



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María

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Florida Center for Peace

*Abril 2010*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On the 22 of February lent begins. Do you remember the forty days that the Lord spent in the desert before beginning to preach? Well, the whole church prepares for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus with forty days specially dedicated to prayer, penance and almsgiving. Jesus teaches us how we should pray, asking the Father that His be done in us, in other words, whatever he wants, and he encourages us to pray and to be careful so as not to offend Him with sins.

Enclosed you will find the most important Feast and Saints:

February 02 Presentation of the Lord and Mary's purification  
February 03 St. Blasé blessing of the throats  
February 05 St. Agatha  
February 06 San Pll. miki and Companions  
February 11 Our Lady of Lourdes  
February 14 San Cyril and Methodius  
February 14 Valentine Day  
February 18 St. Bernadette Soubirois

Enclosed Material:

1. Calendar and reflection of the month
2. Comic of Blessed Manuel González
3. Valentin Card
4. The Son of God
5. Say "Thank You"
6. We celebrate Lent -Following Jesus
7. Mystery Saints for February

Suggested videos:

- a. Bernadette te Princess of Lourdes
- b. Sharing Quigley's Village
- c. Love God Treasure his name (shc)
- d. Penance (shc)

We are planning our VII Congress of Friends of Jesus and Mary on October 3, 5, 6, & 7 2012 in Aruba. Start planning to share with us this beautiful experience. You will receive more information in the next month.

God bless you always,

Friends of Jesus and Mary.



Friends of Jesus and Mary



Florida Center for Peace

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# February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  <i>2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17</i> <i>Psalm 32:1-2</i> <i>Mark 6:1-6</i>	2 Presentación del Señor  <i>Malachi 3:1-4</i> <i>Hebrews 2:14-18</i> <i>Psalm 24:7</i> <i>Luke 2:22-40</i>	3 Primer Viernes San Blas, San Ansgar  <i>Sirach 47:2-11</i> <i>Psalm 18:31</i> <i>Mark 6:14-29</i>	4 Primer Sábado  <i>1 Kings 3:4-13</i> <i>Psalm 119</i> <i>Mark 6:30-34</i>
5 Quinto Domingo del tiempo Ordinario  <i>Job 7:1-4, 6, 7</i> <i>1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23</i> <i>Mark 1:29-39</i>	6 San Pablo Miki y Compañeros  <i>1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13</i> <i>Psalm 132:6-7</i> <i>Mark 6:53-56</i>	7  <i>1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30</i> <i>Psalm 84:3, 4</i> <i>Mark 7:1-13</i>	8 San Jerónimo Emiliani Santa Josefina Bakhita  <i>1 Kings 10:1-10</i> <i>Psalm 37:5-6</i> <i>Mark 7:14-23</i>	9  <i>1 Kings 11:4-13</i> <i>Psalm 106:3-4</i> <i>Mark 7:24-30</i>	10 Santa Escolástica  <i>1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19</i> <i>Psalm 81:10-11</i> <i>Mark 7:31-37</i>	11 Ntra. Sra. De Lourdes Santa María  <i>1 Kings 12:26-32</i> <i>Psalm 106:6-7</i> <i>Mark 8:1-10</i>
12 Sexto Domingo del tiempo Ordinario  <i>Leviticus 13:1-244-46</i> <i>1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1</i> <i>Mark 1:40-45</i>	13  <i>James 1:1-11</i> <i>Psalm 119:67, 68</i> <i>Mark 8:11-13</i>	14 San Cirilo y San Metodio Día de San Valentín  <i>James 1:12-18</i> <i>Psalm 94: 12-13a</i> <i>Mark 8:14-21</i>	15  <i>James 1:19-27</i> <i>Psalm 15:2-3a</i> <i>Mark 8:22-26</i>	16  <i>James 2:1-9</i> <i>Psalm 34:2-3</i> <i>Mark 8:27-33</i>	17 Siete Fundadores de la Orden de los Servitas  <i>James 2:14-24, 26</i> <i>Psalm 112:1-2</i> <i>Mark 8:34-9:1</i>	18 Santa María  <i>James 3:1-10</i> <i>Psalm 12:2-3</i> <i>Mark 9:2-13</i>
19 Séptimo Domingo del tiempo Ordinario  <i>Isaiah 43:18-19; 21-22</i> <i>2 Corinthians 1:18-22</i> <i>Mark 2:1-12</i>	20  <i>James 3:13-18</i> <i>Psalm 1*9:8, 9</i> <i>Mark 9:14-29</i>	21 San Pedro Damían  <i>James 4:1-+10</i> <i>Psalm 55:7-8</i> <i>Mark 9:30-37</i>	22 Miércoles de Ceniza Ayuno y Abstinencia  <i>Joel 2, 12-18</i> <i>Psalm 50:3-4</i> <i>2 Corinthians 5:20-6, 2</i> <i>Matthew 6, 1-6, 16-18</i>	23 San Policarpo  <i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</i> <i>Psalm 1:1-2</i> <i>Luke 9:22-25</i>	24 Abstinencia  <i>Isaiah 58:1-9a</i> <i>Psalm 51:3-4</i> <i>Matthew 9:14-15</i>	25 <i>Isaiah 58:9b-14</i> <i>Psalm 86:1-2</i> <i>Luke 5:27-32</i>
26 Primer Domingo de Cuaresma  <i>Genesis 9:8-15</i> <i>1 Pedro 3:18-22</i> <i>Mark 1:12*-15</i>	27  <i>Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18</i> <i>Psalm 19:8-9</i> <i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>	28  <i>Isaiah 55:10-11</i> <i>Psalm 34:4-5</i> <i>Matthew 6:7-15</i>	29  <i>Jonah 3:1-10</i> <i>Psalm 51:3-4</i> <i>Luke 11:29-32</i>			



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

*The Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2012*

*Readings: Malachi 3: 1-4; Psalm 23, 7.8.9.10 Hebrews 2:14-18 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, as it is written in the law of the Lord: "Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord." They also went to offer a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of 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."*

*(Luke 2, 22-40)*

## Reflection

Imagine the scene. How do Hannah and Simeon feel? How does Mary feel?

Jesus was a child like you. He came to bring light His light is stronger than the darkness of our lies and all those things people are ashamed of.

Do you see any darkness around you?  
How could you bring light to others?  
is it hard for you to tell the truth sometimes?

## Activity and Prayer

With the children, make a list of things they can do to bring light to the world.

Give a candle to each child.

Present each child to God.

As they express their desire to become light for the world, they light a candle.

Then all together said the following prayer:

O God you ask us to be light, respecting the dignity of all human beings since you became human like us. You ask us to be light where is the darkness of hatred and jealousy. Make us, Lord, light so that all people may see the smile of your shining love. **Amen**





# Friends of Jesus and Mary

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 05, 2012

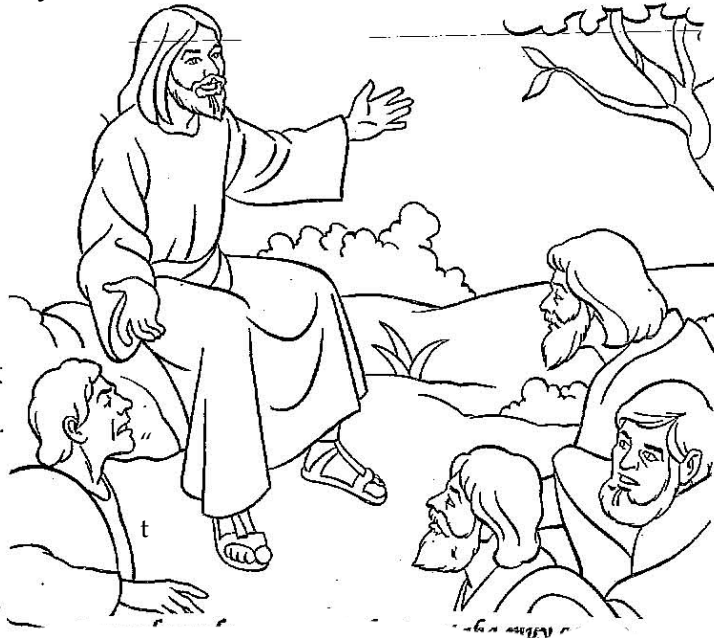
Readings: Job 7: 1-4, 67; Psalm 146, 1-2.3-4; 1Corinthians 9, 16-19, 22-23; Mark 1: 29-39



On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simeon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and Help her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them.



When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many, who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.



## Reflection

Talk with the children about the times when they felt sick. What helped them get better? Is there a sick person in their family right now? What do others members of the family do? How do they feel concerned, sad, trusting in God? Do they know people who are always serving others? Do they pray to God each day to present the needs of people around them?

## Prayer

Lord, you came to earth and fully understand all our pains. Help us to serve one another and to seek the necessary means for the healing of the spiritual illnesses of our family. Give us strength to endure physical illness if it comes. **Amen**

Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

# Friends of Jesus and Mary

6<sup>o</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time February 12, 2012

*Readings:* Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46; Psalm 32: 1-2, 5, 11; 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1; Mark 1: 40-45

*A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, "I do will it. Be made clean."*

*The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.*

*He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." "The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.*

## Reflection

Jesus is near even to those that seem rejected by everyone else. Is there anyone in your school or neighborhood that seems to be rejected or feared?

Do you reject anyone?

The leper went to tell everyone what had happened, because he was grateful.

When someone does something for you, do you show gratefulness?

## Activity

Act the gospel as it happened in the time of Jesus. Then relate the story to modern times. Who is rejected or left out?

How do we invite those people to come into the circle?

## Prayer

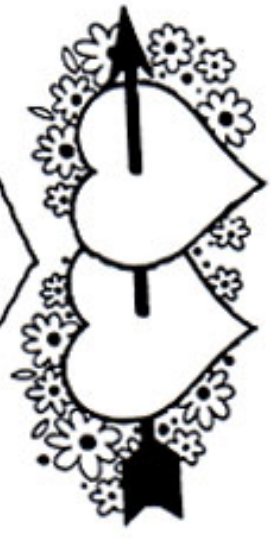
Lord, in your great compassion, you don't reject anyone. Teach us to see a beloved child of God in each person, so that we don't reject, judge, or separate anyone from the community. Give us the joy of your salvation so that we will announce it others.

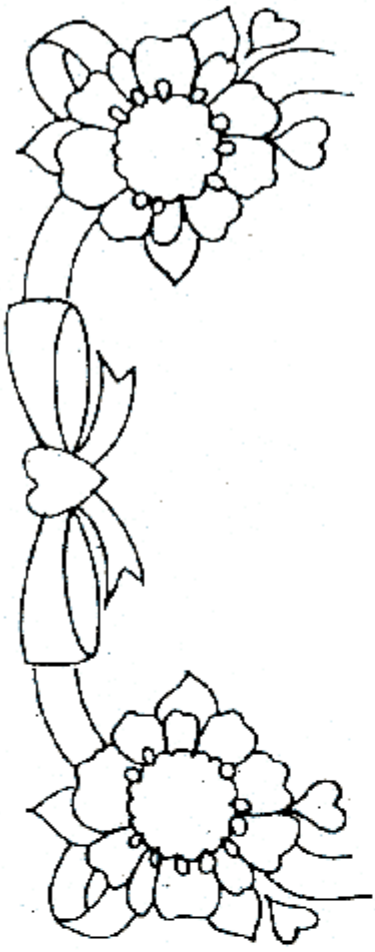
**Amen.**





# Happy Valentine's Day



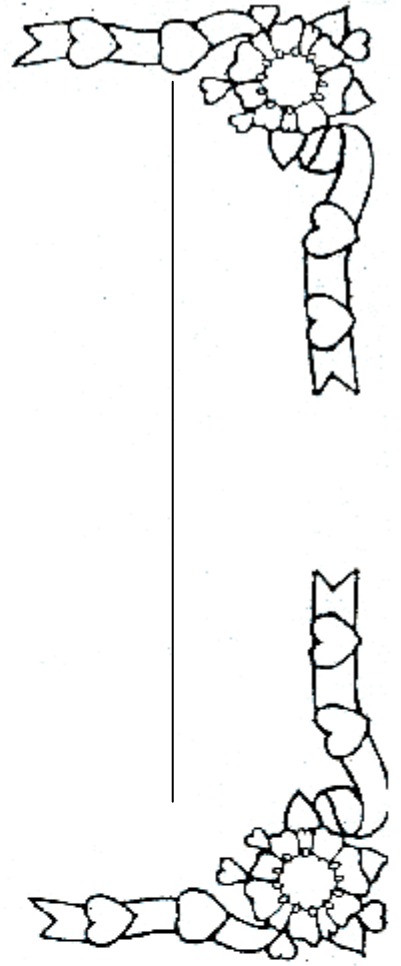


**Friends love one another  
Happy Valentine's Day  
to my friend**

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From,



"Dear Friends,

If this is how God loved us,

1 John 4:11



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

7<sup>o</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 19, 2012

**Readings:** Isaiah 43, 18-19; 21-22; Psalm 40; 2-3 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 Marcos 2: 1-12

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them. They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men.

Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven."

Some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?" Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said. "Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, your sins are forgiven, or to say, rise, pick up your mat and walk? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home. He rose, picked up his mat at once and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this." (Mark 2: 1-12)

## Reflection

What is most surprising to you in this story? if you were the paralyzed man would you be a little disappointed at first because you still can't walk? If you are one in the crowd, what do you expect the man to do next?

The man's friends made great efforts to help him come to Jesus. How do you help others? Jesus says he forgives.

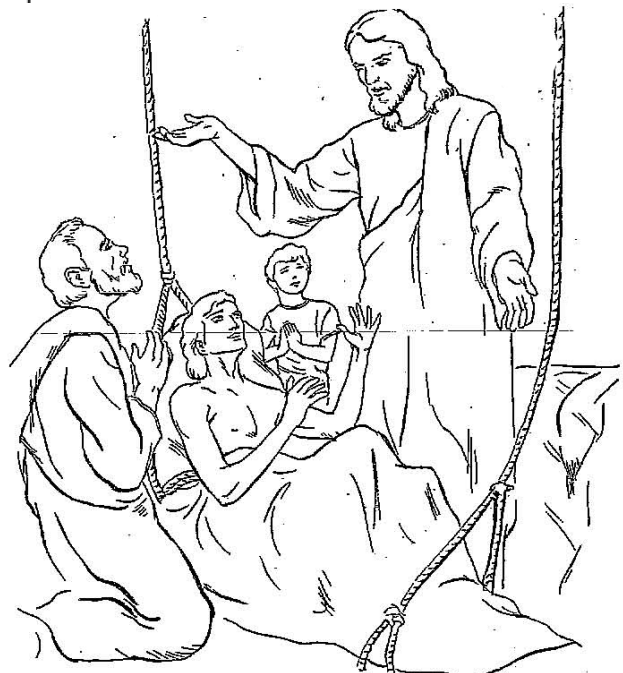
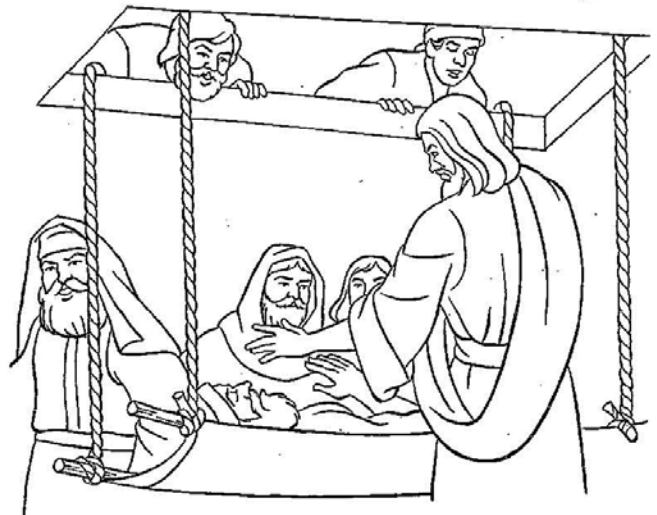
Do you also forgive those who have hurt you?

## Activity

Cut out, in cardboard, figures of boys and girls. Two for each one. Ask them to write in one the name of the person they are helping this week, and in the other one the name of someone that has hurt them. And they are going to forgive. Take them home as a remainder of this week's commitment.

## Prayer

Lord, sometimes we feel overwhelmed and paralyzed by our own past experiences. Give us trust in you so we can lift up to you our bonds and burdens, so you can make all things new in us. **Amen**



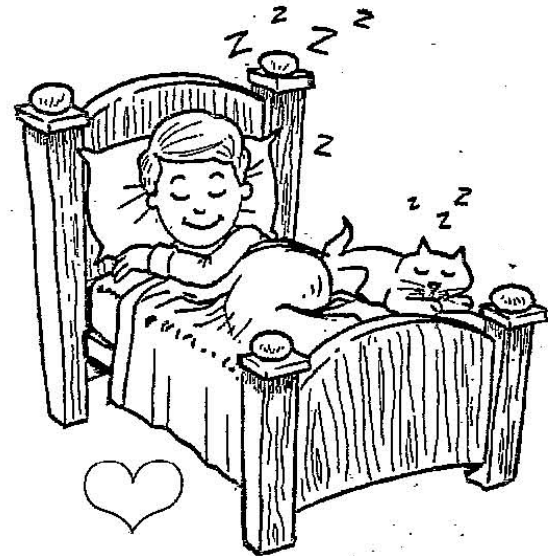


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Son of God

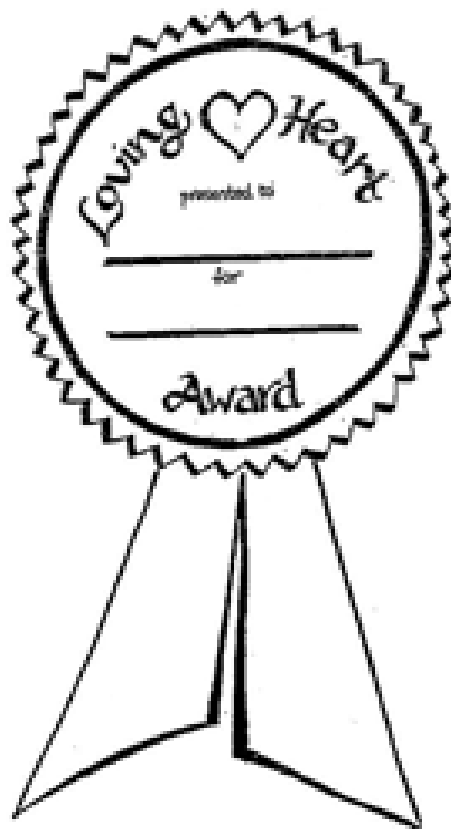
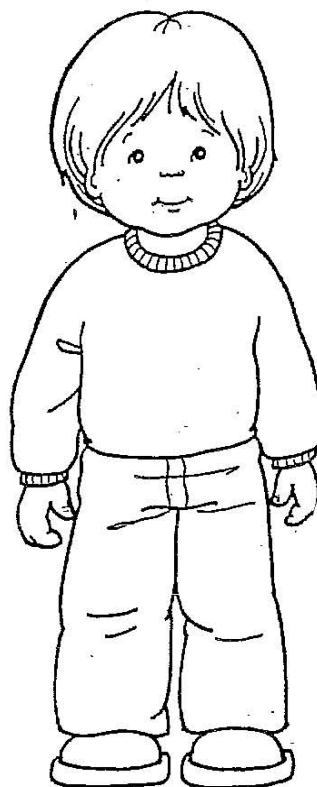
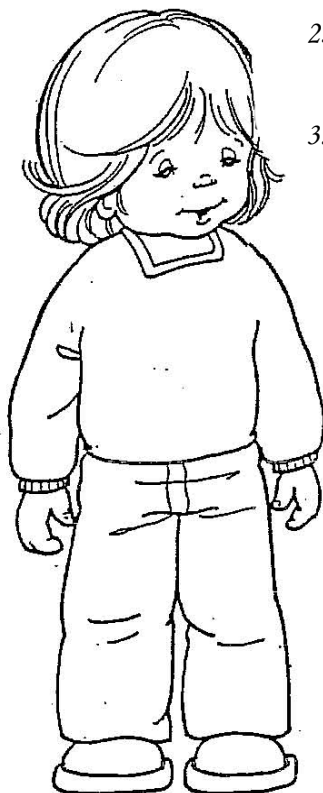
Jesus is God's Son. He is with us always, he loves us very much. Jesus shows us how much God the Father love us.

Look at each of the pictures. Is God present? Color the heart by the picture if you think God is present.



# Say "Thank You" with a Loving Heart Award

1. Color and cut out the loving Heart Award.
2. Write the name of Mom or Dad on the line below "presented to"
3. Write down what you want to thank for, on the second line; a hug, or for packing your school lunches. Try to thank for something you did not thank before. Remember that it was a sign of



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

Ash Wednesday – February 22, 2012

*Readings:* Joel 2: 12-18; Psalm 51: 3-4, 5-6 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6, 1-6, 16-18

*Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others.*

*Amen I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms. Do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them.*

*Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.*

*(Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18)*

## Reflection

Remembering the forty days that Jesus pass in the desert preparing for His public life, we prepare ourselves to live the big celebration of Easter with prayer and penance. We need to have a complete change of heart dying to sin and preparing ourselves to live a resurrected life with Christ.

## Activity

Give each child a cross as a symbol of his commitment during Lent. They can decorate it and write on them their commitment. Ask them to bring the cross to the group and offer them in the altar, during prayer.

## Prayer

Lord, you remind us that you are our real home and life. Help us Lord, in our way to you, to live as real sons and daughters. Help us to be loving and take away what the things that hurt you.

**Amen.**



## Fast and abstinence

Now, if you count the pieces of bread, you will find out at what age you should be fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday



## Ash Wednesday

February 22

Lent is an extra special time to learn Jesus way of loving. When we remember his death and resurrection we can pray for other kids who are suffering in the world.

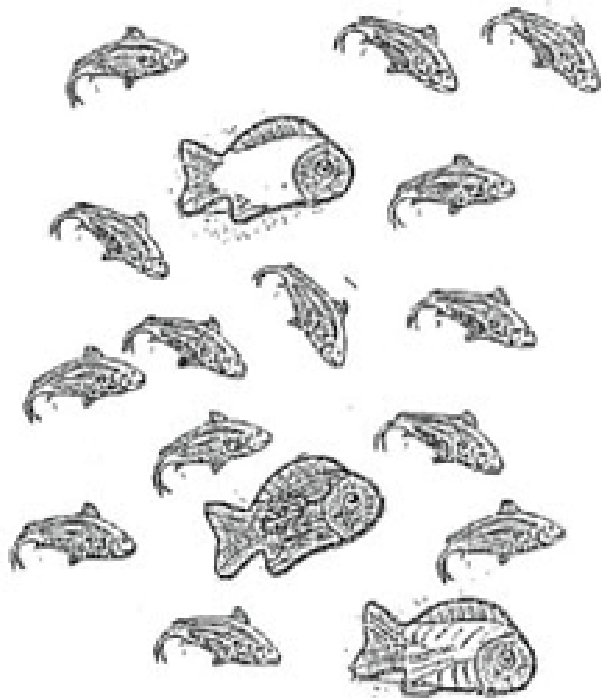
Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and finish on Palm Sunday.

Lent remains us of the forty days, when Jesus fast in the desert, it is a time when God ask us to think and reflect on our behavior.

What are we doing with our life? Are we obeying our parents and teachers.

## Fast and abstinence

Count how many fish are the same and you will find out the age at which it becomes obligatory for you not to eat meat on Fridays during Lent.



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

First Sunday of Lent – February 26, 2012

Readings: Genesis 9: 8-15; Psalm 25, 4-5, 6-7; 1Peter 3; 18-22; Mark 1: 12-15

## Jesus says no

*The spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beast, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel." (Mark 1:12-15)*

## Reflection

Jesus prepares for his mission by praying: He resists the temptation to look for something easier and goes out to preach inviting all to a new life. Do you sometimes feel tempted not to do what adults ask of you? Do you ask God to be with you when you are about to do something important? Of all the things you do daily. What do you need to change? Jesus spends 40 days in the dessert without eating. We Christians have a period of 40 days of Lent, to reflect on our lives and commitments. What do you plan to offer for Lent?

## Activity

Have the children write down what they would like to offer for Lent. Place the papers in a basket. Bring it to the altar. Every week pray asking God for strength to accomplish their commitments. You can start to pray this day the "Stations of the Cross"

## Prayer

Sometimes we find it easier to seek comfort for ourselves than to do good for others, because that demands sacrifice. Give us strength to overcome our temptations and help us to continue to follow you, serving others. **Amen**





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## We celebrate lent:

## Following Jesus

Lent is the forty days before Easter. During this time we try to become more like Jesus. We are asked to pray and do good works. Here are some ways you can become more like Jesus. Can you think of one more thing you can do during Lent to

1. Clean your room.
2. Help your parents.
3. Pray every day
4. Play nicely with others

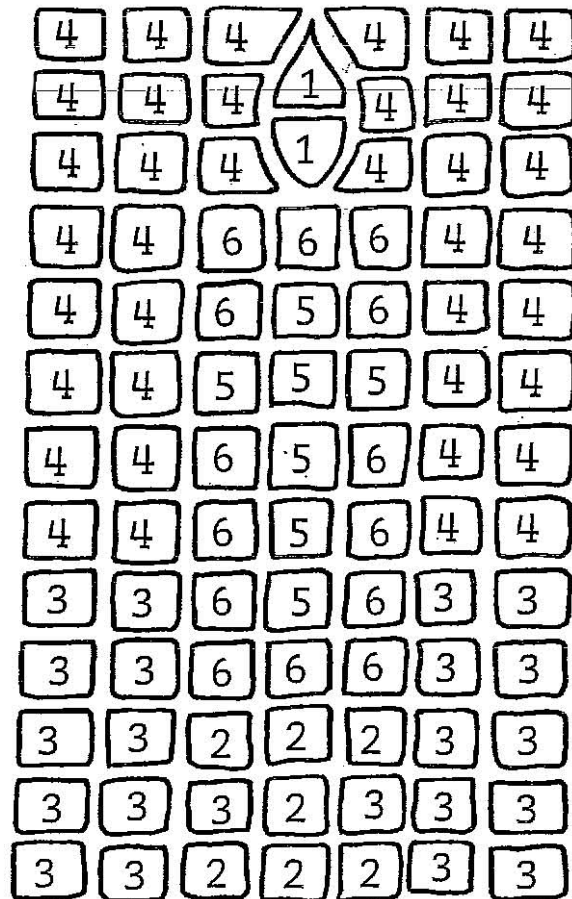
When you do something during Lent to show your love to God, color one of the blocks. It will help you remember your Baptism.

1 = Yellow

2 = Red

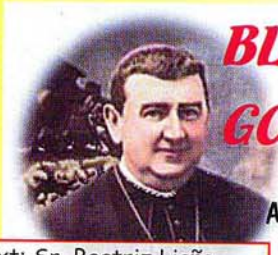
3 = Brown

4 = Blue



Walking by Faith



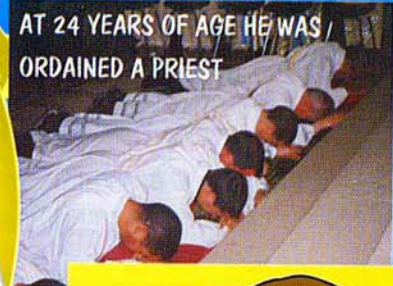


# BLESSED MANUEL GONZÁLEZ

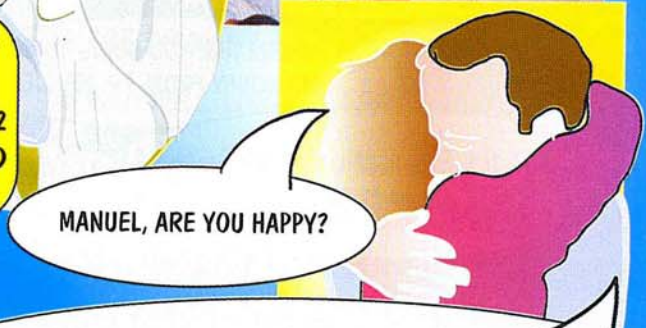
THE BISHOP OF THE ABANDONED TABERNACLES

Text: Sr. Beatriz Liaño  
Design: Br. Greggy Espejón

AT 24 YEARS OF AGE HE WAS ORDAINED A PRIEST



MANUEL WAS BORN IN SEVILLE, SPAIN, IN FEBRUARY OF 1877. HE LEARNED TO LOVE THE EUCHARIST FROM HIS MOTHER, WHO RECEIVED COMMUNION DAILY. AT ONLY 12 YEARS OF AGE, MANUEL ALREADY KNEW WHAT HE WANTED TO DO WITH HIS LIFE.



MANUEL, ARE YOU HAPPY?

MOTHER, I AM SO HAPPY! IF I HAD TO BE BORN 1,000 TIMES, I WOULD BE A PRIEST 1,000 TIMES.

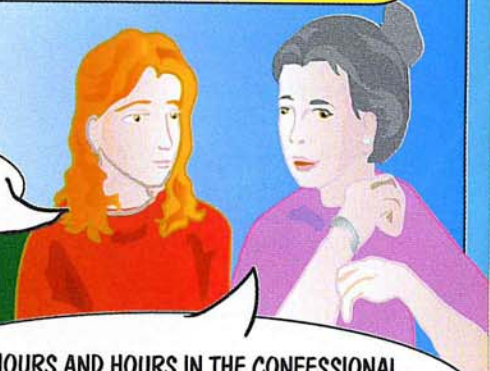


FATHER, MOTHER, I WANT TO BE A PRIEST.

MY SON! THIS IS A GIFT FROM GOD!

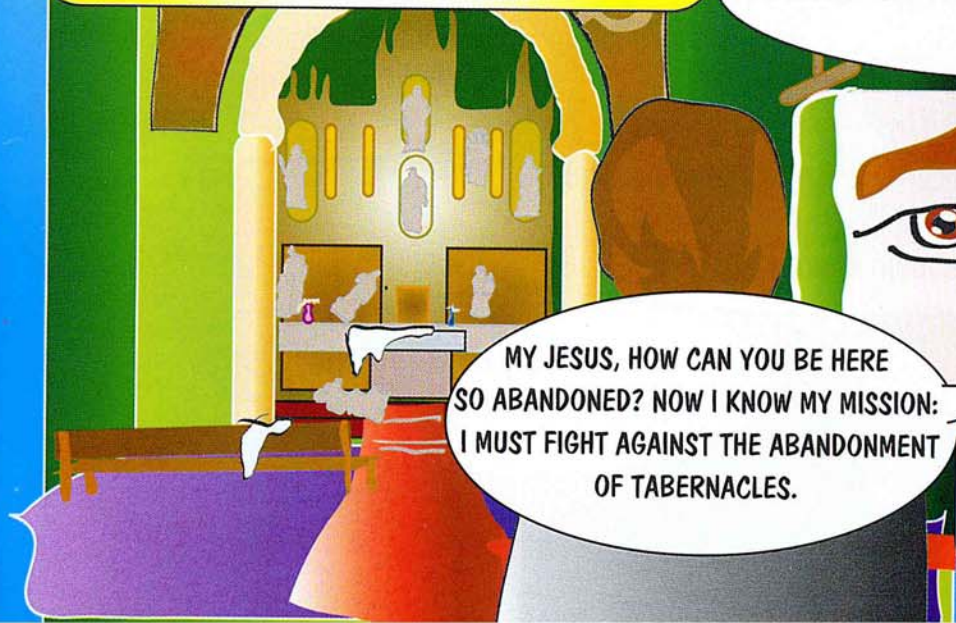
HIS PLAN IN LIFE WAS TO WORK HARD FOR OUR LORD, TO WIN SOULS FOR HEAVEN.

HE NEVER STOPS.

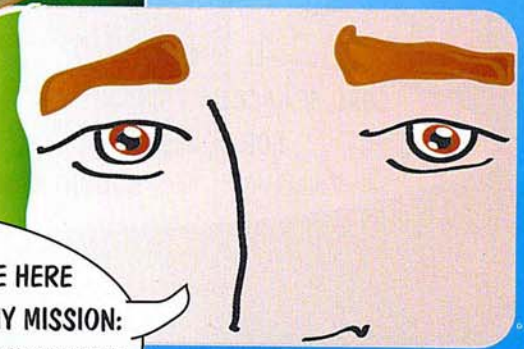


HIS BISHOP SENT HIM TO PREACH IN A SMALL TOWN. HE FOUND THE CHURCH THERE DIRTY AND ABANDONED. JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST WAS IN AN ABANDONED TABERNACLE THAT WAS BROKEN AND EATEN AWAY BY MOTHS.

HE SPENDS HOURS AND HOURS IN THE CONFESSIONAL, HELPING ANYONE WHO ASKS HIM FOR A FAVOR. HE IS ALWAYS AN EXAMPLE.



MY JESUS, HOW CAN YOU BE HERE SO ABANDONED? NOW I KNOW MY MISSION: I MUST FIGHT AGAINST THE ABANDONMENT OF TABERNACLES.





HE IS NAMED ARCHPRIEST OF HUELVA, A CITY WITH MUCH UNEMPLOYMENT AND MANY POOR PEOPLE, THAT HAD TAKEN DISTANCE FROM THE CHURCH.

IN 1910, FR. MANUEL STARTED THE WORK OF THE THREE MARY'S FOR WOMEN AND THE DISCIPLES OF ST. JOHN FOR MEN.

FATHER, THERE IS A LINE OF PEOPLE WAITING TO CONFESS. PLEASE COME BACK TO THE CHURCH.

WE ARE GOING TO NEED ANOTHER SCHOOL AND ANOTHER CHURCH. THE PEOPLE NO LONGER FIT.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO GET THE MONEY FROM, FR. MANUEL?

HE FOUNDATIONS GREW QUICKLY, IN SPAIN AND BEYOND.

GOD WILL HELP US, AS HE ALWAYS HAS.

LOVE JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST! LOVE HIM A LOT! LOVE THE LOVE THAT IS NOT LOVED!

IN 1915, MANUEL WAS NAMED AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MÁLAGA.

THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO...HEART OF JESUS, WHERE SHOULD I BEGIN? IMMACULATE MOTHER MARY, I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

BISHOP MANUEL CONSTANTLY WORKS, ALWAYS DOING GOOD TO OTHERS, JUST AS JESUS HIS TEACHER, FROM WHOM HE LEARNS EVERYTHING.

SPAIN IS ABOUT TO ENTER INTO A CIVIL WAR AND RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION COMES WITH IT.

LORD, IF I ACCEPT THIS CROSS IT IS OUT OF LOVE FOR YOU AND FOR SOULS. YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE NEVER SOUGHT HONORS.

THEY HAVE SET FIRE TO THE BISHOP'S RESIDENCE.aa



THE SITUATION BECAME SO SERIOUS THAT MANUEL HAD TO LEAVE MÁLAGA AND TAKE REFUGE IN GIBRALTAR. FROM THERE HE WOULD CONTINUE TAKING CARE OF HIS DIOCESE.

THERE ARE SO MANY PROFANATIONS, SO MANY SACRILEGES... LORD, I OFFER MY LIFE SO THAT YOUR HEART MAY REIGN IN SPAIN. IMMACULATE MOTHER, KEEP ME SAFE UNDER YOUR MANTLE.

IN THE YEAR 1932, BISHOP MANUEL WENT TO ROME TO INFORM THE HOLY FATHER, PIUS XI, OF THE SERIOUS SITUATION IN SPAIN.

THE PERSECUTION FORCED HIM TO MOVE TO MADRID. IN SPITE OF HIS GREAT SUFFERING, THE BISHOP REMAINED CALM, TAKING UP HIS CROSS WITH TRUST AND JOY. HE WAS THEN NAMED BISHOP OF PALENCIA. THREE YEARS LATER, HE BECAME SERIOUSLY ILL.

POOR SPAIN! THIS IS A DARK TIME FOR YOU.



HE DIED ON JANUARY 4, 1940.

ARE YOU IN A LOT OF PAIN, YOUR EXCELLENCY?

LORD, HELP ME TO SUFFER IN SILENCE AND WITH A SMILE ON MY FACE.

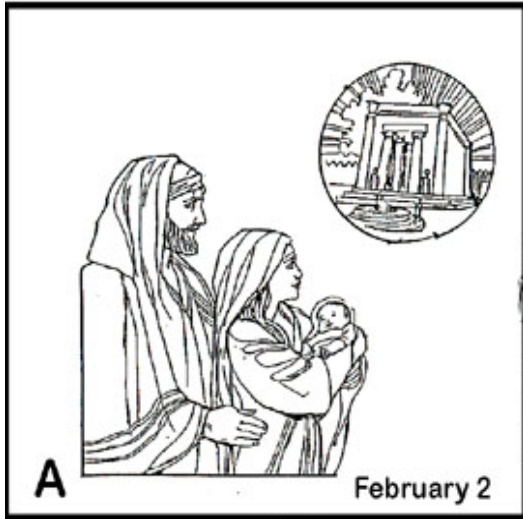
WHAT MOST HURTS IS MY HEART. I HAVE LOVED SO MUCH!





# GUESS WHICH SAINTS WE ARE

## Mystery Saints for February



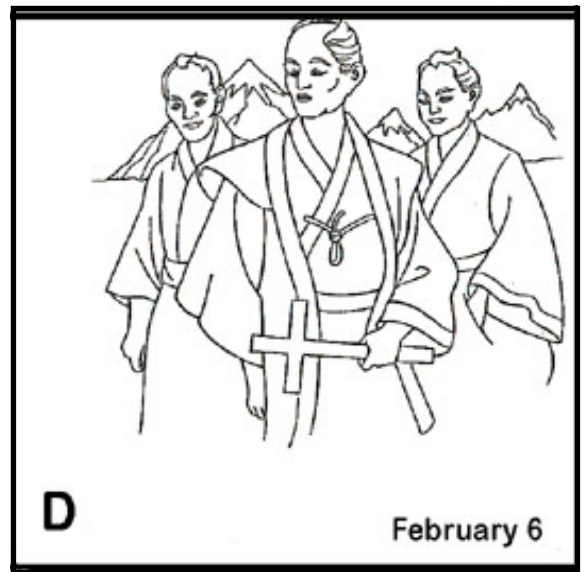
February 2



February 3



February 18



February 6



February 11



February 14