



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

*December 2007  
Miami, Florida*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters:**

*Advent started on December 2 therefore. Christmas preparations begin. We should prepare our hearts to receive Jesus with prayers and little sacrifices and acts of love. Together with the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and the shepherds; let us adore and love Him and live a true Christmas.*

**Important feast and saints:**

<i>December</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Saint Francis Xavier</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>Saint John of the Cross</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Saint Nicholas</i>	<b><i>December</i></b>	<b><i>17</i></b>	<b><i>Leaders Workshop</i></b>
<i>December</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Immaculate Conception</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>Christmas Day</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Saint Juan Diego</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Saint John the Apostle</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>Holy Innocents</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Saint Lucy</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>Holy Family</i>

**Enclosed materials:**

- 1) Monthly calendar*
- 2) Sunday Gospel*
- 3) Gifts of Love*
- 4) The life of Saint John of the Cross*
- 5) Holy Bible Continuation*

**Suggested videos (All available in the “Video Club”)**

- 1. Saint Nicholas*
- 2. Saint Francis Xavier*
- 3. The Birth of Jesus*
- 4. Christmas*
- 5. Messenger of Guadalupe*
- 6. The Angel Song (Cherub Wings)*
- 7. Saint John of the Cross*
- 8. And other Christmas videos*

We are planning the V Congress of Friends of Jesus and Mary for July 3,4,5 and 6, 2008 in Panama. Start plans to attend .

We would also like to thank you for the efforts you have performed to bring word of God to the children, and continuing to work and support our endeavors. We will gladly welcome any feedback you may give us regarding the activities package, tell us if it has been helpful or any suggestions you may have to improve its contents.

In the internet you can find more activities for advent.

***The Committee of the Friends of Jesus and Mary would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas. May God’s blessings shine upon you and your families during the holidays.***



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

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Cycle C

# DECEMBER 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> Mt 24:37-44	3 <b>Saint Francis Xavier</b>	4 <b>Saint John of Damascus</b> <i>Hanukkah Begins</i> (Jewish Feast of Lights Begins at Sunset, Ends Dec. 12)	5	6 <b>Saint Nicholas</b> (patron of Children)	7 <b>Saint Ambrose</b>	8 <b>Immaculate Conception</b> Lk 1:26-38 (Holy Day of Obligation)
9 <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> Mt 3:1-12	10	11 <b>Saint Damasus I</b>	12 <b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>	13 <b>Saint Lucy</b>	14 <b>Saint John of the Cross</b>	15
16 <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> Mt 11:2-11 Las Posadas (Through January 6; Mexico)	17	18	19	20	21 <b>Saint Peter Canisius</b>	22
23 <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> Mt 1:18-24	24	25 <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> Jn 1:1-18 (Holy Day of Obligation)	26 <b>Saint Stephen</b>	27 <b>Saint John</b> (Apostle & Evangelist)	28 <b>The Holy Innocents</b>	29 <b>Saint Thomas Becket</b>
30 <b>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> Mt 2:13-15,19-23	31 <b>Saint Sylvester I</b>					

# 13 "LETTERS BY ST. PAUL"



Written to the churches and individuals before the Gospels, 20 to 30 years after the death of Christ. They are the first Christian writings. Doubt exists as to the author of some letters.

6

## Letter to the Romans

- ♥ From Corinth to the Roman Church.
- ♥ Prepare the church for his visit.
- ♥ Written before his final visit to Jerusalem.
- ♥ Explains his point of view after the conflict with the Jewish Christians from Jerusalem.

7

## First letter to the Corinthians

- ♥ Advise to the Corinthians about insubordination, chastity and marriage.

8

## Second letter to the Corinthians

- ♥ One of Paul's most emotional and sincere letters.
- ♥ He speaks with severity and energy.

9

## Letter to the Galatians

- ♥ Admonishes the Galatians who were starting to observe again the strict Jewish laws.

10

## Letter to the Ephesians

- ♥ Letter to a city in Asia Minor.
- ♥ Discusses the role of the Church.

11

## Letter to the Philippians

- ♥ Written when Paul was prisoner in Rome.
- ♥ Giving thanks for sending to help him

12

## Letter to the Colossians

- ♥ Responding to the advice on theological problems.

13

## First letters to the Thessalonians

- ♥ Written from Corinth during Paul's first visit.
- ♥ Praises the Thessalonians for the good report Timothy brought him.

14

## second letter to Thessalonians

- ♥ A continuation of the first.
- ♥ Paul is worried about their expectation of Jesus' second coming being immediate.

15

## First letter to Timothy

- ♥ After Paul is freed from first incarceration in Rome.
- ♥ Advises Timothy on how to deal with erroneous ideas of some of the Ephesians.

16

## Second letter to Timothy

- ♥ From Rome when Paul was incarcerated for the second time.
- ♥ Asks him to come and bring Mark, before he is executed.
- ♥ Expresses his deep love for Timothy.

17

## Letter to Titus

- ♥ Written before the letters to Timothy.
- ♥ Advises collaborators on how to handle the situation in Crete.

18

## Letter to Philemon

- ♥ Regarding fugitive slave that converted as a result of Paul's preaching.
- ♥ Paul asks the owner, Philemon to be merciful and apply the law of Christian law.

# AND 8 OTHER LETTERS



## Letters to the Hebrews

19

- ♥ Author unknown.
- ♥ Style differs from Paul's
- ♥ Tries to give enthusiasm to those who await Christ's return persecution. And advises obedience.

## Letter from James

20

- ♥ Probably written by a family member of Jesus which later became head of the church in Jerusalem around 62AD.
- ♥ Advises followers around the world.

## First letter of Peter

21

- ♥ From Rome to the Christian churches in Asia Minor.
- ♥ Encouraging them to confront Increased persecution.

## Second letter of Peter

22

- ♥ Exhorts believers to be faithful and without fault.
- ♥ Help have hope and faith for the second coming.
- ♥ Advise against false prophets.

## First letter of John

23

## Second letter of John

24

## Third letter of John

25

- ♥ All concern various theological problems.

## The letter from Jude

26

- ♥ Possible by James' brother addressed to Christians who have returned to pagan immorality

## Revelations by John

27

- ♥ Called apocalypse which means "vision"
- ♥ Mysterious symbolism of what will happen with the coming of the reign of god.



# Love Gifts



Color & cut  
These gifts cards

Give them for Christmas

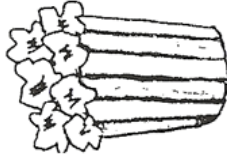
TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL PREPARE  
FOR YOU YOUR  
FAVORITE  
SNACK



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL WATCH  
YOUR FAVORITE  
VIDEO WITH  
YOU



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL HELP  
YOU WITH  
YOUR HOME  
WORKS



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL PLAY  
YOUR FAVORITE  
GAME WITH YOU



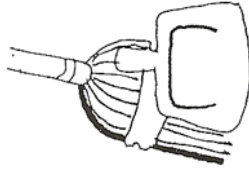
TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL SING A  
SONG FOR YOU



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL HELP  
YOU WITH  
YOUR WORKS



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY I WILL  
SAY A PRAYER  
JUST FOR YOU



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY I WILL  
WALK WITH  
YOU



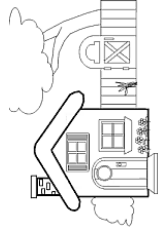
TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL HELP  
YOU CLEAN  
YOUR ROOM



TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL HELP  
YOU WHEN YOU  
BABYSIT





The greatest Gift ever given

Jesus is God's gift to us...



CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

May be used any time this year.



FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

May be used any time this year.



FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

May be used any time this year.



FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

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FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

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FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

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CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

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CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

May be used any time this year.



FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT LOVING

May be used any time this year.



FROM: \_\_\_\_\_



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 24:37-44, Is 2:1-5, Rom 13:11-14

## The Unknown Day and Hour...



For as it was on the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them away. So it will be at the coming of the Son of Man...



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 24:37-44, Is 2:1-5, Rom 13:11-14

## The Unknown Day and Hour...

Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left.



Two woman will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.



Therefore, stay awake!  
For you do not know on which day your lord will come. Be sure of this if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.



2

And you?

What do you do on your free time?

Do you spend time with God in prayer?

Do you show God that you love him with your Actions toward others?

Are you ready for his coming?





A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 3:1-12, Is 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9

## The Preaching of John the Baptist...



In those days John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea saying, "Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand". It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

*"A voice of one crying in the desert, prepare the way of the Lord"*

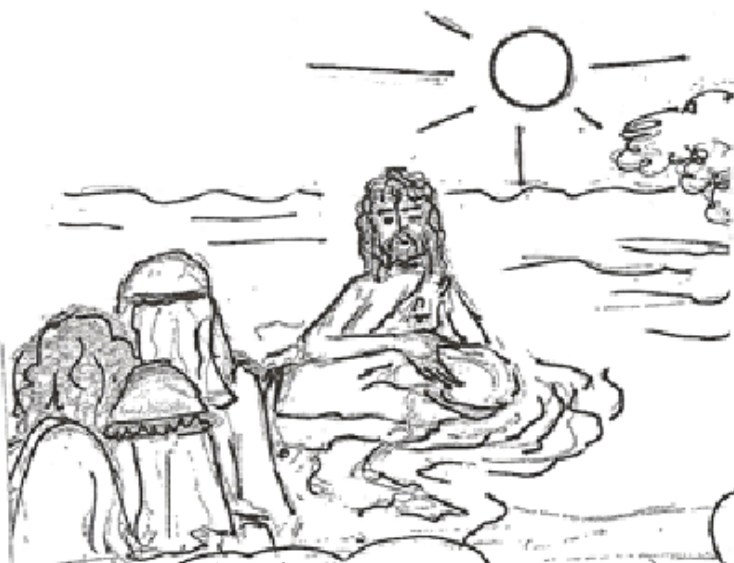
John wore clothing made of camels hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 3:1-12, Is 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9

### The preaching of John the Baptist...

At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledge their sins.



Therefore every tree that does not bear fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you in water, for repentance but the one that is coming after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

When he saw many of the Prophets and Sadducees coming To his baptism, he said to them,

"You brood of Vipers! Who warn you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as

evidence of your repentance and do not presume to say to yourselves 'we have Abraham as our father'.

For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.



And you?

What do you do when you have questions and doubts?

Do you come to Jesus in whom you will find a sure and truthful answer or do you wonder around looking for answers out of the Gospel?

Whenever in doubt look for the answer in Jesus He will show you wonderful signs of love that will open your heart.



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 11:2-11; Is 35:1-6, 10; Jn 5:7-10

## The Messenger from John the Baptist...

When John heard in prison of the works of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to him with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"



Jesus said to them in reply. "Go and tell John what you hear and see. The blind regain sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me".



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Mat 11:2-11; Is 35:1-6,10; Jn 5:7-10

## Jesus Testimony to John...

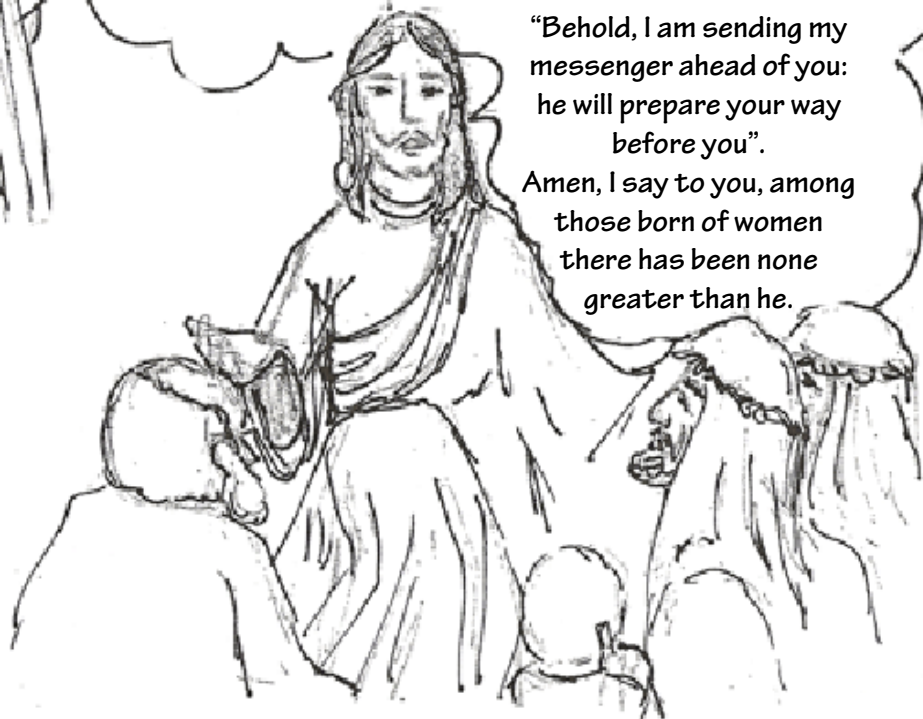
As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John.



What did you go out to see?  
A reed swayed by the wind. Then what did you go out to see?  
Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out?  
To see a Prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.  
This is one about whose is written:

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you: he will prepare your way before you”.

Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than he.



And you?

What do your actions say? Do you live in a way that shows that your heart belongs to God? Baptism in Jesus invites us not only to say that we are Catholics but above all, to live, do, think, forgive and love like Jesus did. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you.

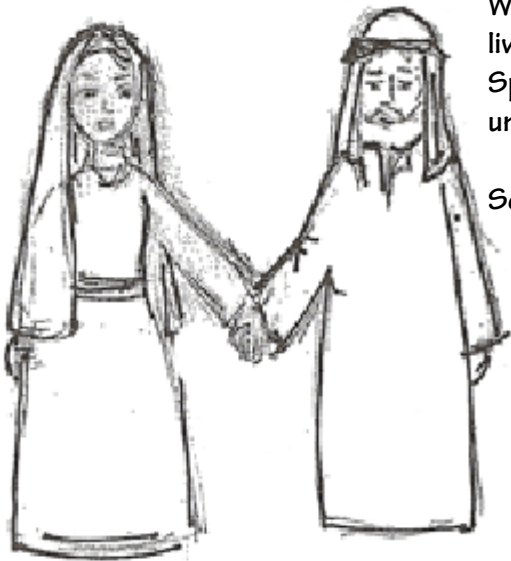


December 23:  
4th Sunday in Advent

A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Is 7:10-14; Rom 5:7-10; Mat 1:18-24

The Birth of Jesus ...

Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came out.



When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but they lived together, she was found with child through the only Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her, quietly.

So was his intention when; behold





A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Is 7:10-14; Rom 5:7-10; Mat 1:18-24

The Birth of Jesus . . .

The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said

“Joseph, Son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home for is through the Holy Spirit that his child has been conceived in her.

She will bear a son and you will name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:  
“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son,  
And they shall name him Emmanuel, which is God is with us”

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home



And you?

Do you listen to God when He whispers in your heart, or do you suffocate his voice and do your own will? Pray for obedience to God's will.



A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mat 2:13-15, 19-23

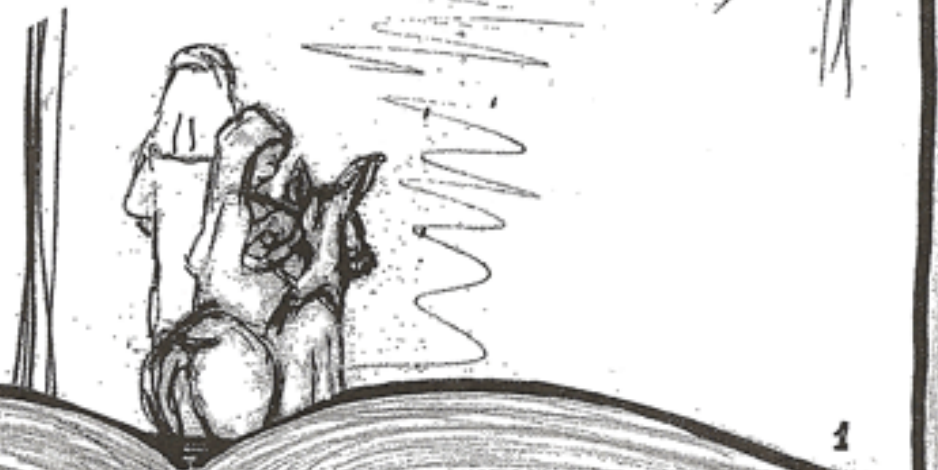
The Flight to Egypt ...

“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 rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled

“Out of Egypt  
I called my  
son”





A Reading from the Holy Gospel  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mat 2:13-15, 19-23

The Returned from Egypt...

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said

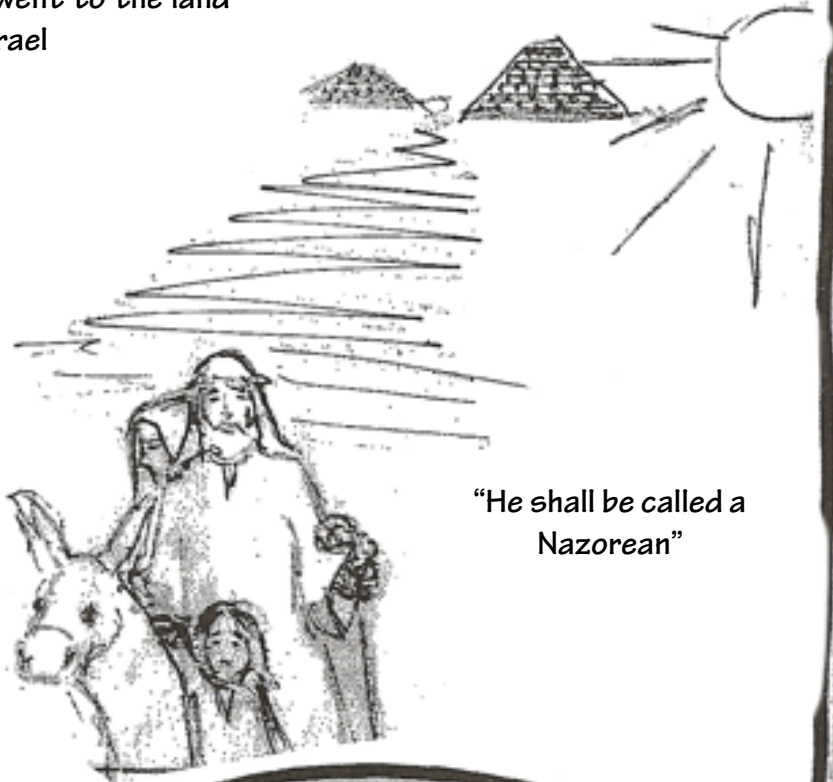


“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child like are dead”

He rose, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel



But when he hear that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he was warned in a dream he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled



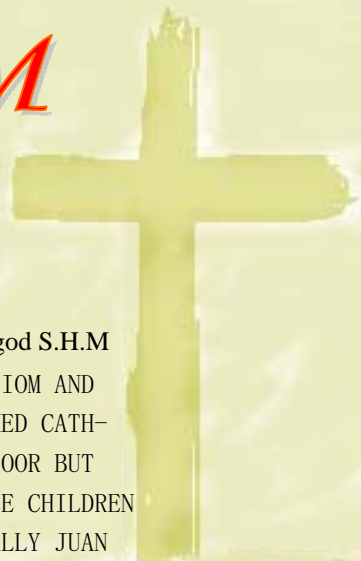
“He shall be called a Nazorean”

And you?  
Are you aware that God has a mission for you?  
That he created you with a purpose?  
Pray and ask God to show you the way and to help you follow his lead.



# Protectors of HM

## ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS



Text and drawings se. Maria of god S.H.M

GONZALO DE YESPES RENOUNCES HIS POSITION AND FORTUNE FOR LOVE OF A HUMBLE GIRL NAMED CATHERINE. TOGETHER THEY FORM A SIMPLE, POOR BUT HAPPY AND GENEROUS HOME IN WHICH THREE CHILDREN ARE BORN: FRANCISCO AND LUIS AND FINALLY JUAN

IN 1542. SORROW SOOM CAME



HOW CUTE THIS LITTLE ONE IS. HE LOOKS LIKE YOU



DADDY DAIED AND NOW LITTLE LUIS AND I MISS THEM .. MAMA I LOVE THEM SO MUCH

NOW THEY ARE IN HEAVEN. YOU'LL SEE HOW THEY'LL HELP FUS FROM THERE.

THEIR HELP WAS NOTICEABLE



HELP!! LITTLE JOHN IS GOING DROWN

AND HE SAW A VERY BEAUTIFUL LADY WHO REACHED OUT HER HAND TO HIM...

THE FAMILY MOVES TO A BIGGER TOWN MEDINA DEL CAMPO.THERE JOHN STARTS GOING TO SCHOOL

YOU'RE THE NEW BOY RIGHT ... WOULD YOU LIKE US TO BE FRIENDS? MY NAME IS JOSEPH



AND I'M JOHN HEY! YOU'RE VERY FRIENDLY

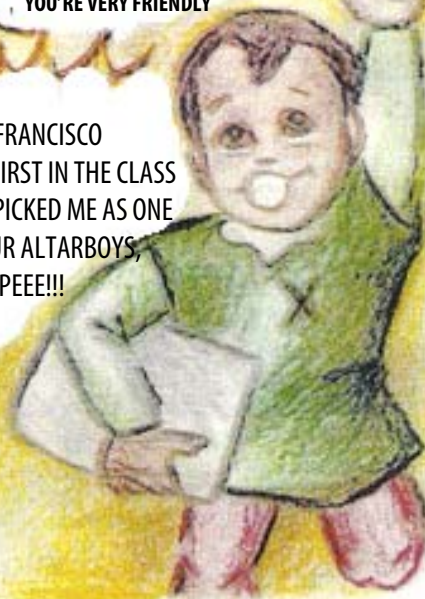
DURING HIS STUDIES HE GOES TO WORKSHOPS WHERE HE TRIES TO LEARN DIFFERENT CRAFTS. CARPENTRY, PAINTING, CONSTRUCTION, TAILORING ...



LOOK AT THE LOVELY SHIRT I'VE MAKE ALL ON MY OWN ... IT MIGHT DO FOR QUASIMODO

HAHAHA IT'S NOT TOO BAD. IS IT...

MUM! FRANCISCO TODAY I WAS FIRST IN THE CLASS AND THEY'VE PICKED ME AS ONE OF THE FOUR ALTARBOYS, YIPPEEE!!!



WELL JOHN, TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY? THE WHOLE TOWN IS TALKING

NOTHING SIR! I WAS PLAYING AND I FELL INTO THE WELL, AND THE VIRGIN HELD ME UNTIL THEY CAME TO TAKE ME OUT AND THAT'S IT! ... THAT'S ALL

THAT'S CALLED A MIRACLE!

RELAX, SKINNYLEGS ... DON'T YOU KNOW THE VIRGIN ALWAYS LOOKS AFTER EVERYONE, EVEN THOUGH NORMALLY WE DON'T SEE HER

JOHN LIVED FOR YEARS IN THE HOSPITAL. "HE LOOKED AFTER THE SICK THERE BEGGING FOR ALMS FOR THEN AND CONTINUING WITH HIS STUDIES

WHAT ARE YOU DOING LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW GO TO BED. I GO TO BED. IT'S LATE ALREADY

EH! ... AHM ... YOU KNOW THAT I'M THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE HOSPITAL ... WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME AND LIVE THERE WITH ME?

DO YOU SEE THAT LIGHT? HE WORKS ALL DAY AND HE HAS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE NIGHT TIME TO STUDY

EVERYONE LOVES JOHN BECAUSE THEY SEE HOW MUCH HE TRIES TO HELP AND TO BE FRIENDLY WITH THEM BECAUSE HE IS VERY GOOD AT HIS STUDIES, MANY BELIEVE THAT HE WILL WIN GOOD POSITION IN THE WORLD BUT HE SOON SURPRISES THEM

I THINK THE VIRGIN WANTS ME TO BE ALL HERS ... SO I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A CARMELITE WILL YOU ALLOW ME TO ENTER YOUR MONASTERY? I'M 21 YEARS OLD

HE MET ST. TERESA WHO WAS ALSO A CARMELITE AND WHO WAS FOUNDING CONVENTS IN WHICH THE NUNS LIVED MORE POORLY

GREAT NEWS, SISTERS! THE VIRGIN HAS SENT US A FRIAR WHO IS AN ABSOLUTE SAINT. GOD IS ASKING HIM TO LIVE LIKE US AND HE WANTS TO DO IT.

THE LORD WANTED HIM TO HELP TERESA ... HE IMMEDIATELY PREPARED, WITH HIS OWN HANDS, THE FIRST MONASTERY FOR FRIARS WHO WERE TO BE CALLED THE DISCALCED CARMELITES

THREE CHEERS FOR OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL!

WE'LL HAVE THE HABIT READY FOR YOU IN A JIFFY.

DOESN'T THIS REMIND YOU OF THE MANGER OF BETHLEHEM?

HERE WE ARE THE OX AND THE DONKEY! HA HA IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE HEAVEN!

HE HAD TO WORK AND SUFFER VERY MUCH THEY EVEN PUT HIM IN PRISON BUT HIS HEART NEVER BECAME BITTER

He had learned that the only important thing is love, and that in order to have it you have to leave behind everything else. With his writings we can learn to love God in this way.

HE DIES POOR, FORGIVING AND HAPPY TO GO SEE THE LORD.

Sofonía y Gloria de Dios 2