



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María

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Florida Center for Peace

*April 2012*  
*Miami*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters:*

*April, month of special celebration, two Sundays of invitation to admire and pray with the Saints. Prepare to live and grow spiritually on Easter and Resurrection Sunday.*

*Enclosed you will find the some Feasts and Saints of the month*

April 02	St. Francis of Paula
April 04	St. Gemma Galgani
April 07	St. John Baptist de la Salle
April 11	St. Stanislaus Kostka
April 17	Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
April 25	St. Mark
April 25	Leader's Workshop (Casa Ana Elena Garcia)
April 29	St. Catherine of Sienna

*Enclosed Material and Activities:*

a) *Calendar and Meditation on the Sunday Gospel*

*Activities:*

- a. *Holy Week Activity*
- b. *We remember Jesus' love for us*
- c. *Eastern Tridium*
- d. *The Ten Commandments*
- e. *April Saints*
- f. *Santa Gemma Galgani*
- g. *Sunday of Divine Mercy*
- h. *Ven con nosotros al Sagrario*
- i. *Tarjeta de compromiso*
- j. *Actividad el buen Pastor*

*Suggested Videos: (All available in the video club)*

1. *Easter*
2. *The Merciful love of Jesus*
3. *The story of Sister Faustina*
4. *The Resurrection Celebration*

***The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday April 25 at 7:30 PM in Ana Elena Garcia's house at 530 N W 135 Ave. Miami, Fl 33182.***

***We are planning our next Congress of the Friends of Jesus and Mary from Thursday October 4, to Tuesday October 9, 2012 in Aruba, Netherlands Antilles. We invite all to make plans to attend. It is important to share ideas and experiences. In the coming month we will give you more information.***

*May God Bless You Always,  
Friends of Jesus and Mary*



Friends of Jesus and Mary



Florida Center for Peace

9779 S.W. 72nd Street • Miami, Florida • Tel : (305) 412-1700 • Fax: (305) 412-1777

E-mail: E-mail: amigo\_jym\_miami@fcpeace.com • Webpage: www.fcpeace.com



# April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Palm Sunday  Isaiah 50,4-7 Salmo 21 Phil 2,6-11 Mk 14,1-15,47	<b>2</b>  Isaiah 42,1-7 Psalm 26 Jn 12,1-11	<b>3</b>  Isaiah 49,1-6 Psalm 70 Jn 13,21-33,36-38	<b>4</b>  Isaiah 50,4-9 Psalm 68 Mt 26,14-25	<b>5</b>  Ex 12,1-8,11-14 Psalm 115 1 Cor 11,23-26 Jn 13,1-15	<b>6</b> Good Friday Fast & Abstinence	<b>7</b> First Saturday Holy Saturday  Gn 1,1-2,2 Psalm 103 Ro 6,3-11 Mk 16,1-7
<b>8</b> Easter Sunday  Acts. 10,34a-37-43 Psalm 117 1 Co 5,6b-8 Jn 20,1-9	<b>9</b>  Acts 2,14-22-23 Psalm 15 Mt 28,8-15	<b>10</b>  Acts 2,36-41 Psalm 32 Jn 20,11-18	<b>11</b>  Acts 3,1-10 Psalm 104 Lc 24,13-35	<b>12</b>  Acts 3,11-26 Psalm 8 Lc 24,35-48	<b>13</b>  Acts 4,1-12 Psalm 117 Jn 21,1-14	<b>14</b>  Acts 4,13-21 Psalm 117 Mk 16,9-15
<b>15</b> 2 Easter Sunday  Acts 4,32-35 Psalm 117 1 Jn 5,1-6 Jn 20,19-31	<b>16</b>  Acts 4,23-31 Psalm 2 Jn 3,1-8	<b>17</b>  Acts 4,32-37 Psalm 92 Jn 3,5a.7b-15	<b>18</b>  Acts 5,17-26 Psalm 33 Jn 3,16-21	<b>19</b>  Acts 5,27-33 Psalm 33 Jn 3,31-36	<b>20</b>  Acts 5,34-42 Psalm 26 Jn 6,1-15	<b>21</b> St. Anselm  Acts 6,1-7 Psalm 32 Jn 6,16-21
<b>22</b> 3 Easter Sunday  Acts 3,13-15,17-19 Psalm 4 1 Jn 2,1-5 Lc 24,35-48	<b>23</b> St. George and Adalbert  Acts 6,8-15 Psalm 118 Jn 6,22-29	<b>24</b> St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen  Acts 7,51-8,1 Psalm 30 Jn 6,30-35	<b>25</b> St. Mark  1 P 5, 5b-14 Psalm 88 Mk 16,15-20	<b>26</b>  Acts 8,26-40 Psalm 65 Jn 6,44-51	<b>27</b>  Acts 9,1-20 Psalm 116 Jn 6,52-59	<b>28</b> Sts. Peter Chanel And Louis Grignion De Montfort  Acts 9,31-42 Psalm 115 Jn 6,60-69
<b>29</b> 4 Easter Sunday  Acts 4,8-12 Psalm 117 1 Jn 1,1-2 Jn 10,11-18	<b>30</b> St. Pius V  Acts 11,1-18 Psalm 41 Jn 10,1-10					



# *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

*Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012*

*Readings: Isaiah 50, 4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2, 6-11; Mark 14, 1-15, 47*

It was now two days before the Festival of Passover and Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for a way to arrest Jesus secretly and put him to death. We must not do it during the festival," they said, "or the people might riot." Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon, a man who had suffered from a dreaded skin disease. While Jesus was eating, a woman came in with an alabaster jar full of a very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus' head. Some of the people there became angry and said to one another, "What was the use of wasting the perfume? It could have been sold for more than three hundred silver coins and the money given to the poor!" And they criticized her harshly. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone! Why are you bothering her? She has done a fine and beautiful thing for me. You will always have poor people with you, and any time you want to, you can help them. But you will not always have me. She did what she could; she poured perfume on my body to prepare it ahead of time for burial. Now I assure you that wherever the gospel is preached all over the world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went off to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. They were pleased to hear what he had to say, and promised to give him money. So Judas started looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them. On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the day the lambs for the Passover meal were killed, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and get the Passover meal ready for you?" Then Jesus sent two of them with these instructions: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house he enters, and say to the owner of the house: 'The teacher says where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal?' Then he will show you a large upstairs room, fixed up and furnished, where you will get everything ready for us." (Mark 14, 1-15)

## **Reflection**

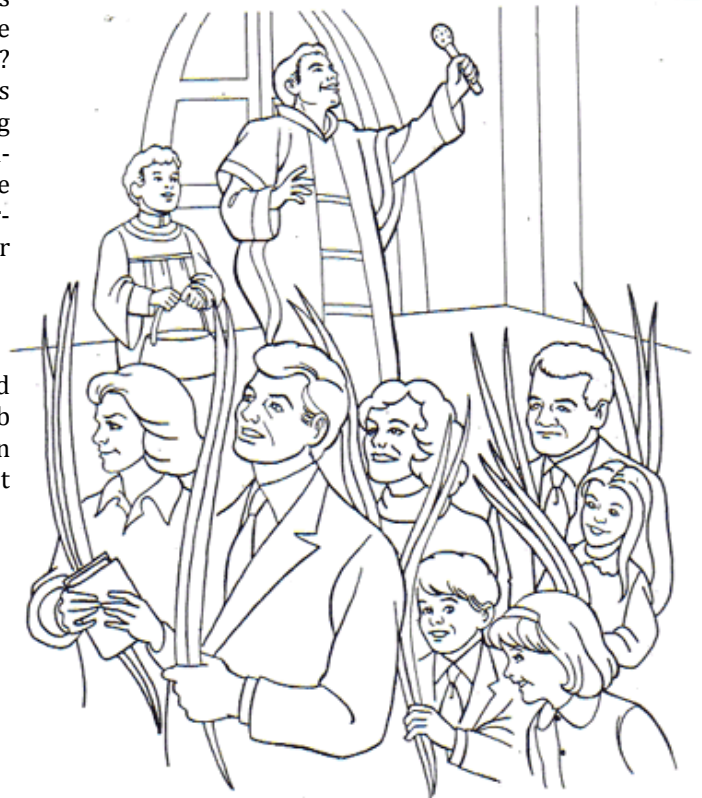
Speak with the children about the Jewish Passover and what is celebrated there. How is that meal similar to our Mass? Have they heard sometimes "Lamb of God"? Who is being talked about? Tell the children the story of the Exodus 12, 1-8, 11-14. How is Jesus the "Lamb of God" for us? Why? Jesus' generosity in giving his own Body and Blood challenges us to give of ourselves to others. The Eucharist invites us to commit to serve others, to share and to give our own lives, like Jesus. How can you offer your service to others? How do you react when Jesus wants to wash your feet? Are you embarrassed? Share.

## **Activity**

Dramatize the Last Supper. Dress 12 children as the Apostles and prepare the supper as Jesus did with his disciples. In our web page you can find more information in the file for Lent. You can use these readings: Exodus 12, 1-8, 11-14; washing of the feet John 13, 1-15; and the Last Supper 1 Corinthians 11, 23-26.

## **Prayer**

Lord, by the Eucharist, the gift of yourself, by your body given to us and your blood poured out for us, you have remained with us forever. We give you thanks, Lord. And pray that your nourishment may always strengthen us so that we, too, will reach out to share with and serve one another. **Amen.**





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

***Easter Sunday April 08, 2012***

***Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3, 1-4; John 20: 1-9***

## ***The Empty Tomb***

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" Then Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb. The two of them were running, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and saw the linen cloths, but he did not go in. Behind him came Simon Peter, and he went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there and the cloth which had been around Jesus' head. It was not lying with the linen cloths but was rolled up by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and believed. (They still did not understand the scripture which said that he must rise from death.) Then the disciples went back home. (John 20: 1-9)

### ***Reflection***

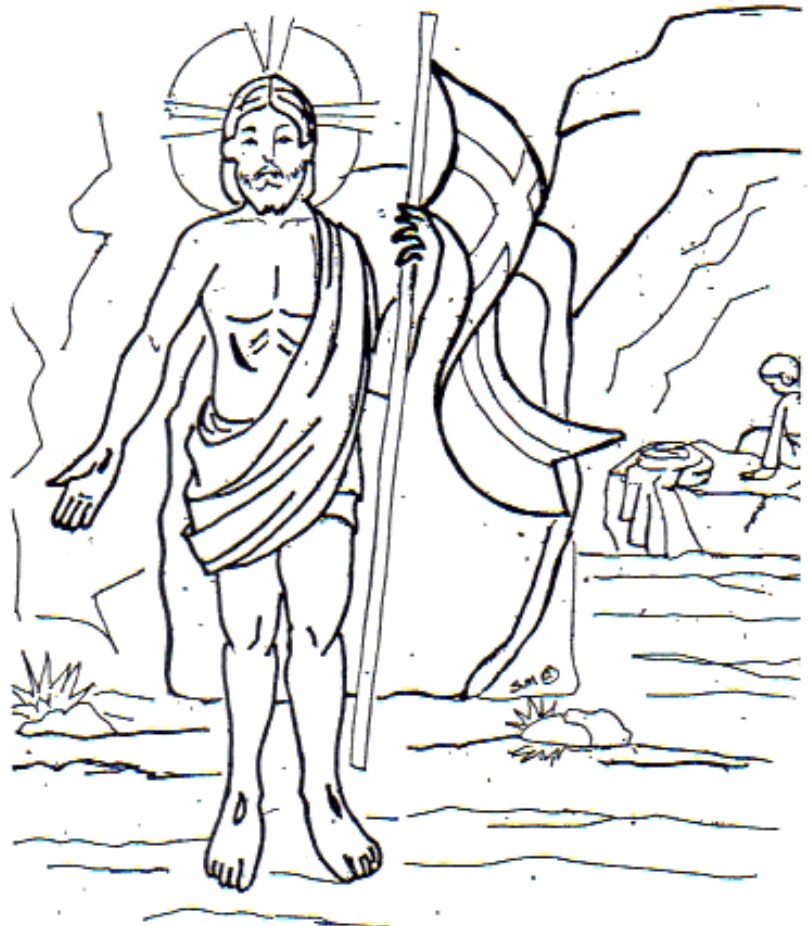
God raised Jesus because death can never have the last word. A woman, an outcast in that society, is the one who receives the announcement of the new life of Jesus. Mary Magdalene really loved Jesus, and that's why she went to see the tomb, although those who killed Jesus might still be looking to kill his friends. Imagine that you go to the cemetery to see the tomb of someone you knew and it is empty. What do you do? How do you feel? Afraid, concerned, happy? Would they like someone to come back to life? Share.

### ***Activity***

Prepare a basket with Easter eggs that are a symbol of life and decorate them as a group. Choose a group of persons that no one remembers and bring them the basket. Prepare cards with messages of the bible that show us the love and presence of God in our lives. Place this card in the baskets you prepare for the persons to be visited.

### ***Prayer***

Lord, you conquer death and in spite of our difficulties and pain, you always give us new life and joy. Help us to be reasons of joy and hope for others, signs of your resurrection for the world. **Amen.**







## **PALM SUNDAY**

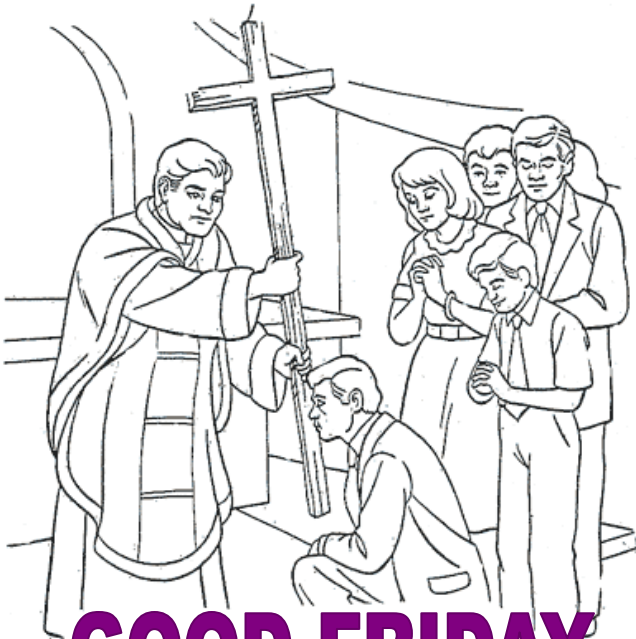
Jesus' teaching about prayer and love for even the least of God's children caused many to follow Him. He was honored by the people but He knew some would not accept Him.



## **HOLY THURSDAY**

Jesus had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover meal with His friends. He shared the first Eucharist with them and taught a very special lesson of service and caring.

# **HOLY WEEK**



## **GOOD FRIDAY**

Each Good Friday we remember Jesus' death on a cross. We gather as a family and honor the cross because our faith teaches that it truly is the tree of salvation" which brings us new life.



## **EASTER VIGIL**

The promise of new life is celebrated with baptisms at Easter. At the Easter Vigil new members of the Christian family are baptized and receive a white robe symbolic of their new life in Christ.

# WE REMEMBER JESUS' LOVE FOR US

Find the right picture or word in the box in the bottom of the page that fills in the sentences below. Paste the picture in the right square ... or write the word in the blanks

On Holy Thursday we recall the  On that evening Jesus  Of the Apostles

During the meal Jesus took , blessed it and said, "This is My \_\_\_\_\_"

Then, He took the  blessed it and said "This is My \_\_\_\_\_. This is a first \_\_\_\_\_.











On Friday \_\_\_\_\_ we start with the readings from the  Then we pray for \_\_\_\_\_

and the people of the world. Then we show out love for the

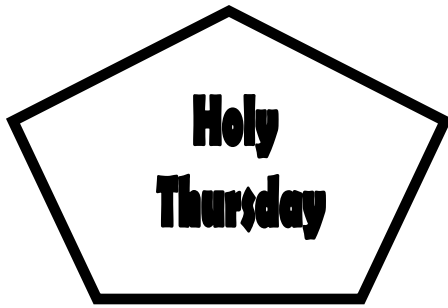
and we receive  At the Easter \_\_\_\_\_ the priest takes a  And sings

The new members of our Church Family receive  and  and

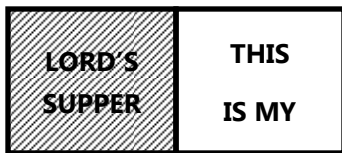
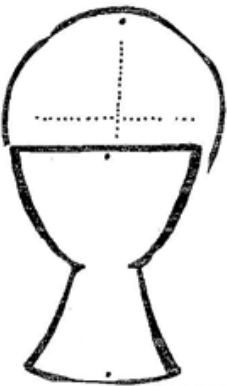
We sing  This is our success story!! Jesus  And gives us Eternal life!!!

GOOD	BREAD		LORD'S SUPPER				ALLELUIA
MASS					CHRIST OUR LIGHT!		

# Eastern Triduum



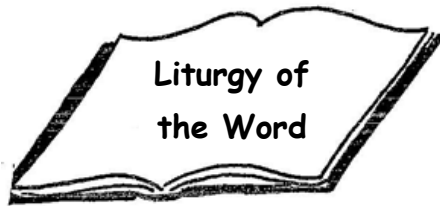
Washing of the feet



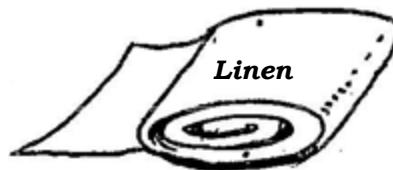
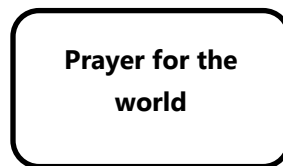
Commemoration of the Institution of the Holy Eucharist



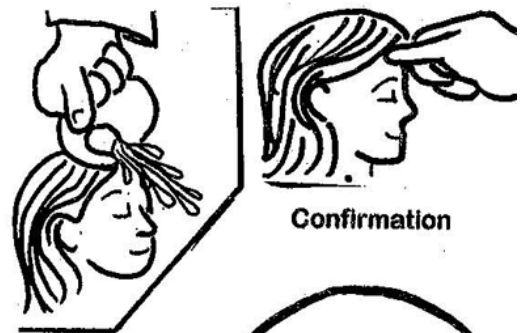
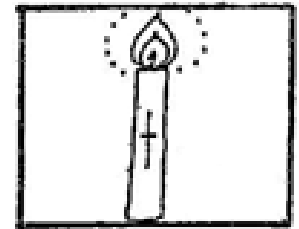
Eucharist Adoration



Adoration of the Holy Cross



All the items and sacred vessels are remove from the church



Baptism

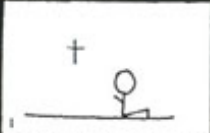



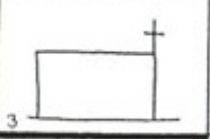





Confirmation



First Holy Communion

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

## GOD OTHERS

LOVE GOD FIRST			OBEY YOUR PARENTS
HONOR GOD'S NAME			DO NOT KILL
HONOR GOD'S DAY			BE PURE
			DO NOT STEAL
			DO NOT LIE
			DO NOT WANT YOUR NEIGHBOR'S SPOUSE
			DO NOT WANT YOUR NEIGHBOR'S THINGS

Remember God Love You

Here are the Ten Commandments in an easy way to remember.

Do you listen to the maker? Each of these stories is about a different commandment. And write it under each picture.

Mix them up and try to match them with the pictures. Keep trying until you get it right.





# St Gemma Galgani

APRIL 4

St Gemma Galgani was born at Camigliano near Lucca, Italy, on March 12, 1878. At twenty years of age, St. Gemma was attacked by tuberculosis to be hopelessly incurable. After countless novenas to St. Gabriel, she was completely cured on the first Friday of March, 1899. At this time, apparently free from her recent illness, the Saint sought to fulfill her lifelong wish of pursuing her religious vocation with the Passionist nuns, but her application, as previously, was rejected.

From 1899 on, this quiet and unexcitable girl who was endowed with a remarkably fervent religious experiences –all of which were carefully investigated by her confessor and spiritual director Father Germano. The marks of Christ's crucifixion (Stigmata) appeared intermittently for over eighteen months on her hands and feet, and she had ecstasies and visions.

In 1902, she was again stricken with an illness that was thought to be tuberculosis and she fell asleep in the Lord in 1905. The fame of her sanctity spread rapidly all over the world. She was beatified by Pius XI on March 14, 1933, and canonized by Pius XII on Ascension Day, 1940.

St. Gemma's mother died when she was very young. Once, during one of Gemma's long illnesses Jesus told her, "My daughter, I give myself all to you, and you must belong entirely to me. I am your father, and my mother will be your mother."

St. Gemma often thought of the pains of Jesus on the cross. On Holy Thursday and Good Friday she felt sufferings like those of Jesus.

## Spirituals Virtues of St. Gemma:

- **OBEDIENCE**
- **HUMILITY**
- **PURITY**
- **CHARITY**



### MY PRAYER

*All-powerful God, You made the Virgin St. Gemma a living image of Your crucified Son. Through her prayers, may we suffer with Christ and so share in His glory.*

*AMEN.*

# APRIL SAINTS

## **Saint John Baptist de la Salle**

*was a priest who gave his money to poor people and spent his time training teachers. He founded the Christian Brothers*



**April 7**

### **My Prayer**

*God, you taught yours followers to welcome little children. Bless all young children and their teachers. Amen.*

## **Saint George**

*was a soldier who is shown fighting a dragon. The dragon is a sign of our bad ways which we must fight. He is the patron of boy scouts and police officers.*



**April 23**

### **My Prayer**

*God, I need courage to fight the bad ways that are in me. Help me to love you and do good. Amen*

## **Saint Mark**

*was a missionary with St. Paul. It is believed that he wrote one of the gospels.*



**April 25**

### **My Prayer**

*There is so much to learn from your gospel, O God. I always want to love your word. Amen.*

## **Saint Catherine of Siena**

*came closer to God by her love and care for the dying people. She also helped those who were in prison and alone.*



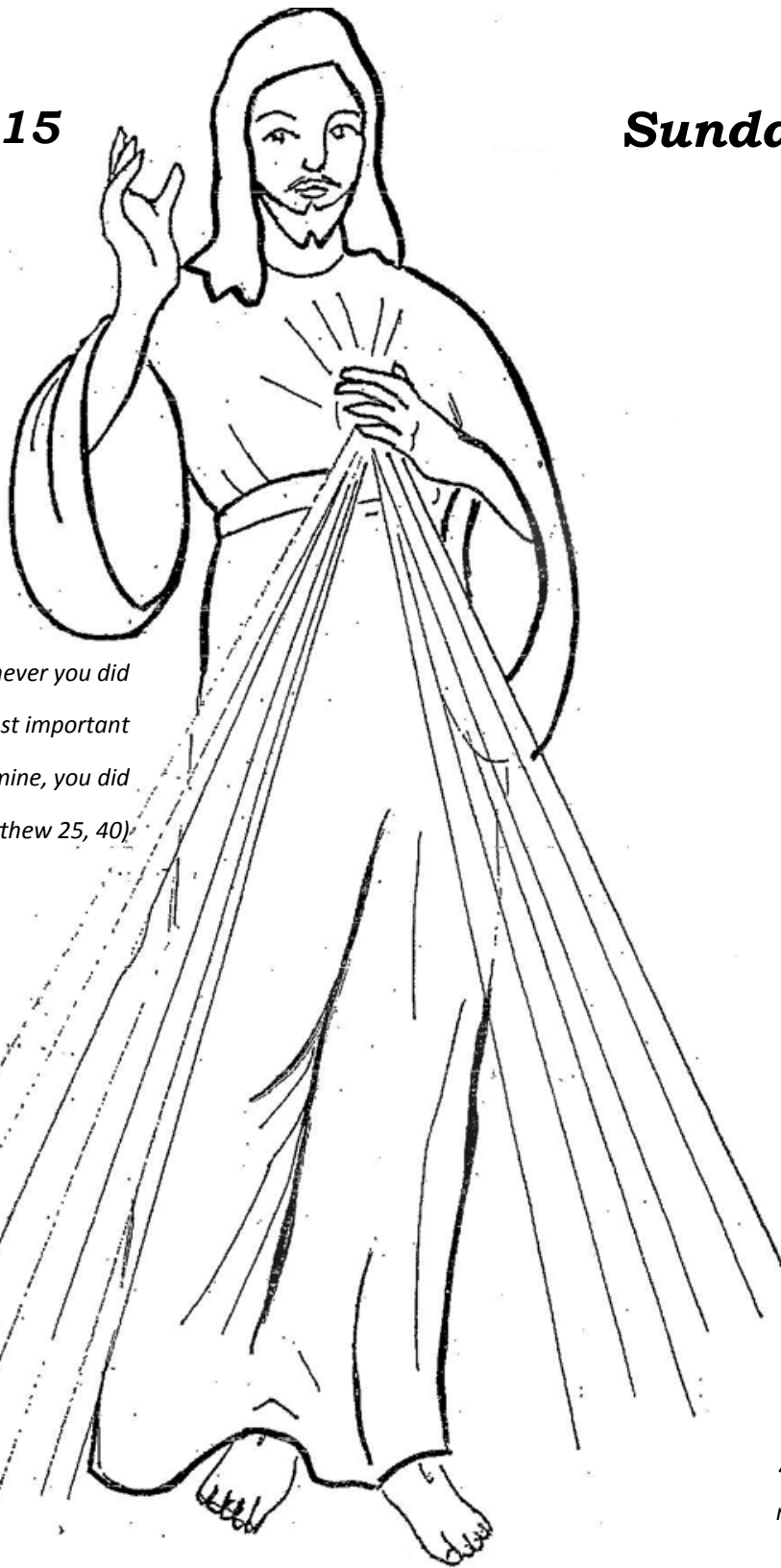
**April 29**

### **My Prayer**

*Saint Catherine, you were brave when you cared for people no one else would care for and when you spoke for what you believed was right. Help me to be brave. Amen.*

**April 15**

# **Sunday of Divine Mercy**



*I tell you, whenever you did  
This for one of the least important  
Of these followers of mine, you did  
It for me!" (Matthew 25, 40)*

*Three ways to exerci-*



**1- Deed**



**2- Word**



**3- Prayer**

*"I tell you, Whatever you did for one of the least of  
my brothers, you did it to Me"*

*Mathew 25;40*

**The Lord told Sister Faustina:**

*"I demand from you deeds of mercy which are  
to arise out of love for Me. You are to show  
mercy to your neighbors always and every-  
where. I am giving you three ways to exercis-  
ing mercy toward your neighbor: the first—by  
deed, the second —by the word; the third —by  
the prayers."*



7. To pray for the living and the dead.



APRIL 15  
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



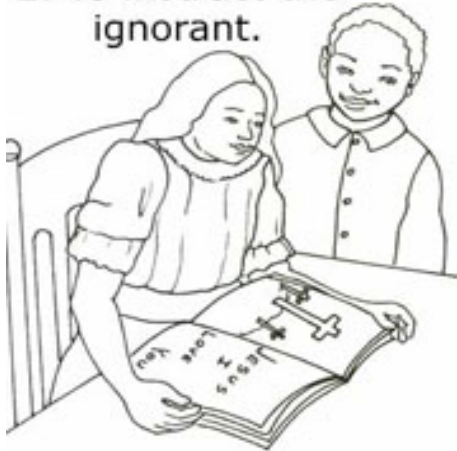
6. To forgive injuries.



1. To admonish the sinner.



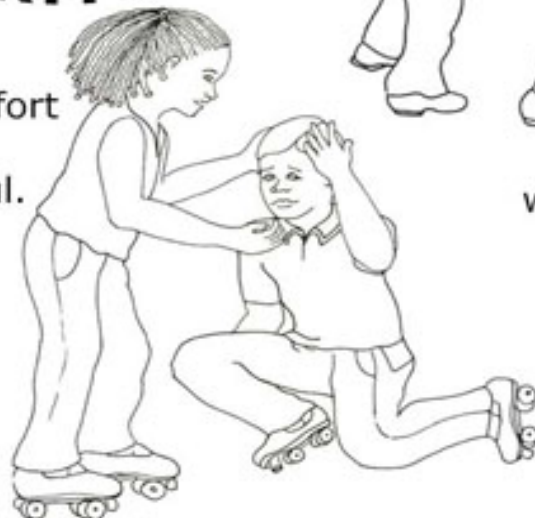
2. To instruct the ignorant.



3. To counsel the doubtful.



4. To comfort the sorrowful.



5. To bear wrongdoings patiently.









# Friends of Jesus and Mary

Third Sunday of Easter April 22, 2012

Readings: Acts 3, 13-15. 17-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 2, 1-5; Luke 24, 35-48

The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread. While the two were telling them this, suddenly the Lord himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were terrified, thinking that they were seeing a ghost. But he said to them, "Why are you alarmed? Why are these doubts coming up in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet, and see that it is I myself. Feel me, you will know, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you can see I have." He said this and showed them his hands and his feet. They still could not believe. They were so full of joy and wonder; so he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of cooked fish, which he took and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are the very things I told you about while I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms had to come true." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "This is what is written: The Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later, and in his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24, 35-48)

## Reflection

If you were there, how do you feel when you touch Jesus's hands and feet? Do you think Jesus was truly hungry when he asked for something to eat? How do you feel? What do you want to ask Jesus? Jesus is very kind to his friends and tries to calm down their fears. Do you help a younger brother or sister feel less afraid of something? Jesus brings us peace. Do you try to help people reconcile, who are mad at each other? Once we have experienced the Resurrection of Jesus, we are sent to give witness to our faith through our changed lives.



## Activity

Ask the children to draw and cut fish and write on them what type of food (their commitment) they are going to offer to the risen Jesus. Place the fish on a basket and pray to Jesus so that they will accomplish what they promise.

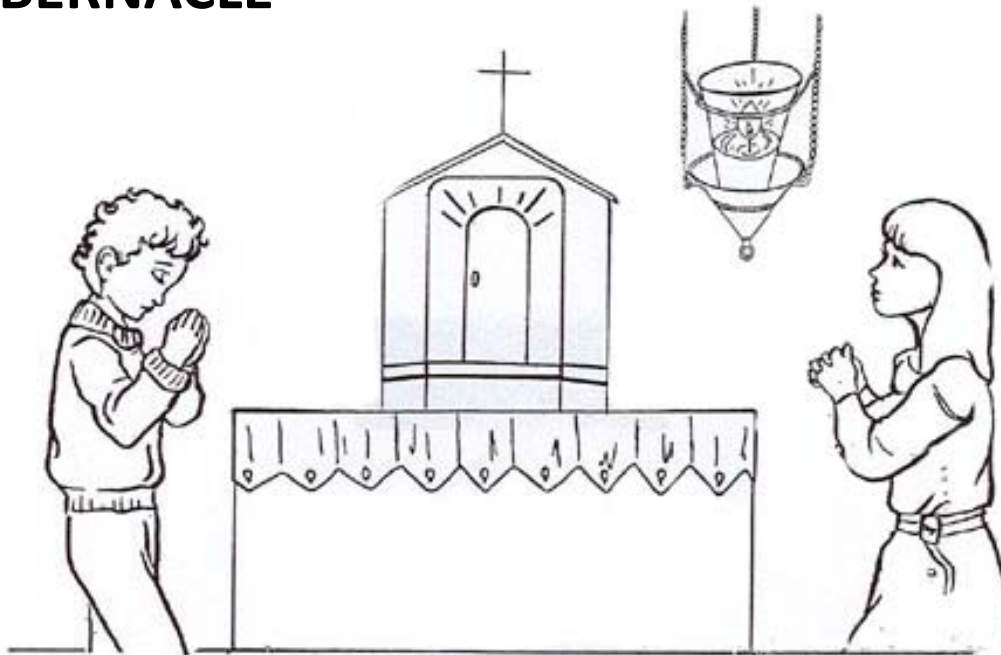
## Prayer

Lord, when you are with us, we have peace, joy and consolation. Help us to see you always present among us and to be reconciled with one another. Help us not to do our will but yours. **Amen.**

Respuestas:



# LET US PRAY TO JESUS IN THE TABERNACLE



## Whenever you do to visit Jesus:

Enter slowly, with respect, knee down, and make the sign of the cross with reverence.

**Greet Jesus in the Tabernacle!** Make an act of faith and of love. This means: that you believe that He is present there and that you love Him all your heart.

**Praise Him,** because He is God and deserves all your praise. Tell Him: May the Most Holy Sacrament be praised!

Give Him Thanks. Jesus likes when you thank Him. Thank Him for all you have: for your mother and father, for your brothers and sisters, for your friends and teachers. Thank Him for the gift of life.

As Him, whatever you want. Tell Him everything; and Jesus, who is very happy with your visit, will hear you and will give you everything that is good for you.

### Act of Faith

Jesus, I believe that You are in my heart. I love you very much. I want You to be happy. From now on I will not leave You alone. I will be thinking of You. How good You are. How good I feel with You. I do not feel lonely anymore... You will give me strength to fight evil...



Jesus is your faithful friend. He is always your friend, even though you may not visit Him in Church or talk to Him, He will always love you!

### Spiritual Communion


Jesus Christ, I believe You are present in this "Little House" of the Tabernacle and I love You very much. I wish You will come into my heart so I can embrace You with all my love. Amen.




# MY PROMISE CARD

In the year if the Eucharistic proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, We suggest you encourage each child, in you prayer group to visit the Blessed Sacrament.

Copy these cards. One per child. Let them decorate the card and write their promise to visit Jesus

 <p>MY PROMISE:</p> <p>Praise be Jesus!!</p>
NAME:

 <p>MY PROMISE:</p> <p>Praise be Jesus!!</p>
NAME:





# *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

*Fourth Sunday of Easter April 29, 2012*

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

## *Jesus the Good Shepherd*

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*

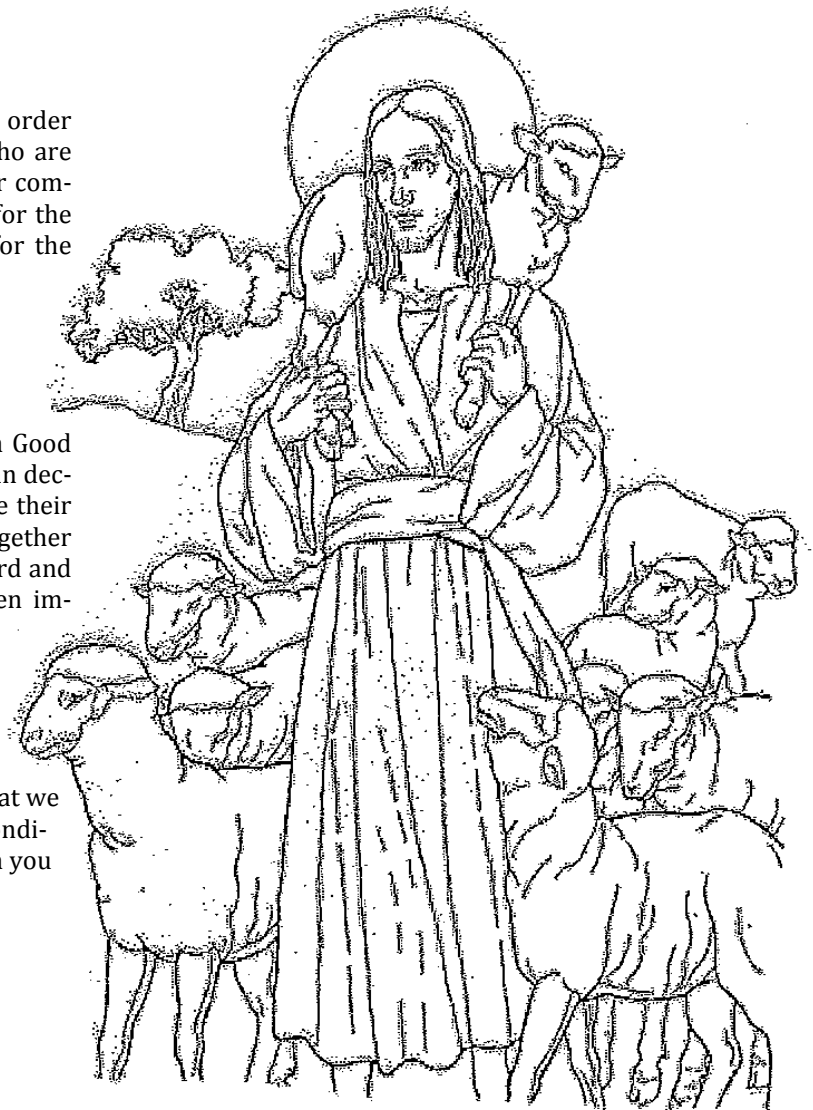
Jesus says that he knows us by name. How do you listen in order to recognize when Jesus wants to tell you something? Who are your good shepherds? Do you have bad shepherds in your community? How can they harm you? Jesus gives up his life for the people he loves. Are you willing to sacrifice something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

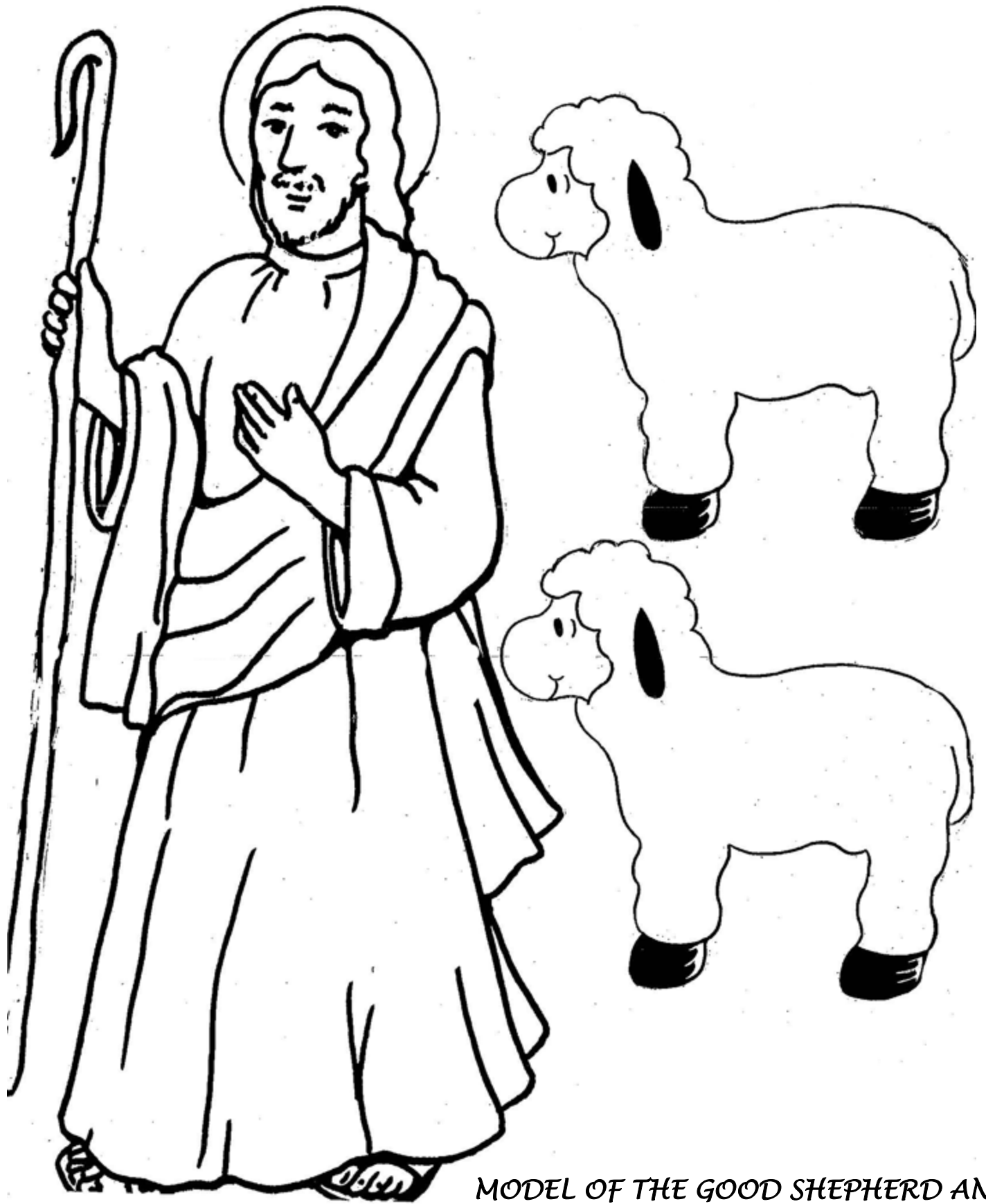
### *Activity*

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 places 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, without condition. Give us good ears to listen to your voice, to know when you call 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