



Friends of Jesus and Mary Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

May 2009
Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In May the month dedicated to Virgin Mary. We celebrate this year three of the mysteries of the Holy Rosary, The Visitation, Pentecost, the Ascension. It is also a month where we can relate better to our own mother with Virgin Mary, Jesus' mother, and understand why Jesus crowned her as Queen of Heaven and earth, and gave it to us as our mother also.

Let us this month to awake our children, and help them to appreciate everything that our mothers do for each one of us. Help them to prepare a Spiritual Bouquet to be given to their mothers on Mothers Day.

Important feasts and some Saints:

- May 1 Saint Joseph, the Worker
May 6 Saint Domingo Savio
May 10 Mother's Day
May 13 Our Lady of Fatima
May 18 Leader's Workshop
May 24 Ascension of the Lord
May 31 Pentecost & Visitation

Enclosed materials:

- Monthly calendar
Meditation on the Sunday Gospel
Comic of Jose Maria Rubio
Comic of Mama Margarita

Activities:

- a) Jesus is my best friend
b) The Good Shepherd
c) Gift of the Holy Spirit
d) Fruits of the Holy Spirit
e) The Sheep's Puppet
f) In our website (www.fcpeace.com) you will find activities about Virgin Mary.
In the section -Friends of Jesus & Mary

Suggested videos (All available in the "Video Club")

1. The Day the Sun Danced
2. The Life of Jesus I
3. Mary
4. Prayer
5. The Ascension
6. The Visitation
7. Fatima

The Eucharistic Retreat for the children of the prayer groups and their families will be on June 13 at St. Agatha Catholic Church from 8:30 to 1:00 pm Make plans to come. Please bring the information of how many of your group will assist.

Our next meeting Monday May 18 at St Agatha Church at 7:30 pm

Comité de Amigos de Jesús y María.



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María





Florida Center for Peace

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MAY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>MAY IS THE MONTH OF GOD'S MOTHER</p>					<p>1 St. Joseph the Worker</p>  <p>Acts 9,1-20 Psalm 116 Jn 6,52-59</p>	<p>2 St. Athanasius</p> <p>Acts 9,31-42 Psalm 115 Jn 6, 60-59</p>
<p>3 IV Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Acts 4,8-12 Psalm 117 1 Jn 3,1-2 Jn 10,11-18</p>	<p>4 SS Philip y James</p> <p>1Cor 15,1-8 Psalm 18 Jn 14,6-14</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Acts 11,19-26 Psalm 86 Jn 20,22-30</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Acts 12,24-13,5a Psalm 66 Jn 12,44-50</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Acts 13,13-25 Psalm 88 Jn 13,16-20</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Acts 13,26-33 Psalm 2 Jn 14,1-6</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Acts 13,44-52 Psalm 97 Jn 14,7-14</p>
<p>10 V Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Acts 9,26-31 Psalm 21 1 Jn 3,18-24 Jn 15,1-8</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Acts 14,5-18 Psalm 113B Jn 14,21-26</p>	<p>12 SS Nereus & Achilleus</p> <p>Acts 14,19-28 Psalm 144 Jn 14,27-27-31a</p>	<p>13 Our Lady of Fatima</p> <p>Acts 15,1-6 Psalm 121 Jn 15,1-8</p>	<p>14 St Matthias Apostle</p> <p>Acts 1,15-17,20-26 Psalm 112 Jn 15,9-17</p>	<p>15 St Isidore</p> <p>Acts 15,22-31 Psalm 56 Jn 15,12-17</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Acts 16,1-10 Psalm 99 Jn 15,18-21</p>
<p>17 VI Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Acts 10,25-26.34-35.44-48 Psalm 97 1 Jn 4,7-10 Jn 15,9-17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Acts 16,11-15 Psalm 149 Jn 15,26-16.4a</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Acts 16,22-34 Psalm 137 Jn 16,5-11</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Acts 17,15-22-18.1 Psalm 148 Jn 16,12-15</p>	<p>21 San Christopher Magalles</p> <p>Acts 18,1-8 Psalm 97 Jn 16,16-20</p>	<p>22 St. Rita of Casia</p> <p>Acts 18,9-18 Psalm 46 Jn 16,20-23a</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Acts 18,23-28 Psalm 46 Jn 16,23b-28</p>
<p>24 Ascension of the Lord</p> <p>Acts 1,1-11 Psalm 46 Eph 1,17-23 Mc 16,15-20</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Acts 19,1-8 Psalm 67 Jn 16,29-33</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Acts 20,17-27 Psalm 67 Jn 17,1-11a</p>	<p>27 St Augustine de Canterbury</p> <p>Acts 20,28-38 Psalm 67 Jn 17,11b-19</p>	<p>28 San Philip Neri</p> <p>Acts 22,30;23,6-11 Psalm 15 Jn 17,20-26</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Acts 25,13b-21 Psalm 102 Jn 21,15-19</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Acts 28,16-20,30-31 Psalm 10 Jn 21,20-25</p>
<p>31 Pentecost</p> <p>Acts 2,1-11 Psalm 103 1Cor 12,3b-7.12-13 Jn 20,19-23</p>						



Friend of Jesus and Mary

4th Sunday of Easter May 3, 2009

Readings: Acts 4:8-12; Psalm 117; 1John 3: 1-2; John 10: 11-18

I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them.

The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock with one shepherd.

The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will, I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do.” (John 10: 11-18)

Reflection

Jesus says that he knows us by name.
How do you listen in order to recognize when Jesus wants to tell you something?
Who are your good shepherds?
Do you have bad shepherds in your community? How can they harm you?
Jesus gives up his life for the people he loves. Are you willing to sacrifice something for the people you love? Let us share.

Activity

Bring to the meeting place a big poster with a picture of a Good Shepherd. Cut and bring some sheep so that the children can decorate them and write their name. Encourage them to make their weekly commitment and write it on the back.

As you get together to pray each child brings his sheep and place it on the board and says: “Thank you, Jesus, for always protecting me and been important to you.”

Prayer

You know us by name, Lord. You know what we are and what we can do. We thank you, Lord, because you love us thus, without conditions. Give us good ears to listen to your voice, to know when you calls us. Give us readiness to go out to meet you. Amen

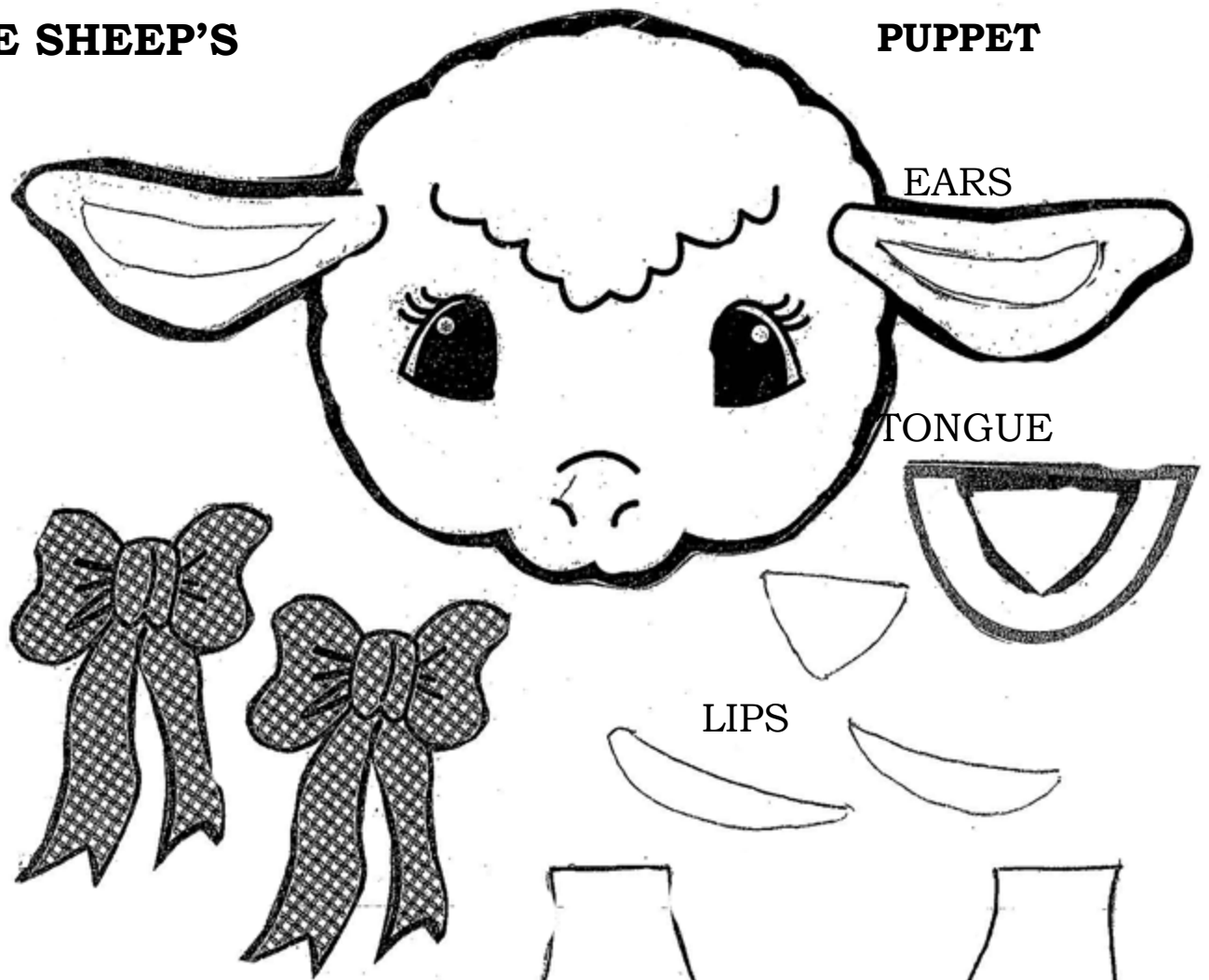




MODEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
AND THE SHEEPS FOR
THE ACTIVITY OF THE FOURTH
SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE SHEEP'S

PUPPET



Materials

1. One brown bag
2. Copy of the models in color paper as indicated.
 - A. The face and the lip in the white paper
 - B. The tongue and the parts of the ears in red
 - C. The dress and the lace in the color that you wish. Chose two different colors.

Instructions

1. Paste the face in the superior part. Where that bag close past the lips. Paste the red parts in the ears and the tongue in the center of the lips.
2. Paste the dress and the lace in the lower part. Now you ready to use it. Enjoy!



Friend of Jesus and Mary

5th Sunday of Easter May 10, 2009

Readings: Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 21; 1John 3: 18-24; John 15: 1-8

Jesus the real vine

"I am the real vine, and my Father is the gardener. He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will be clean and bear more fruit. You have been made clean already by the teaching I have given you. Remain united to me, and I will remain united to you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it can do so only if it remains in the vine. In the same way you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me. Those who do not remain in me are thrown out like a branch and dry up; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, where they are burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it. My Father's glory is shown by your bearing much fruit; and in this way you become my disciples. (John 15: 1-8)

Reflection

In the readings of this week we find this message:

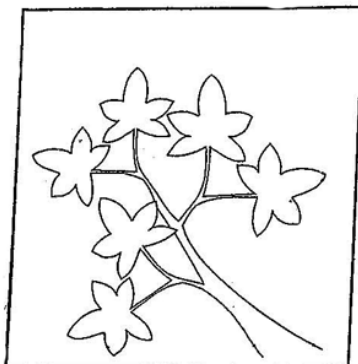
- a) with trust in God's protection, the church finds peace and continues to grow and flourish.
- b) The authenticity of love must be demonstrated in concrete actions.
- c) Christ depends on us to be his hands and the voice to bring salvation to others.

What happens to the branches if they are torn from the trunk and are not replanted? By itself it will die.

Whom do they need? Be united to the branch in the same way we need to be united to Jesus to grow. What does being very close to another person mean? To whom do they feel united? What does "giving fruit" mean? What good fruits can they give? Do they think that giving fruit means earning lots of fame and money?

Prayer

Sometimes, Lord we get separated from you, or we forget your presence. And then it seems life ceases to have meaning and joy. Remind us always that, in order to live and give fruit, we need to be united among ourselves and with you like the vine. Amen



Activity

What kinds of good fruits do you think Jesus likes? In the picture there is a vine and some branches. On each leaf, write a word that describes a way Jesus would like people to behave.



Friend of Jesus and Mary

6th Sunday of Easter May 17, 2009

Readings: Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 ; Psalm 97 ; John 4:7-10 ; John 15: 9-17

I love you just as the Father loves me; remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you.

The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them.

And you are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing.

Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my father. You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name. This, then, is what I command you: love one another. (John 15: 9-17)

Reflection

Make a list of the persons that love you.

What do those people do for them?

What would they do for them?

What are you willing to sacrifice for the people you love?

Jesus gave His life for us.

How can we thank Jesus for what He did for us? Give enough time to share.

Activity

Prepare a poster board with a big picture of Jesus. Cut one heart for each child.

Ask them to write on them their name and name of the person that loves them on front.

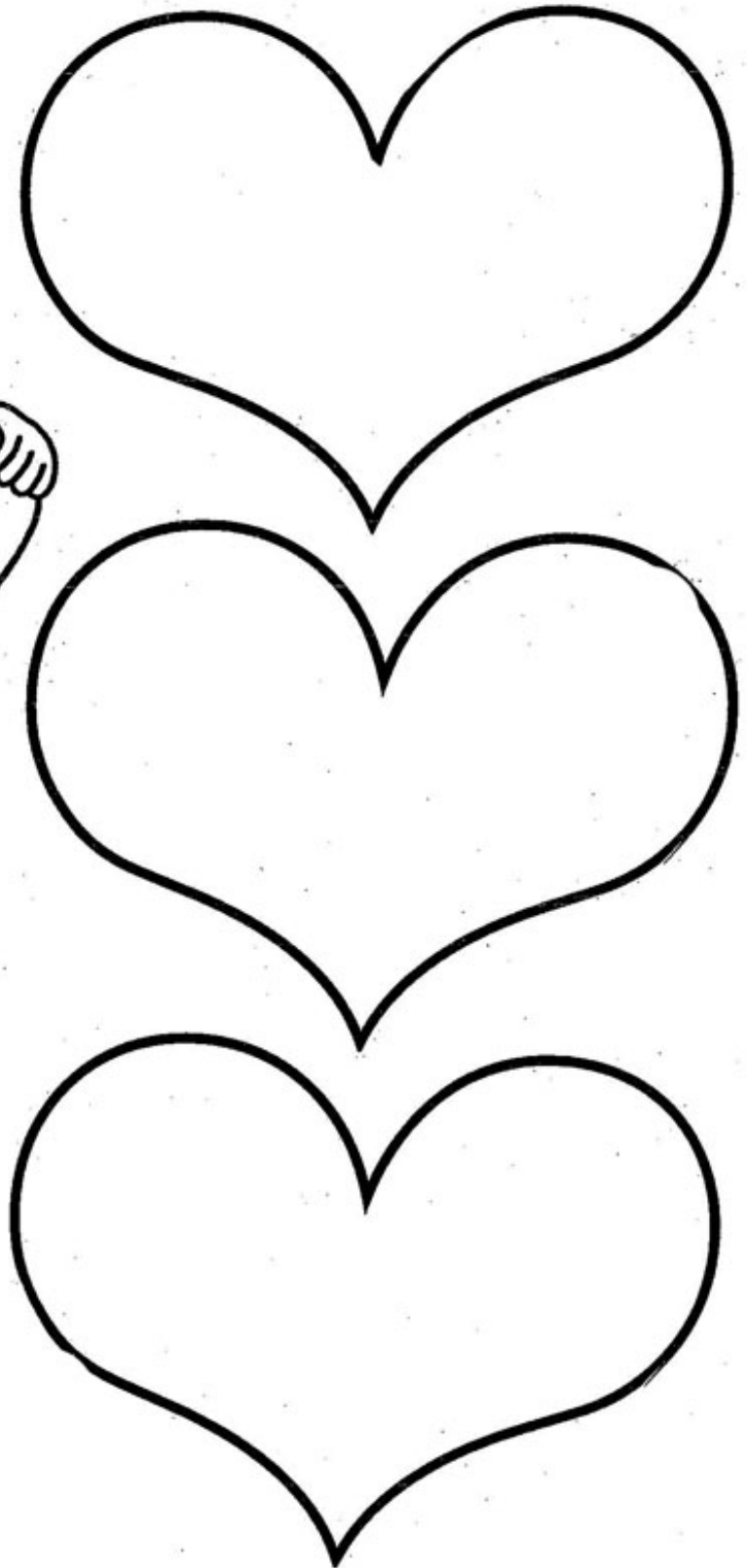
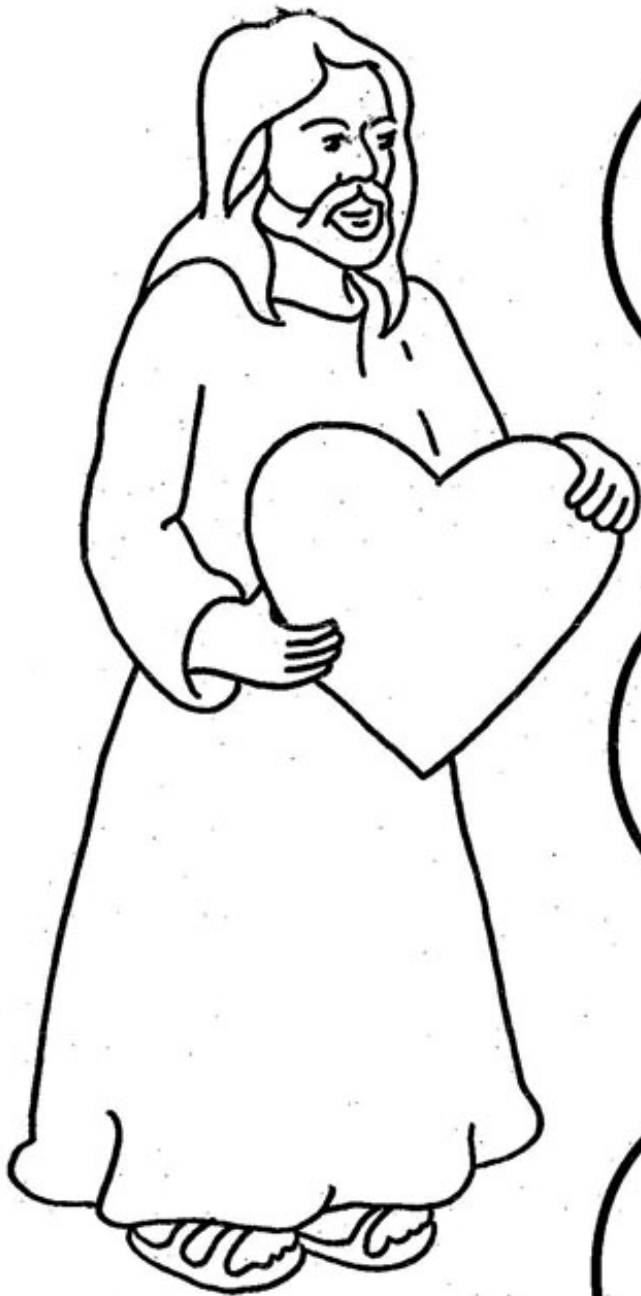
In the back they can write what they would do for them this week. Each child paste the heart on the poster. Before the group ends they pick up their heart to take to the special person? You have a model on the next page.



Prayer

We use the word love frequently, Lord, but sometimes we don't think about how much it demands from us. It demanded your own life. Look with mercy, Lord, on the sacrifices we make for our families and friends. Give us courage to give of ourselves to others and to bring your message everywhere. Amen

JESUS IS MY BEST FRIEND



Activity for the 6th Sunday
of Easter, May 17th 2009



Friend of Jesus and Mary

Ascension of the Lord- May 24, 2009

Readings: Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 46 Eph 4: 1-13 Mark 16:15-20

He said to them, "Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all people. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. Believers will be given the power to perform miracles: they will drive out demons in my name; they will speak in strange tongues; if they pick up snakes or drink any poison, they will not be harmed; they will place their hands on sick people, and these will get well."

After the Lord Jesus had talked with them, he was taken up to heaven and sat at the right side of God. The disciples went and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and proved that their preaching was true by the miracles that were performed.

Reflection

Jesus has shown a great love and now He wants his friends to help him in the mission to tell others how good God is, not only with words but with actions. How can you help Jesus to proclaim the Good News?

Activity

Prepare a small box to place some white index cards in it. In each card write a message from Jesus for each children (The mission God ask them to do). Example:

I will like you to smile often

I will like you to do your homework without being ask.

3) I want you to help someone that is in need. 4) Help your mother with the house works. 5) Visit a friend that is sick.

You can add a lot more similar to this.

Have the children pick up a card from the box. Each child will promise to do the mission that he or she has receive this week.

Prayer

Lord, you send us to announce God's love for all, and the salvation that comes from you. Sometimes we don't even know how to start. Give us your light and wisdom to recognize each moment of the day in which we can be your witness through our actions of honesty, justice, love and service to all. Amen





Friend of Jesus and Mary

Pentecost May 31, 2009

Readings: Acts 2: 1-11; Psalm 103; 1Corinthians 12, 36 -7.12-13 John 20, 19-23

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities.

Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said.

After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father sent me, so I send you. "Then he breathed on them and said, Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Reflection

The readings of this week give us the message that The Spirit of God cast out fear and turns the disciples into proclaimers of the Resurrection of Jesus.

Explain us the gifts and talents of each other are different, but all of us are called to serve God.

Jesus gives the Spirit to the disciples and sends them out to proclaim his word and forgive sins.

In which ways is the Spirit of God present in us?

In their families?

Activity

Act the first reading with the children. (Acts 2,1-11) Prepare tongues, one for each. Write on them the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Form them in a circle and begin to pray. Place one in each children head, at time the wind blows. Pray over them asking for the gift he or she has receive. All hold hands in a circle and pray together.

Prayer

Send us your Spirit Lord, who brings us peace and courage to face problems. Give us the fruits of generosity, kindness. love, joy, peace, and patience to lead our family and our group to harmony and to use it to serve others. Amen



GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

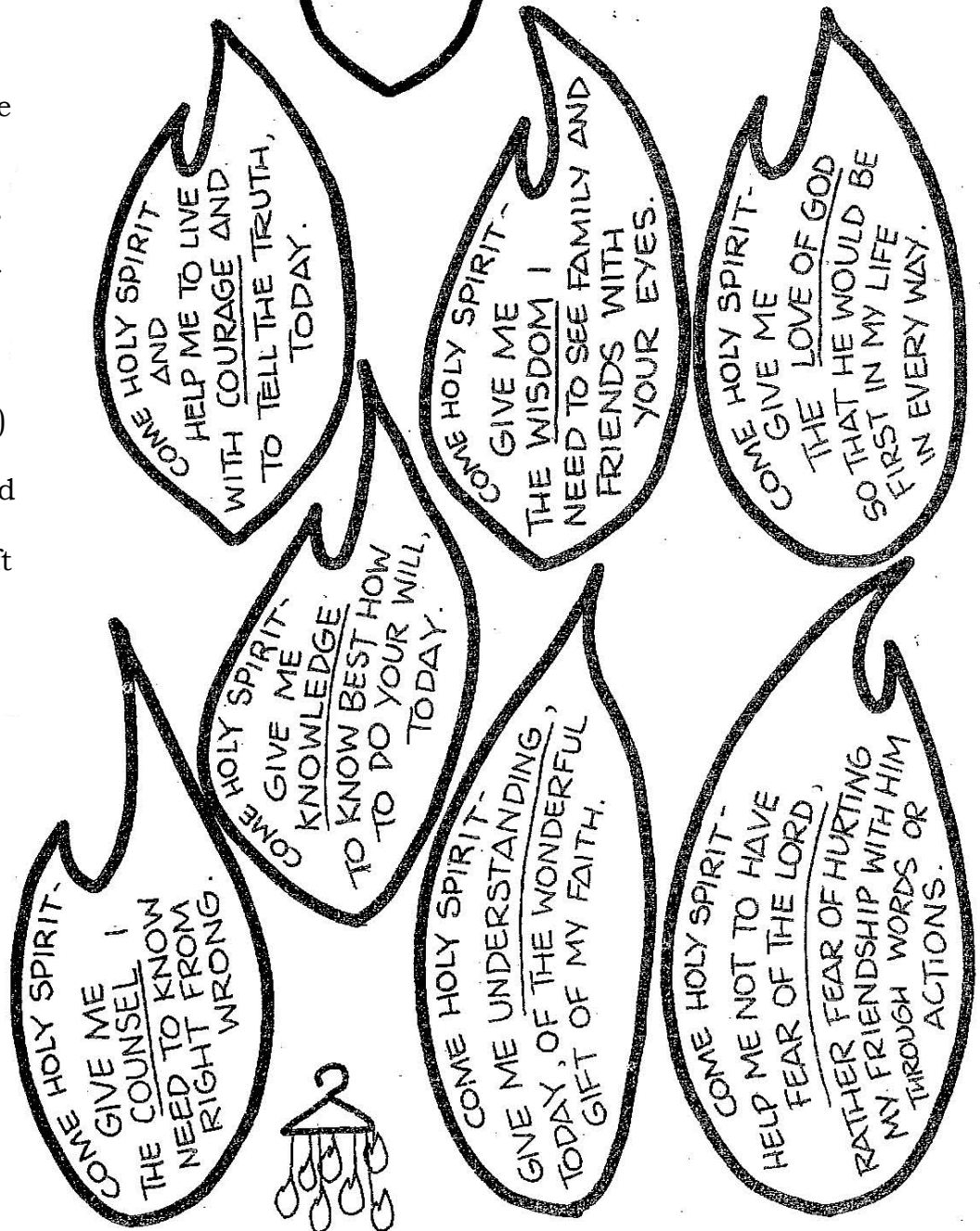


“Drive Winds and Tongues of Flame, these are the ways the Holy Spirit came!

On each of the flames is a prayer asking for help to live out one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

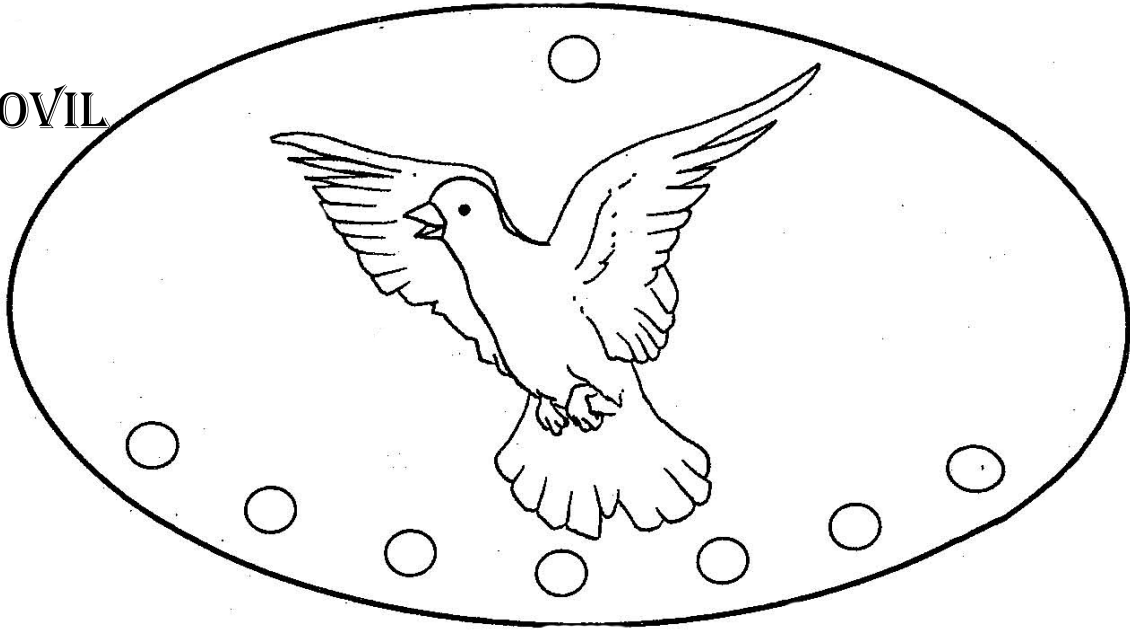
Write the word which is underlined (the gift) on the other side of the flame. Cut out and color the flames.

Pray for a different gift every day. You can hang these flames, too, as a mobile.



Fruits of the Holy Spirit

MOVIL



The Fruit of the Holy Spirit are 9:
Galatians 5:22



JOY



PEACE



HUMILITY



LOVE



PATIENCE



GOODNESS



KINDNESS



FAITHFULNESS



SELF CONTROL

St. José María Rubio

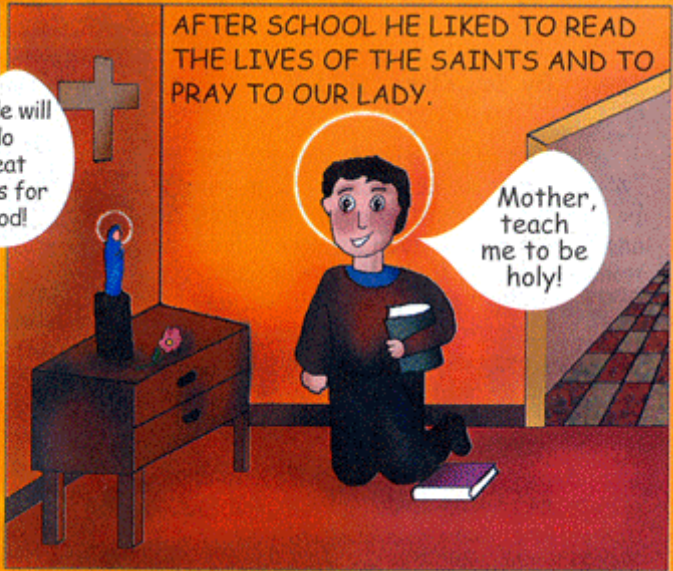
JOSÉ MARÍA WAS BORN ON THE 22nd OF JULY 1864 INTO A FAMILY OF 13 CHILDREN AND WAS BROUGHT UP IN A FARMING VILLAGE OF ALMERÍA, CALLED DALÍAS.



What will become of this boy?

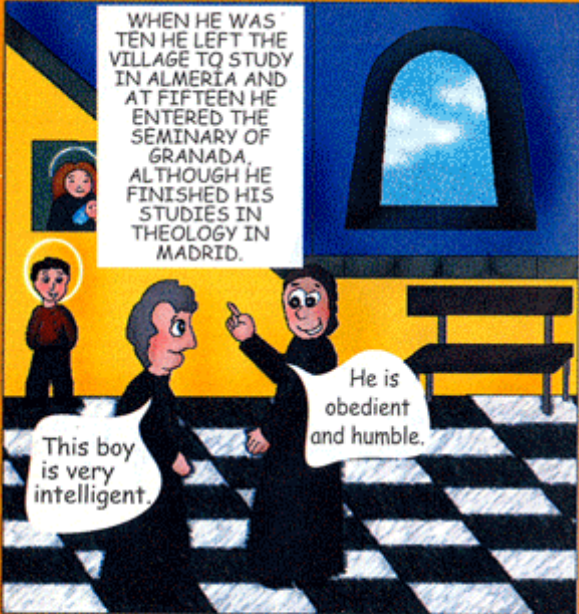
Only God knows.

He will do great things for God!



AFTER SCHOOL HE LIKED TO READ THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS AND TO PRAY TO OUR LADY.

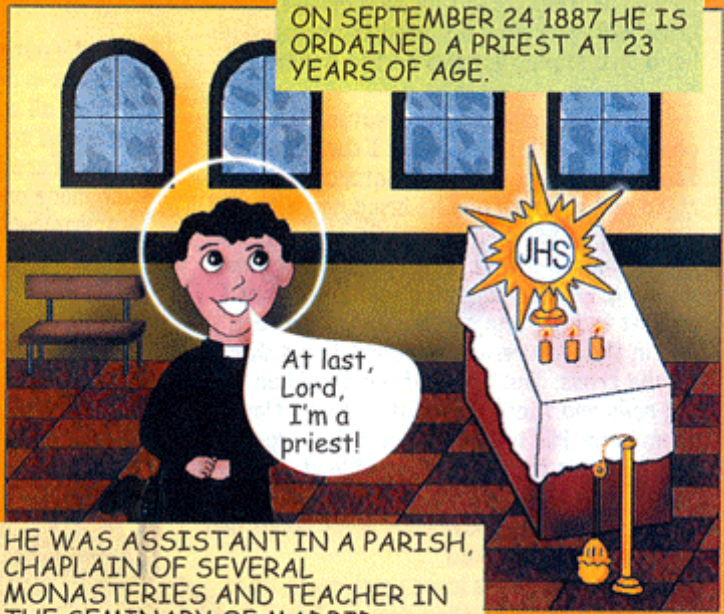
Mother, teach me to be holy!



WHEN HE WAS TEN HE LEFT THE VILLAGE TO STUDY IN ALMERIA AND AT FIFTEEN HE ENTERED THE SEMINARY OF GRANADA. ALTHOUGH HE FINISHED HIS STUDIES IN THEOLOGY IN MADRID.

This boy is very intelligent.

He is obedient and humble.

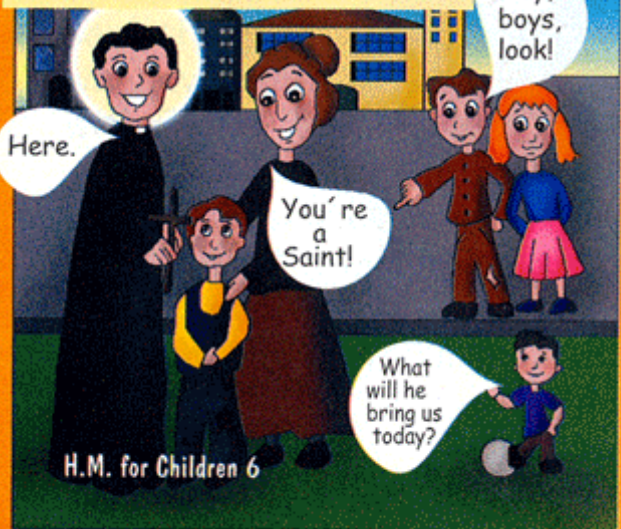


ON SEPTEMBER 24 1887 HE IS ORDAINED A PRIEST AT 23 YEARS OF AGE.

At last, Lord, I'm a priest!

HE WAS ASSISTANT IN A PARISH, CHAPLAIN OF SEVERAL MONASTERIES AND TEACHER IN THE SEMINARY OF MADRID.

HE WAS MAINLY KNOWN FOR THE WORK HE DID WITH THE POOR PEOPLE ON THE STREETS OF MADRID



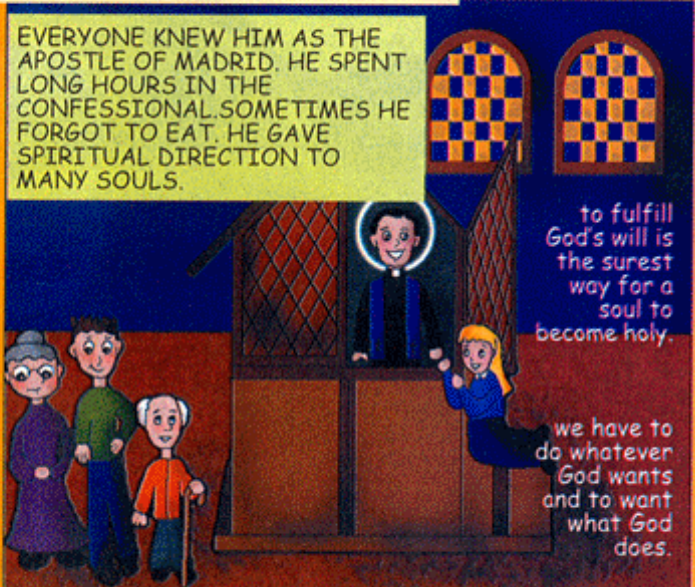
Here.

You're a Saint!

Hey, boys, look!

What will he bring us today?

H.M. for Children 6



EVERYONE KNEW HIM AS THE APOSTLE OF MADRID. HE SPENT LONG HOURS IN THE CONFESSIONAL. SOMETIMES HE FORGOT TO EAT. HE GAVE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TO MANY SOULS.

to fulfill God's will is the surest way for a soul to become holy.

we have to do whatever God wants and to want what God does.

ON JANUARY 16 1906 FR. JOACHIM DIES. THIS WAS A HARD BLOW FOR FR. JOSÉ BECAUSE IT WAS LIKE LOSING HIS FATHER.



Blessed be the most holy will of God who governs all things.



HE ALWAYS FELT VERY ATTRACTED TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE, ESPECIALLY TO THE COMPANY OF JESUS, AND AFTER THE DEATH OF FR. JOACHIM HE ASKED TO BE ACCEPTED AS A NOVICE.



ON OCTOBER 12 1906 HE BEGAN HIS NOVICIATE



He is so attentive to the voice of God that he forgets himself and even more so the world.

HE WHO SO OFTEN HAD SAID, "I THINK I WILL BE A JESUIT ONLY IN MY HEART", FINALLY GOT TO ENTER

HE WAS SENT TO THE JESUIT HOUSE IN MADRID. HIS FAME OF HOLINESS SPREAD RAPIDLY AND ALL MADRID KNEW ABOUT HIS MIRACLES.



I feel better now. Mum, Fr. Rubio has come.

I haven't seen him, daughter!

ON MAY 2 1929 FR. RUBIO DIES IN THE NOVICIATE OF THE JESUITS IN ARANJUEZ.



7 H.M. for Children



Everyone knows about St. John Bosco, but if he was able to do so much for his boys it was because he had an extraordinary woman at his side: his mother, the Venerable Margherita Occhiena, better known as

Mamma Margherita.

Margherita was born in Italy on April 1, 1788. She was born during a difficult time in history, a time of wars and revolutions. She was always a brave girl with a very strong faith.



Margherita, why don't you come with us to the dance?

No thank you, I'm not going to learn anything good there.

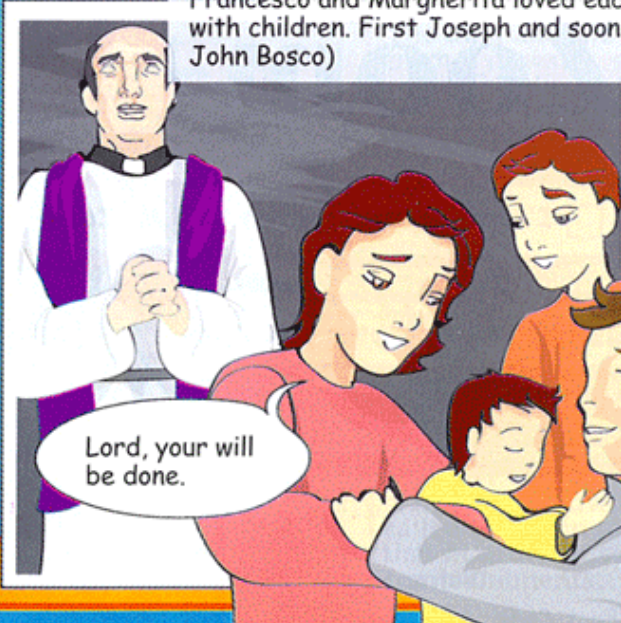
I'd rather spend the afternoon with my family.



She barely 24 years old when she married Francesco Bosco. Francesco was a widower and had a 4 year-old son and his mother who was paralyzed living with him. Margherita loved them with all her heart.



Francesco and Margherita loved each other deeply. Soon they were blessed with children. First Joseph and soon after, John (who would later become St. John Bosco)

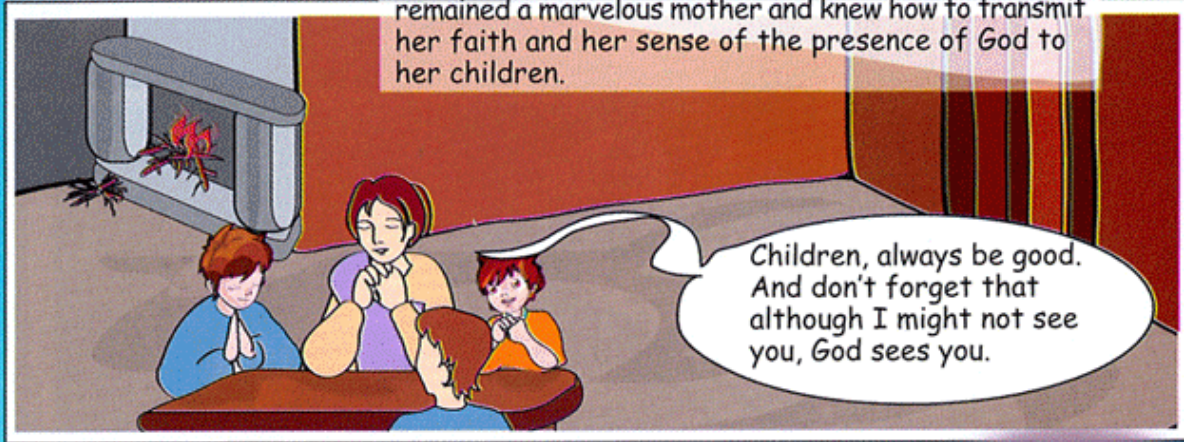


Lord, your will be done.

One day, Francesco became ill all of a sudden and a few days later died. He was 33 years old. Little John hadn't turned two yet.

Don't be afraid, Margherita. God will take care of us.

At 29 years of age, Margherita found herself a widow and without money. But she didn't despair. She remained a marvelous mother and knew how to transmit her faith and her sense of the presence of God to her children.

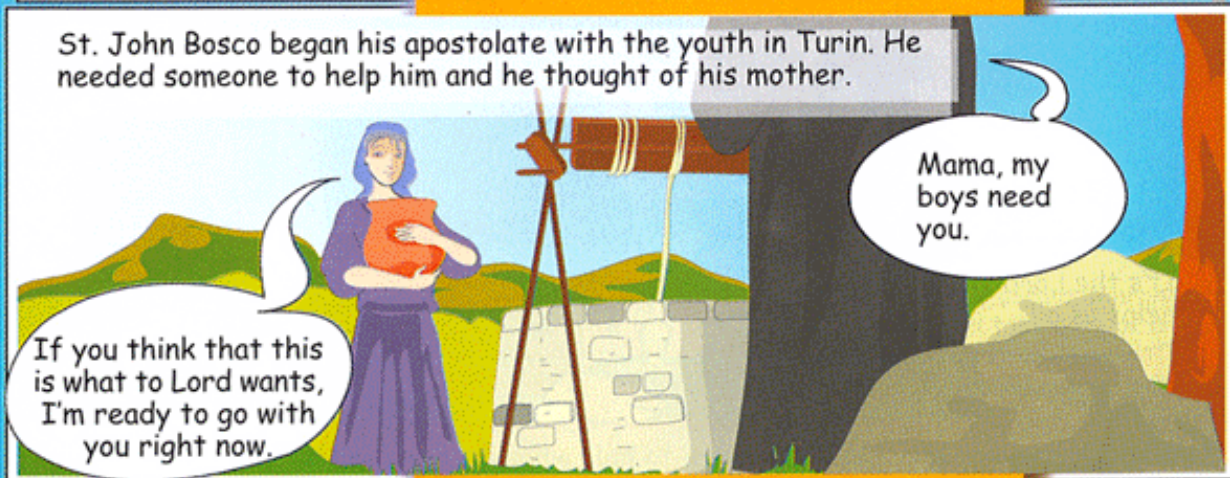
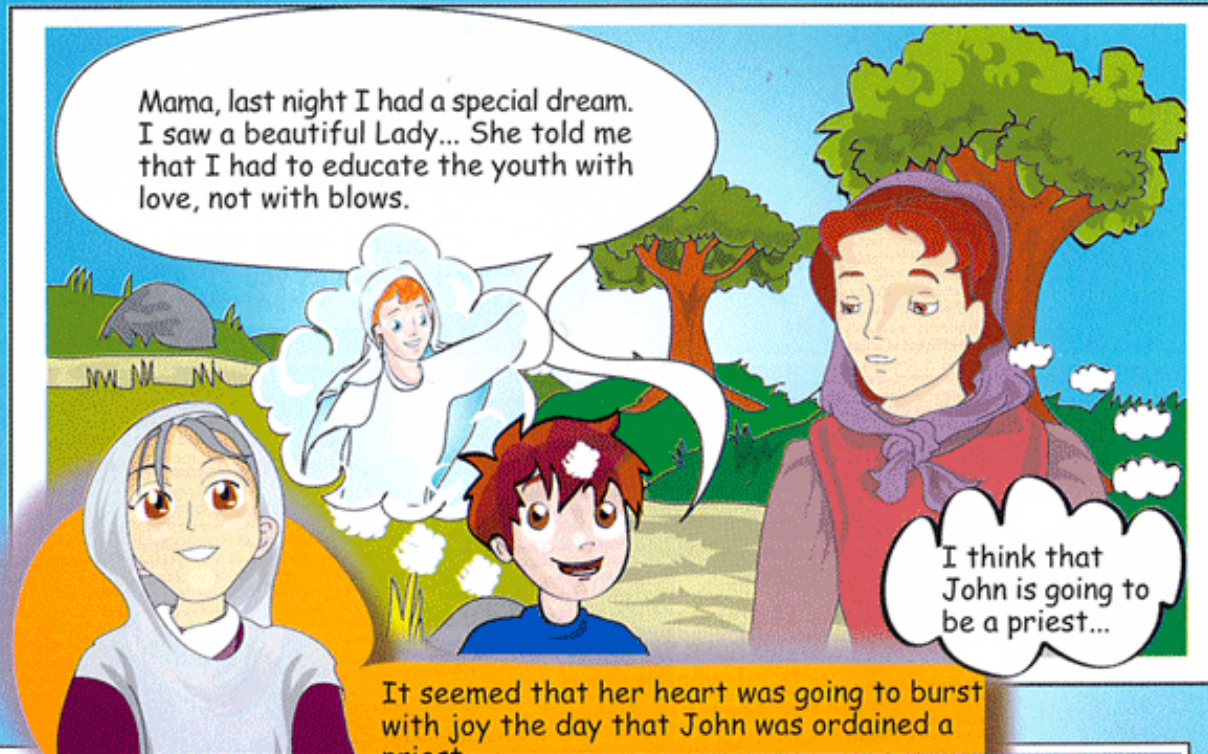


With her example and her words, she formed her children into true men and good Christians.



Although she was very poor, she tried to help whomever needed it. She didn't just give them food and clothes, above all she gave her heart.

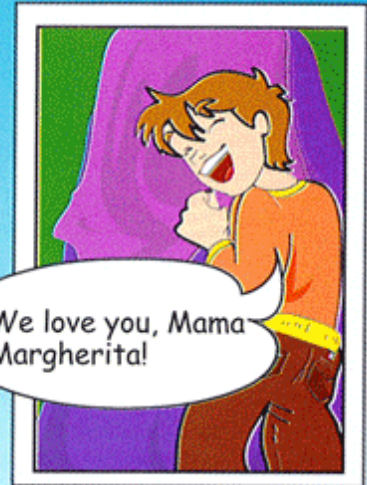
She tenderly loved each one of her children. Soon she realized that the Lord was calling her youngest son, John Bosco, to a special mission...



Many orphan boys and young men worked in factories, without a family... Don Bosco welcomed them into his house. Mama Margherita was a mother to them.



Boys, be careful, you are going to break something.



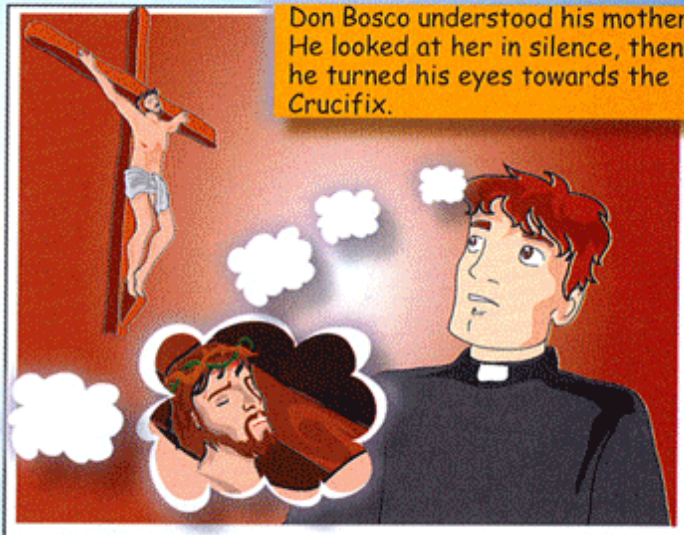
We love you, Mama Margherita!

The number boys grew and grew and the work was hard. One day, her patience reached its end. The boys had destroyed the garden while they were playing.



I can't continue any longer.

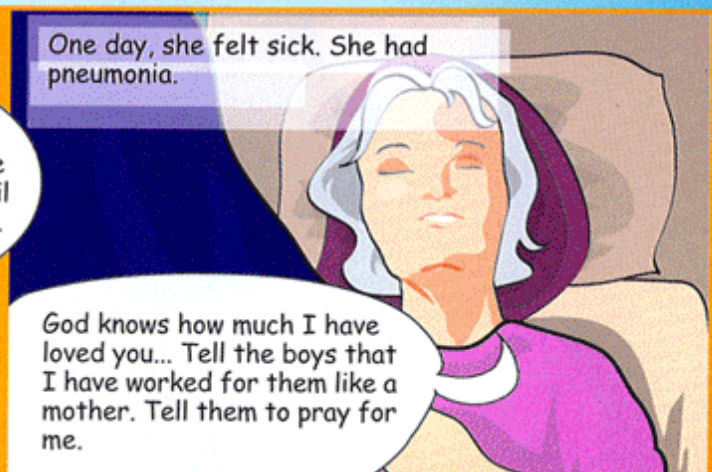
Let me go back to our little village and calmly finish my days there.



Don Bosco understood his mother. He looked at her in silence, then he turned his eyes towards the Crucifix.



Yes, Lord, I will continue to serve your children until the end, like You.



One day, she felt sick. She had pneumonia.

God knows how much I have loved you... Tell the boys that I have worked for them like a mother. Tell them to pray for me.