____

**JESUS IS BORN!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*"a Child is born to us!
A son is given to us"*

Isaiah 9:6



TO: _____

FROM: _____

**JESUS IS BORN!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*"a Child is born to us!
A son is given to us"*

Isaiah 9:6



8th of December

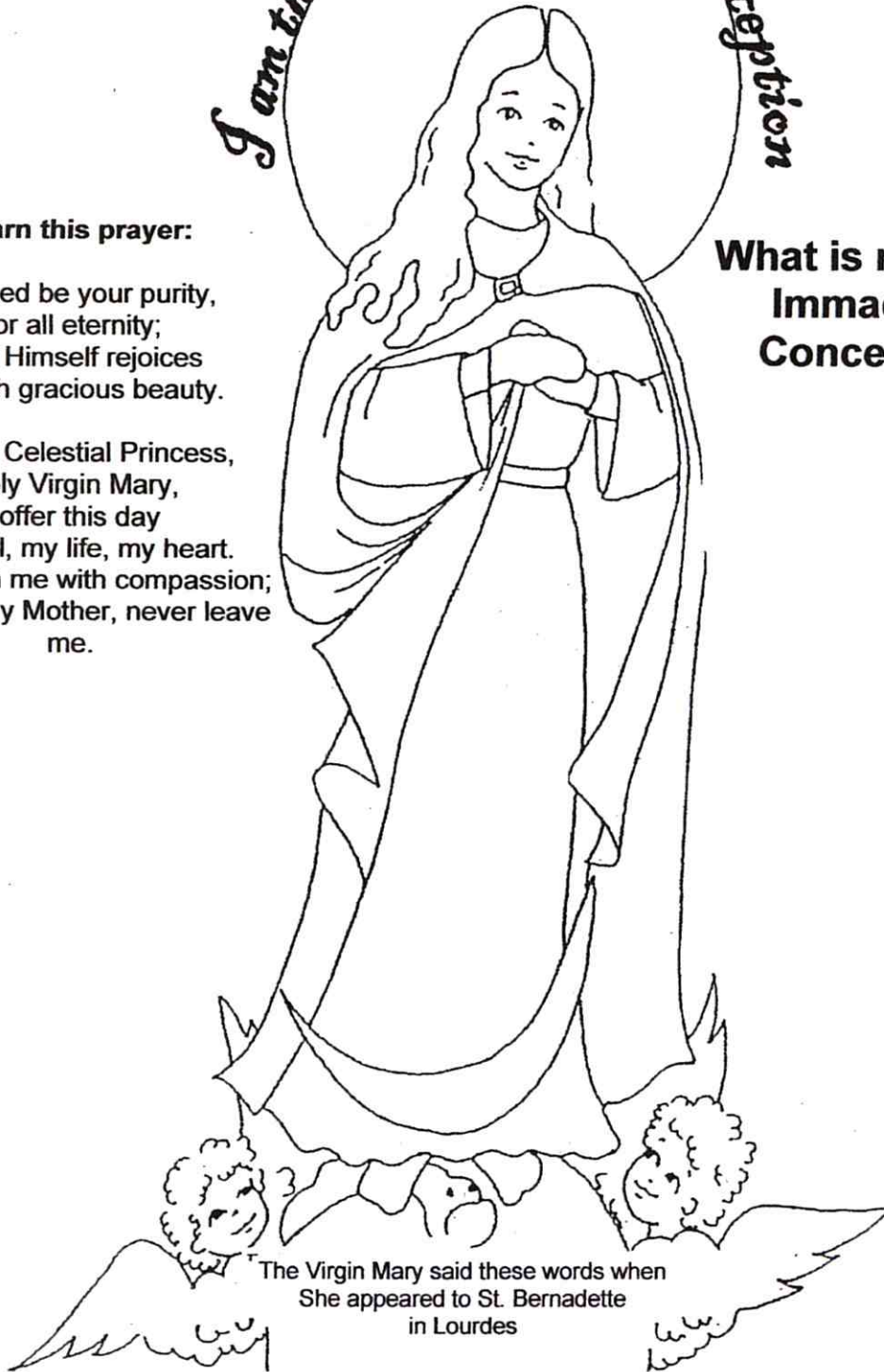
I am the Immaculate Conception

Learn this prayer:

Blessed be your purity,
for all eternity;
God Himself rejoices
in such gracious beauty.

To you Celestial Princess,
Holy Virgin Mary,
I offer this day
my soul, my life, my heart.
Look upon me with compassion;
You are my Mother, never leave
me.

**What is meant by
Immaculate
Conception?**



The Virgin Mary said these words when
She appeared to St. Bernadette
in Lourdes

**OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE**

DECEMBER 12



**The Blessed Virgin took the flowers with Her precious hands and said:
"My youngest and dearest son, these different kinds of roses are the proof, the sign that
you will take to the Bishop."**



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Third Sunday of Advent/ December 14, 2014

Readings: Isaiah: 61, 1-2, 10-11; Psalm ; 1 Thessalonians 5,16-24; John 1: 6-8,19-28

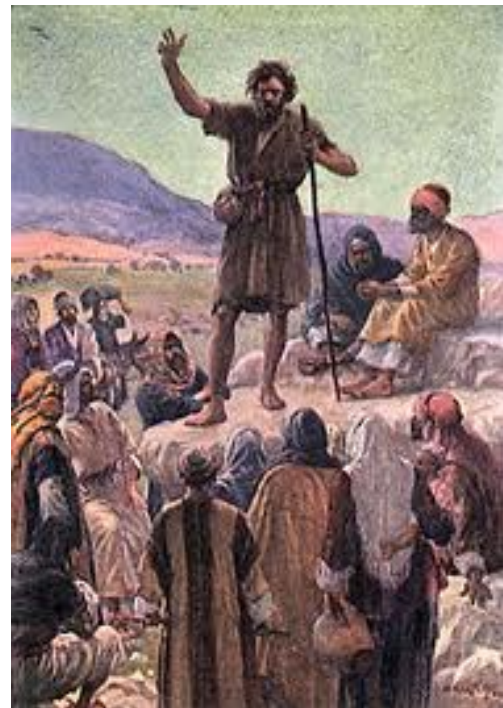
God sent his messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light. The Jewish authorities in Jerusalem sent some priests and Levites to John to ask him, "Who are you?" John did not refuse to answer but spoke out openly and clearly, saying: "I am not the Messiah." "Who are you, then?" they asked. "Are you Elijah?" "No, I am not," John answered. "Are you the Prophet?" they asked. "No," he replied. "Then tell us who you are," they said. "We have to take back an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" John then answered by quoting the prophet Isaiah: "I am 'the voice of someone shouting in the desert: Make a straight path for the Lord to travel!'" The messengers, who had been sent by the Pharisees, then asked John, "If you are not the Messiah nor Elijah nor the Prophet, why do you baptize?" John answered, "I baptize with water, but among you stands the one you do not know. He is coming after me, but I am not good enough even to untie his sandals." All this happened in Bethany on the east side of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing. (John 1: 6-8, 19-28)

Reflection

In this week's gospel, the same as last Sunday, the voice of someone shouting in the desert, John, is showing the straight path to travel to receive Jesus. The Holy Spirit teaches us to pray in hope. The prayer of the Church and our personal prayer nourish hope in us. Jesus speaks to us about the joy that comes from doing the right things, praying, being grateful, and defending those who are treated unfairly. Have you ever felt such joy? Give time for the children to reflect on the question.

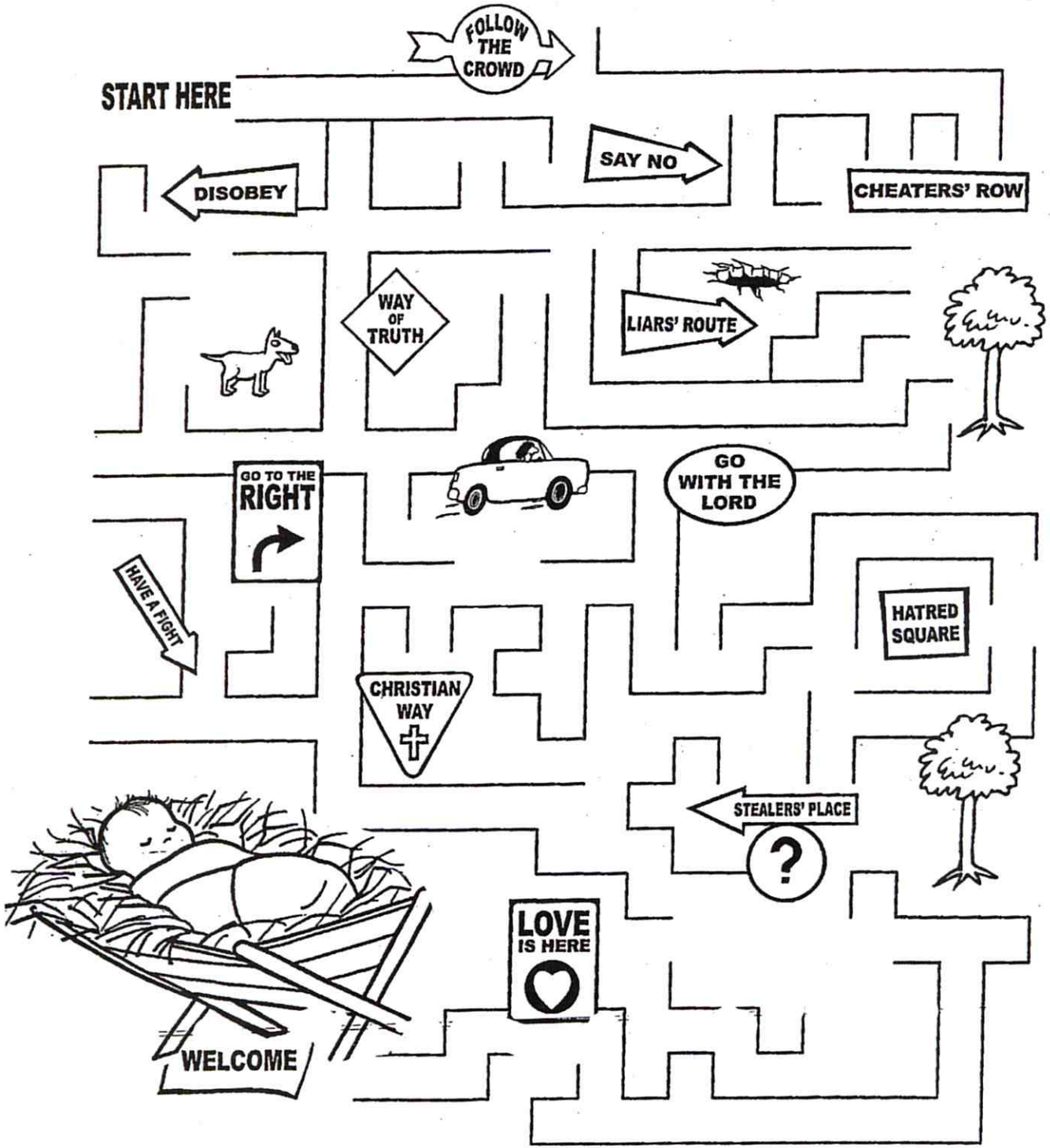
Activity and Prayer

Hand out jingle bells to each child, explaining that the bells express joy. Sing Christmas songs. Light the third candle for the third week of Advent. Encourage each child to express his or her commitment for the week. After each child express his commitment all answer: "You give us joy Jesus" and ring the bells.



Taking the right path

Can you find the way through this maze to the place where Jesus waits for you? Watch out for the temptations along the way





Friends of Jesus and Mary

Fourth Sunday of Advent / December 21, 2014

Readings: 2 Samuel 7, 1-5.8-12.14-16; Psalm 88; Romans 16, 25-27; Luke 1, 26-38

The Birth of Jesus is announced

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. He had a message for a young woman promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. Her name was Mary. The angel came to her and said, "Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you!" Mary was deeply troubled by the angel's message, and she wondered what his words meant. The angel said to her: "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a King, as his ancestor David was, and he will be the king of the descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!" Mary said to the angel, "I am a virgin. How, then, can this be?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God. Remember your relative Elizabeth? It is said that she cannot have children, but she herself is now six months pregnant, even though she is very old. For there is nothing that God cannot do." I am the Lord's servant", said Mary, "may it happen to me as you have said." And the angel left her. (Luke 1, 26-38)

Reflection

Talk with the children about houses and what makes a house a home. What would you need? (Decorations, comfortable furniture, neatness, etc.) How can we be a dwelling place or home for God, since Jesus wants to come to each and every one of us? Do you have doors in your house? Do we also have doors in our hearts? How are we going to open our "doors" and hearts to Jesus?

Activity and Prayer

Give each child a little house cut of cardboard. Ask them to write their names on the door. On the back write their commitment for the week, to prepare a good house for Jesus. Place your house in the Christmas tree or at the Nativity set. Pray together saying: Yes, Lord we want you to come to our house and to our hearts. Come, Jesus, come! Help us to put in order our relationship, lives and hearts so that you may come and dwell in us. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary ***Nativity-25 of December 2014***

Readings: Isaiah 52, 7-10 Psalm 97 Hebrews 1, 1-6 John 1, 1-18

Jesus is the best present

In the beginning the word already existed; the word was with God, and the word was God. From the very beginning the word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. The word was the source of life, and this life brought light to people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. God sent his messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light. This was the real light-the light that comes into the world and shines on all people. The Word was in the world, and though God made the world through him, yet the world did not recognize him. He came to his own country, but his own people did not receive him. Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God's children. They did not become God's children by natural means, that is, by being born as the children of a human father; God himself was their Father. The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son. John spoke about him. He cried out, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'He comes after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.'" Out of the fullness of his grace he has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another. God gave the law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is the same as God and is at the Father's side, he has made him known. (John 1, 1-18)

Reflection

In this gospel we can see that in the Word there is life and in life there is light. Light that shines in darkness. We can observe that the coming of Jesus divides the history in two parts. Darkness before Jesus and Light after Jesus. Whom are you going to be, sons of darkness or sons of light? Jesus is the true light in which the promises has been fulfilled. The Word made flesh. He is not a dream, He is a reality.

Activity

Act the story of the nativity of Jesus. Write in a piece of paper the names of the different persons in the story, so that Jesus would be the one to pick them. Sing Christmas songs. At the end of the representation each child can express what he or she wants to give to Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus newly born, you are our God. You come to change our hearts and to tell us that we are all equal children of the great love of God. You come to show us to share. You are our best gift. Teach us to, out of love, change the world. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary

Holy Family December 28, 2014

Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40

Jesus is presented in the Temple

The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded. So they took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord: "Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord." At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah. Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple to do for Him what the Law required, Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God: "Now Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples: A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles and bring glory to your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at the things Simeon said about him. Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother, "This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow like a sharp sword will break your own heart. There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna, daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She had been married for only seven years and was now eighty-four years old. She never left the Temple; day and night she worshiped God fasting and praying. That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free. When Joseph and Mary had finished doing all that was required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their home town of Nazareth in Galilee. The child grew and became strong; he was full of wisdom, and God's blessings were upon him. (Luke 2:22-40)

Reflection

In the second reading St. Paul gives us a family life program based in love, patience and compassion. Just like Mary and Joseph, following God's will can bring us difficulties, but Jesus always guides us with his light to act correctly. Talk with the children about their families. What is most important about their families? What do they like best? Which of their family members gives them faith? How do they show love for their parents? Do they obey them and do their chores?

Activity

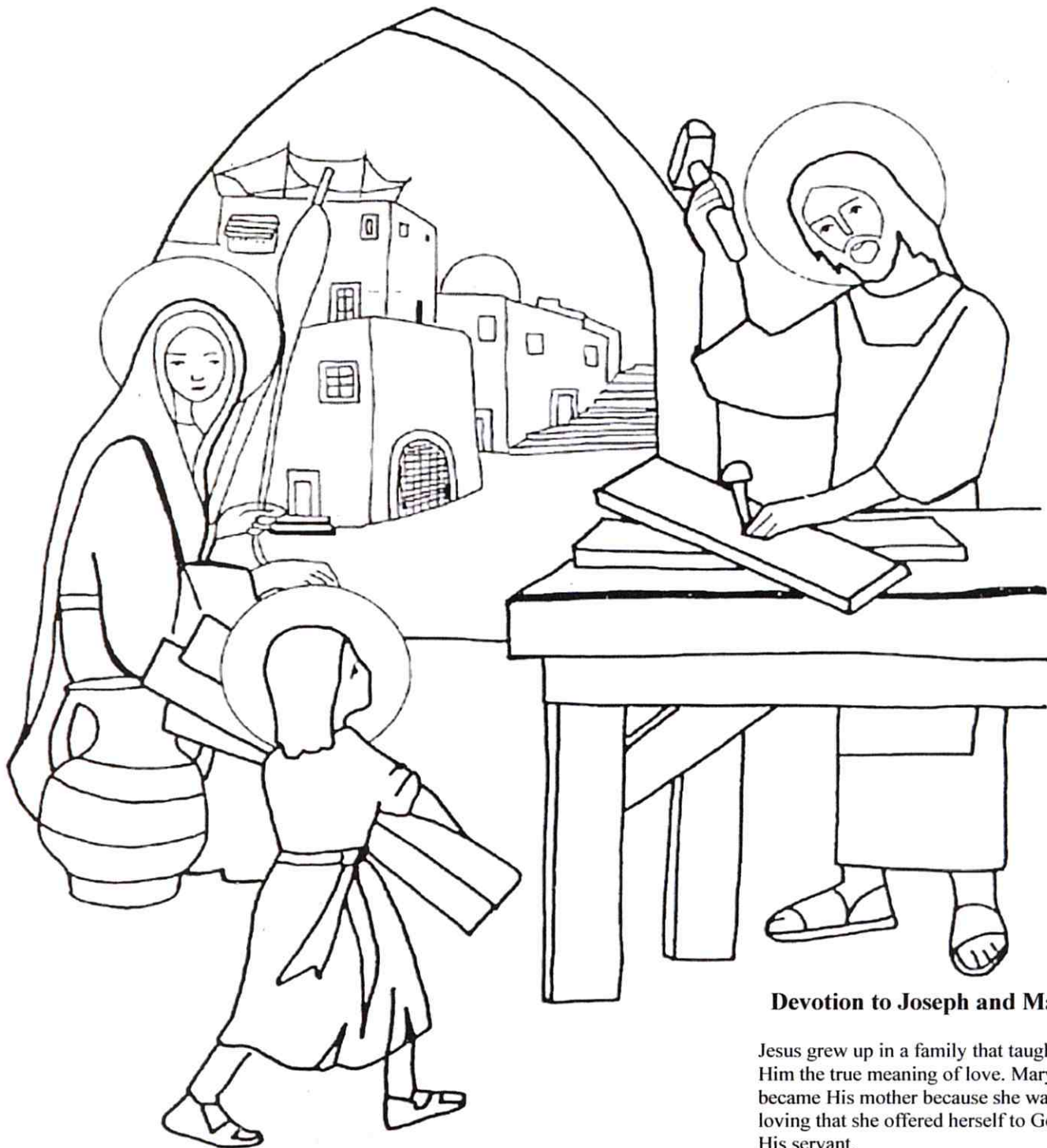
Give the children blank pieces of paper so that they may draw pictures of their families. Motivate them to write their best qualities.

Prayer

Say a prayer for the family of each of the children. They can name their family members and make a petition for the one that is in need. After each petition say: "Bless our families, Lord." Father in heaven, bless these families and make it so that we always imitate the devotion of your son, Jesus. That we all work to satisfy the spiritual needs of our families and those of our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.



The Holy Family



Devotion to Joseph and Mary

Jesus grew up in a family that taught Him the true meaning of love. Mary became His mother because she was so loving that she offered herself to God as His servant.

Joseph was so loving that he broke the law in order to care for Mary and Jesus. The Holy Family did not have it easy, but they always trusted in God's plan. We pray for their intercession for our family. May our homes be like the Holy Family's home in Nazareth

JOSÉ LUIS SÁNCHEZ DEL RÍO

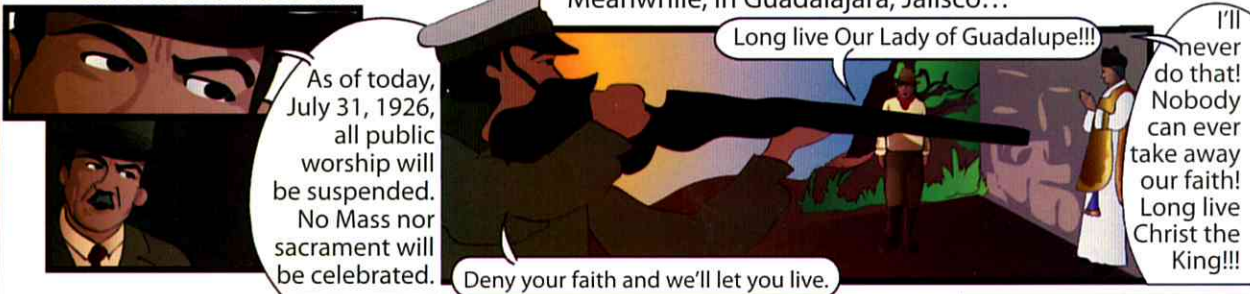
Mexican Martyr

Text: Sr. Leticia Enríquez, S.H.M.
 Drawings: Sr. Sara Zambrano, S.H.M.



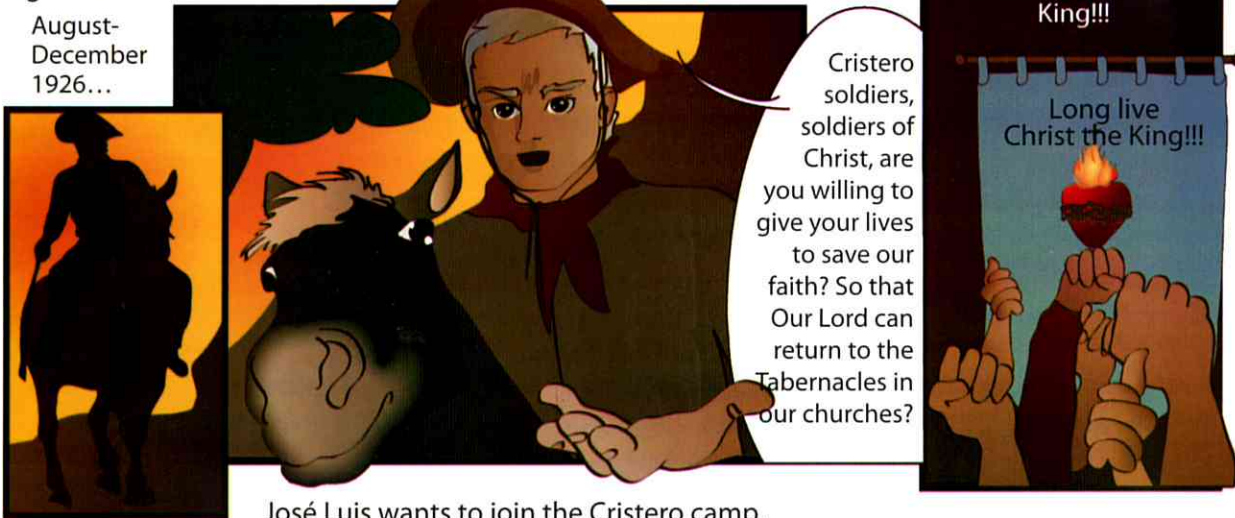
Beatified on November 20, 2005 in Guadalajara, Jalisco (Mexico)
 - José was born on March 28, 1913 in Sahuayo, Michoacán (Mexico).
 - His parents were Macario Sánchez and María del Río
 He went to catechism class and attended Mass on Sundays and on the 21st of each month. He also prayed the Rosary every day.

During the religious persecution in Mexico, President Plutarco Elías Calles issued a decree...
 Meanwhile, in Guadalajara, Jalisco...



With the assassinations of Catholic priests and laity, 64 Cristero uprisings took place in an effort to fight back and defend the faith.

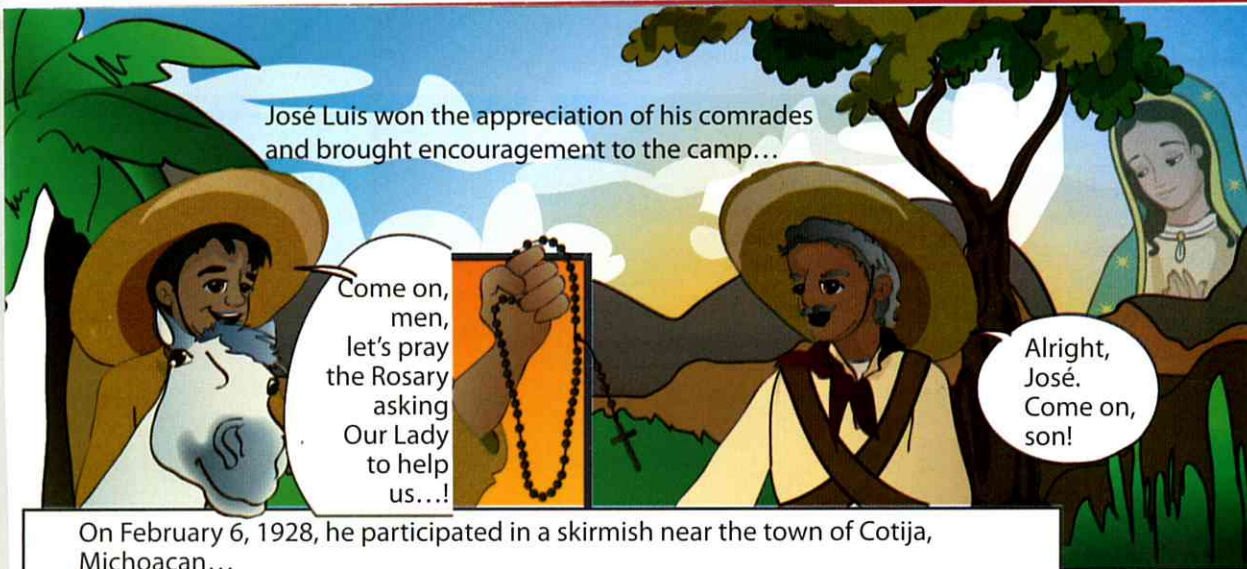
August-December 1926...



José Luis wants to join the Cristero camp.



José Luis won the appreciation of his comrades and brought encouragement to the camp...



Come on, men, let's pray the Rosary asking Our Lady to help us...!

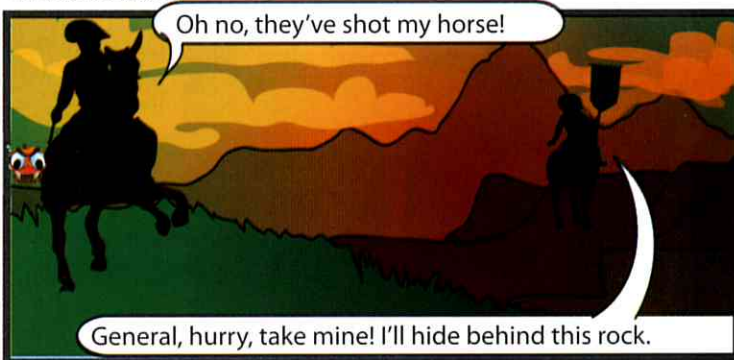
Alright, José. Come on, son!

On February 6, 1928, he participated in a skirmish near the town of Cotija, Michoacan...



For God, for our faith! Attack! Come on, José Luis, you're brave.

In the battle...



Oh no, they've shot my horse!

General, hurry, take mine! I'll hide behind this rock.

In the fight...

Oh, no! I've run out of ammunition!

Now you're defenseless, boy. Get up and walk.

They arrest José Luis...

You're brave, kid! Don't be silly. Join our ranks and I'll let you live.

Never! I'd rather die! I'll never join the enemies of Christ the King! Shoot me!

José Luis was locked in a dungeon and from there, wrote the following words to his mother:

Cotija, February 6, 1928



Dearest Mother,
I was taken prisoner today. I'm pretty sure I'm going to die, but I'm not scared, mom. Accept God's will for me.
Don't worry about my dying, and tell my two brothers to follow the example of their younger brother. As for yourself, do God's will. Be brave and grant me your blessing - yours and that of my father. Say good-bye to everyone on my behalf. And receive the heart of this son of yours, who loves you so much and would have liked to see you before dying.

Friday, February 10



We'll take the boy to Sahuayo in the afternoon and kill him there.

Yes, sir.



My death is approaching.

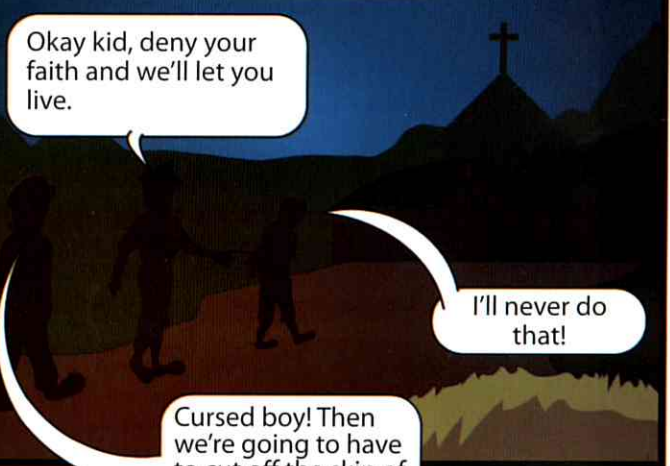
José Luis' aunt visits him in prison before they take him away.



My nephew, here is what you requested, Holy Communion.

Thank you, Aunt. God bless you. I'm ready.

That night, near the cemetery...



Okay kid, deny your faith and we'll let you live.

I'll never do that!

Cursed boy! Then we're going to have to cut off the skin of your feet.

Hold him down!

Just shout: 'Death to Christ the King!' and we'll let you go.



No! Long live Christ the King!!

José was forced to walk to the cemetery, accompanied by soldiers who pushed him and beat him.

For the last time, what do you have to say to your family?

We'll see each other in heaven. Long live Christ the King! Long live Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Later, they stabbed him 14 times and a soldier shot him in the head. José Luis' body fell into the ditch.

Several soldiers were sent to keep watch near the corpse, as the people wanted to come and collect the blood of the martyr. He was 14 years old when he died.



Long live Christ the King!



Long live Our Lady of Guadalupe!