



*May 2012  
Miami*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

May is the month dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It is also a month where we can relate better to our mother through the Virgin Mary. Let's use this month to awaken our children, and help them appreciate everything that our mothers do for each one of us. Help them prepare a Spiritual Bouquet to be given to their mothers on Mother's Day.

**Important feast and some Saints:**

Mayo 01	Saint Joseph, The Worker
Mayo 13	Our Lady of Fatima
Mayo 13	Mother's Day
Mayo 18	John Paul II Birthday
Mayo 20	The Ascension of the Lord
Mayo 23	<b>Leader's Workshop</b>
Mayo 27	Pentecost
Mayo 31	The Visitation

**Activities:**

- 1) The month of Mary
- 2) Mary
- 3) St. Joseph the worker
- 4) Spiritual Bouquet for Mother's Day
- 5) Jesus is my Best Friend
- 6) The ascension of Jesus
- 7) Gift of the Holy Spirit
- 8) Fruit of the Holy Spirit
- 9) A marvelous dream

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

- 1) The Day the Sun Danced
- 2) Mary
- 3) Fatima

The next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Mercedes Garcia's House.

The Eucharist Retreat for the children of the prayer groups and their families will be on June 2, 2012 at St. Agatha Church from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Make plans to come.

We are planning our next VII Congress of the Friends of Jesus and Mary from October 4 to October 8 2012 in Aruba, Netherlands Antilles. We invite all to make plans to attend.

Committee of Friend of Jesus and Mary



Friends of Jesus and Mary



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# May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 St. Joseph Worker	2 St. Athanasius	3 Sts. Philip and James	4 First Friday	5 First Saturday
		Acts 11,19-26 Psalm 86 John 10,22-30	Acts 12,24-13,5 Psalm 66 John 12,,44-50	Números 21,4b-9 Psalm 77 John 3,13-17	1Co 15,1-8 Psalm 18 John 14,6-14	Acts 13,44-52 Psalm 97 John 14,7-14
6 5th Sunday of Easter	7	8	9	10 John of Avila	11	12 Sts. Nereus, Achilleus and Pancras
Acts 9,26-31 Psalm 21 1 John 3,18-24 John 15,1-8	Acts 14,5-18 Psalm 113 John 14,21-26	Acts 14,19-28 Psalm 144 John 14,27-31	Acts 1,1-6 Psalm 121 John 15,1-8	Acts 15,7-21 Psalm 95 John 15,9-11	Acts 15,22-31 Psalm 56 John 15,12-17	Acts 16,1-10 Psalm 99 John 15,18-21
13 6th Sunday of Easter Mother's dau	14 St. Mathias	15 St. Isidore	16	17	18	19
Acts 10,25-26 Psalm 97 1 John 4,7-10 John 15,9-17	Acts 1,15-17,20-26 Psalm 121 John 15,9-17	Acts 16,22-34 Psalm 137 John 16,5-11	Acts 17,15-22-18,1 Psalm 148 John 16,12-15	Acts 18,1-8 Psalm 97 John 16,16-20	Acts 18,9-18 Psalm 46 John 16,20-23a	Acts 18,23-28 Psalm 46 John 16,23b-28
20 7th Sunday of Easter The Ascension of the Lord	21	22 St. Rita of Cascia	23	24	25 Gregory VII and Mary Magdalene	26
Acts 1,1-11 Psalm 46 Eph 1,17-23 Mark 16,15-20	Acts 19,1-8 Psalm 67 John 16,29-33	Acts 20,17-27 Psalm 67 John 17,1-11a	Acts 20,28-38 Psalm 67 John 17,11b-19	Acts 22,30;23,6-11 Psalm 15 John 17,20-26	Acts 25,13-21 Psalm 102 John 21,15-19	Acts 28,16-20.30-31 Psalm 10 John 21,20-25
27 Pentecost Sunday	28	29	30 Joan of Arc	31 Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
Acts 2,1-11 Psalm 103 1 Co 12 3b-17 12-13 John 20,19-23	1 Peter 1,3-9 Psalm 110 Mark 10,17-27	1 Peter 1,10-16 Psalm 97 Mark 10,28-31	1 Peter 1,18-25 Psalm 147 Mark 10,32-45	So 3,14-18a Int/Isaiah 12,2-3 Lucas 1,39-56		



# THE MONTH OF MARY

Dear Family,

Traditionally, May is set aside by the Church to honor Mary. Typically, public devotions including the Rosary, a litany, or May crownings are scheduled in parishes during this month. We honor Mary as the Mother of the Son of God, as the first Christian, and as our Mother.

In following God's plan for her to become the Mother of Jesus, Mary accepted God's will and exhibited her deep faith in God. Having a new baby is exciting, but it is also a tremendous responsibility. We can only imagine how Mary might have felt when told that her Son was the Son of God.

During the month of May, your family can focus on Mary by saying a decade of the Rosary each day. Use the joyful mysteries: the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, the Presentation, and the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple. Each of these events is related in the Gospel of Luke. Ask a member of the family to read one of the events, then ask the family to meditate on the event while reciting the ten Hail Marys of the Rosary. Use the chart below to help you plan your May devotions to Mary.

WE HONOR THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Day	Scripture Verse	Name
Monday	The Annunciation Luke 1:26-38	_____
Tuesday	The Visitation Luke 1:39-45	_____
Wednesday	The Nativity Luke 2:1-20	_____
Thursday	The Presentation Luke 2:22-38	_____
Friday	Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple Luke 2:41-51	_____



# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

MAY 1



*This is St. Joseph's second feast day on the Church calendar of celebrations. We honor him also on March 19. St. Joseph is very important saint. He is the husband of Our Lady and the foster-father of Jesus.*

*Today we celebrate his witness of hard work. He was carpenter who worked long hours in his little shop. St. Joseph teaches us that the work we do is important. Through it we give our contribution and our services to our family and society. But even more than that. As Christians we realize that our work is like a mirror of ourselves. That is why we want our work to be done with diligence.*

*Many countries set aside one day a year to honor workers. This encourages the dignity and appreciation of work. The Church has given us a wonderful model of work, St. Joseph. In 1955, Pope Pius XII proclaimed this feast of St. Joseph the Worker to be celebrated every year.*

*We can ask St. Joseph to help us become more diligent in our study and work:*

*Saint Joseph, husband of Mary,  
you were always aware of God's presence.  
Help me find God in my life,  
and be with me at the hour of my death.*

# The Church

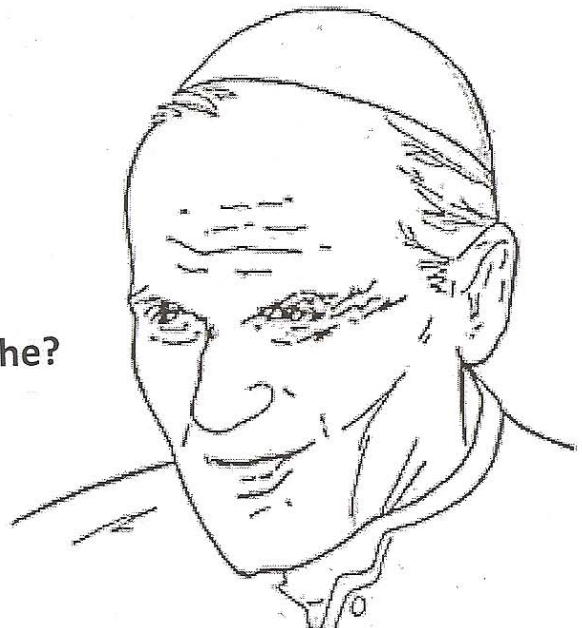
## Respond



- Who is the visible head of the church?
- Who are the successors of the apostles?
- Which are the notes of the of the church?
- Why do we say that the Church is Catholic?
- How many Churches are there?
- Who founded the Church?
- Are the Saints in Heaven part of the Church?
- When do we start being a part of the Church?

What did God tell the apostles before ascending into heaven? Write it?

Who is he?





# Friend of Jesus and Mary

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter May 6, 2012

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.

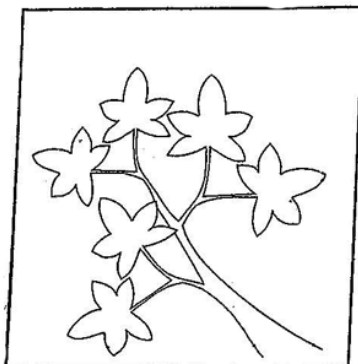
Whom do they need? Be united to the branch in the same way we need to be united to Jesus to grow. What does being very close to another person mean? To whom do they feel united?

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



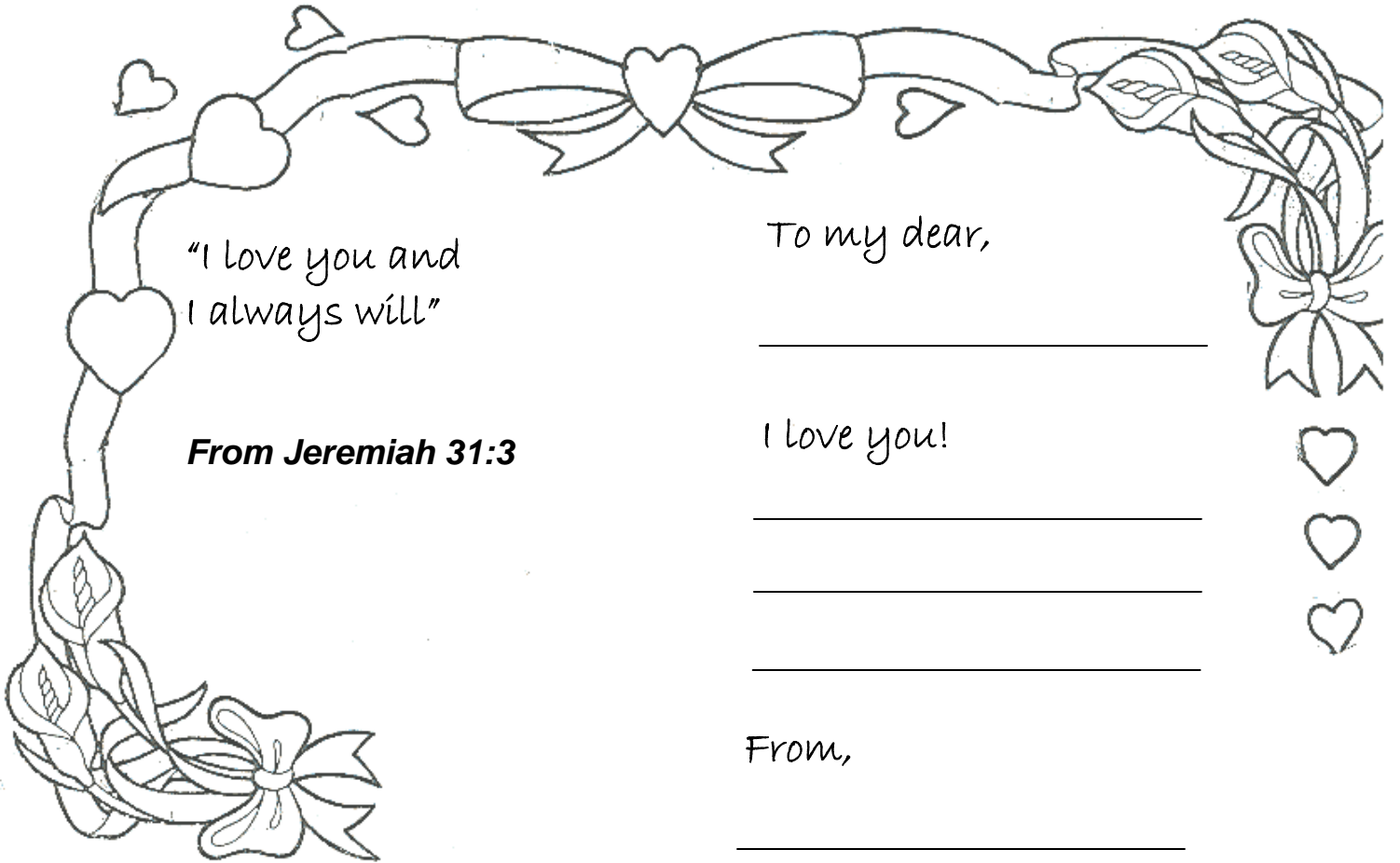
## Activity

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.

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MOTHER  
MARY WITH HER DIVINE SON



Happy  
Mother's  
Day



"I love you and  
I always will"

**From Jeremiah 31:3**

To my dear,

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I love you!

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From,

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# Friend of Jesus and Mary

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter May 13, 2012

Readings: Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 ; Psalm 97 ; 1John 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.

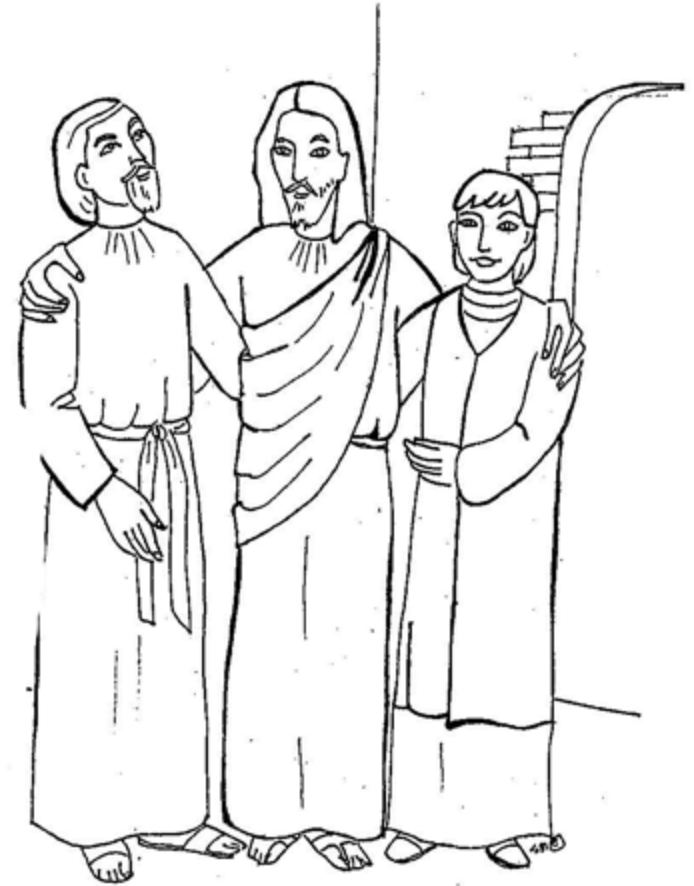
How can we thank Jesus for what He did for us? Give enough time to share.

## 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.

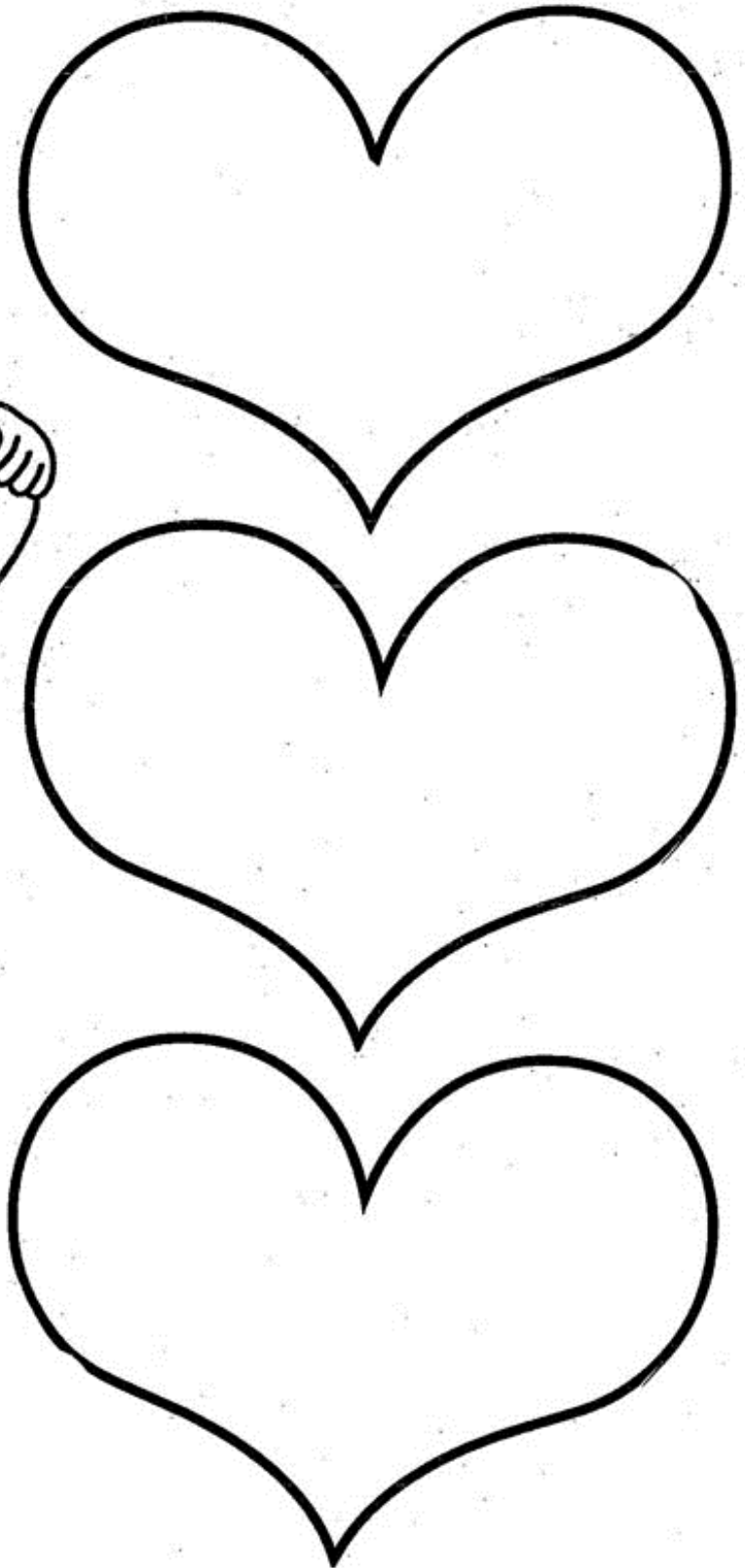
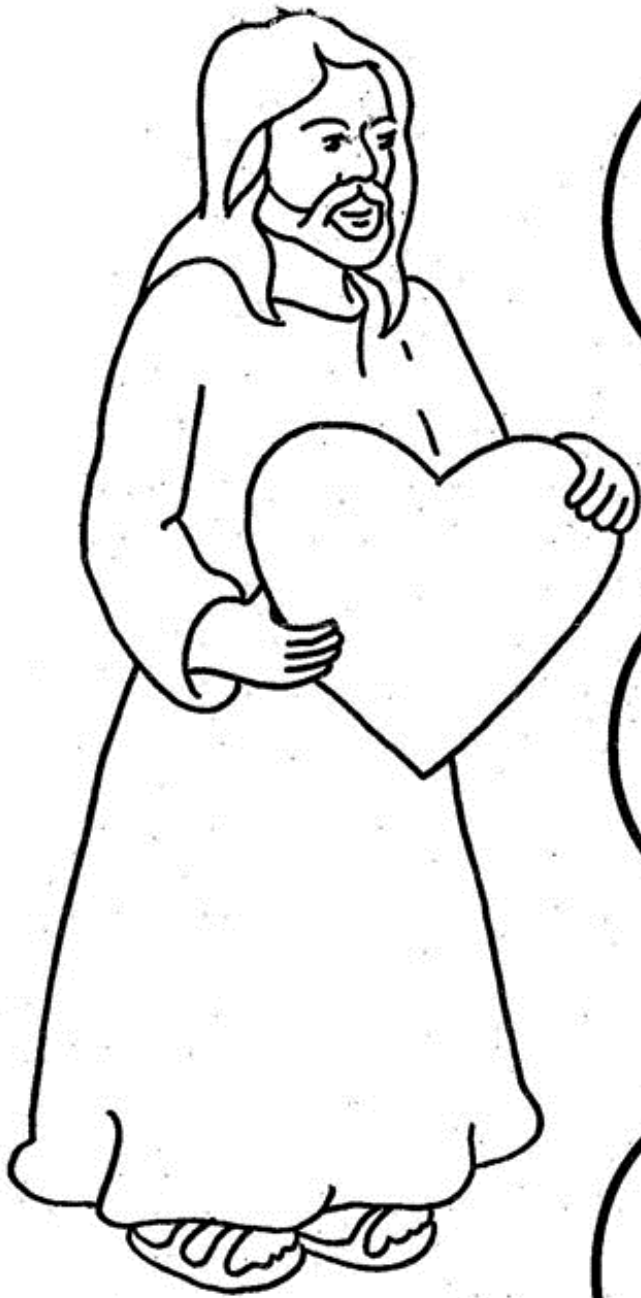
In the back they can write what they would do for them this week. Each child paste the heart on the poster. Before the group ends they pick up their heart to take to the special person? You have a model on the next page.



## 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 6TH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER  
MAY 13, 2012



# Friend of Jesus and Mary

*Ascension of the Lord- May 20, 2012*

*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.

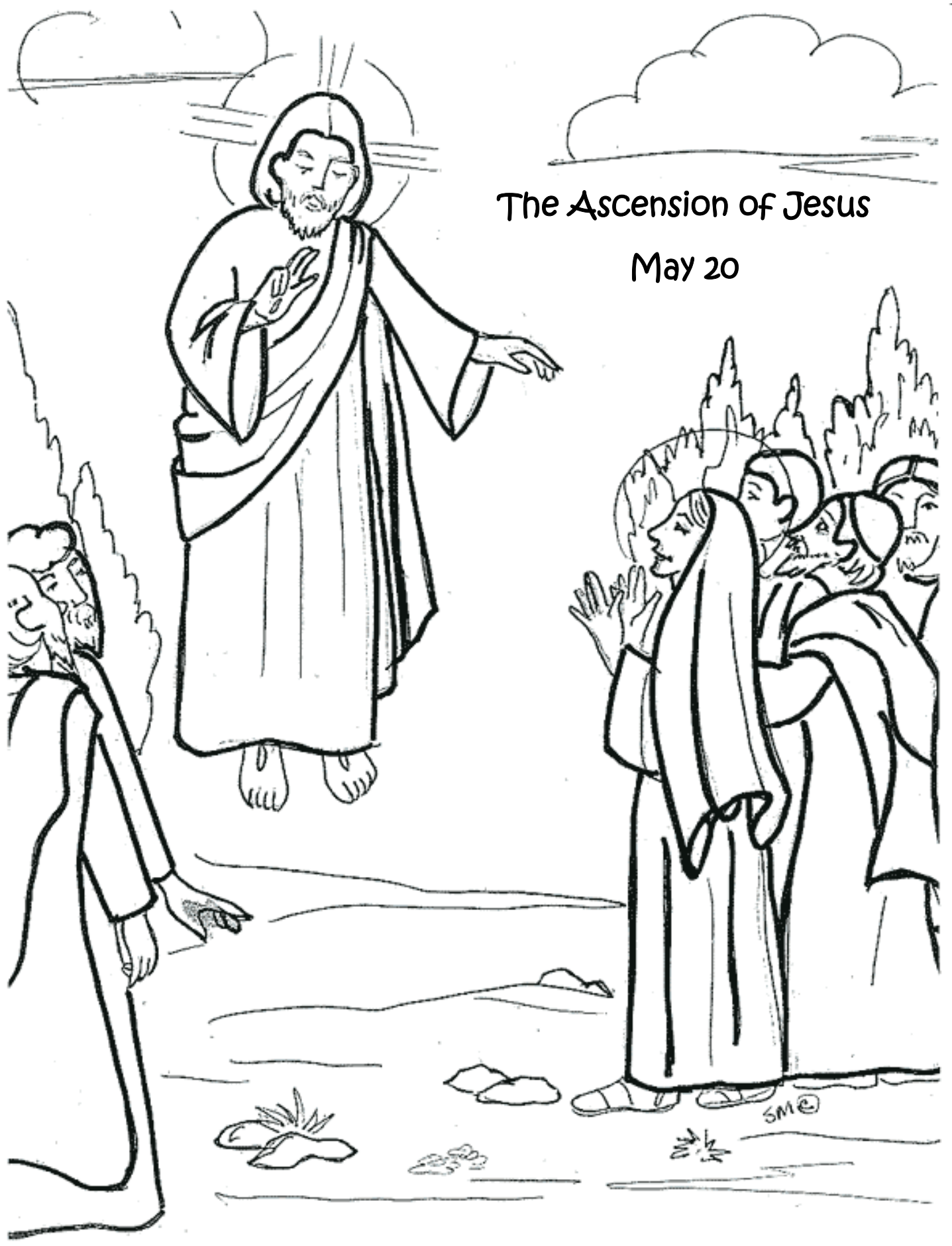
## Prayer

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



# The Ascension of Jesus

May 20



SM ©



# Friend of Jesus and Mary

Pentecost May 27, 2012

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

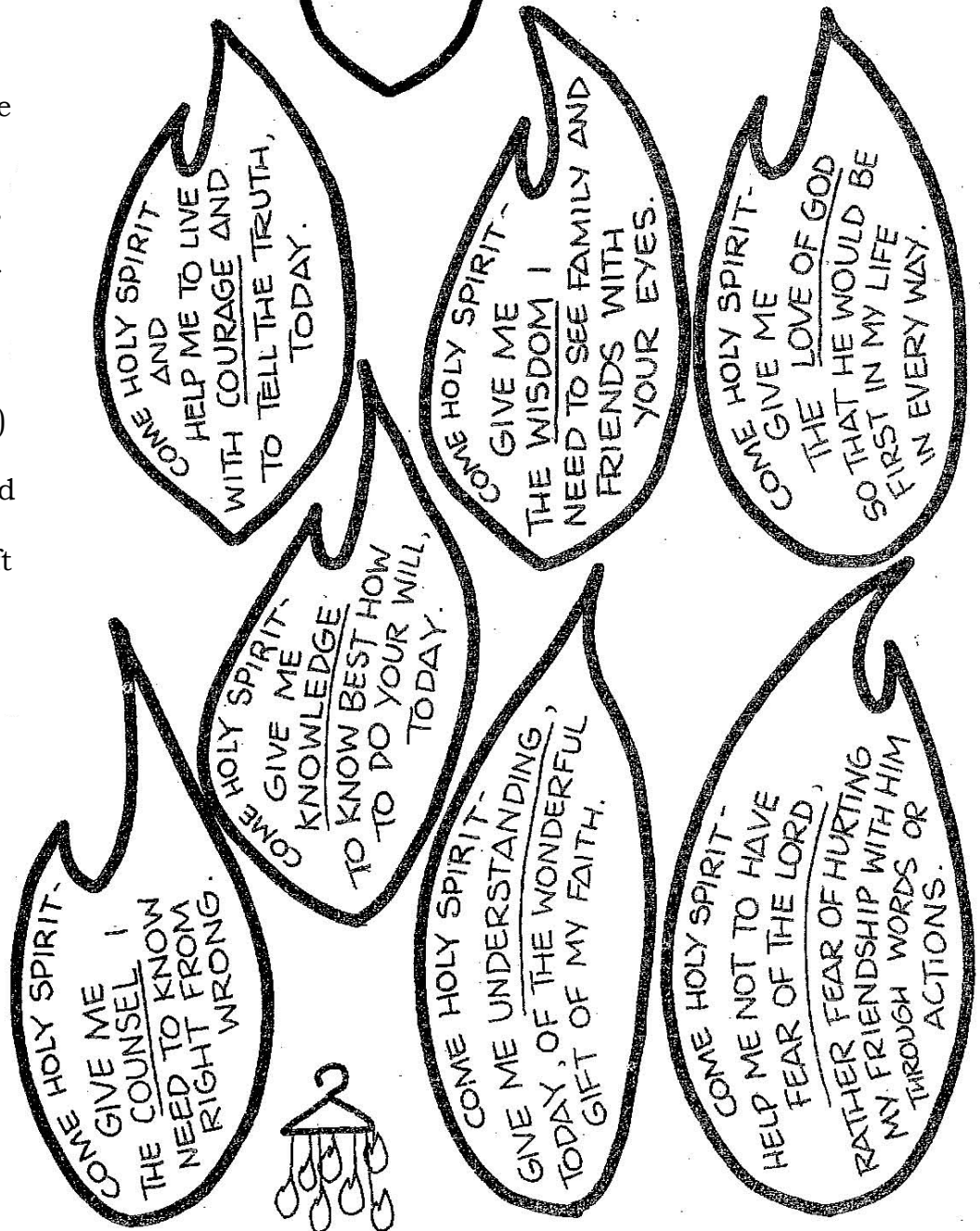


“Drive Winds and Tongues of Flame, these are the ways the Holy Spirit came!

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.

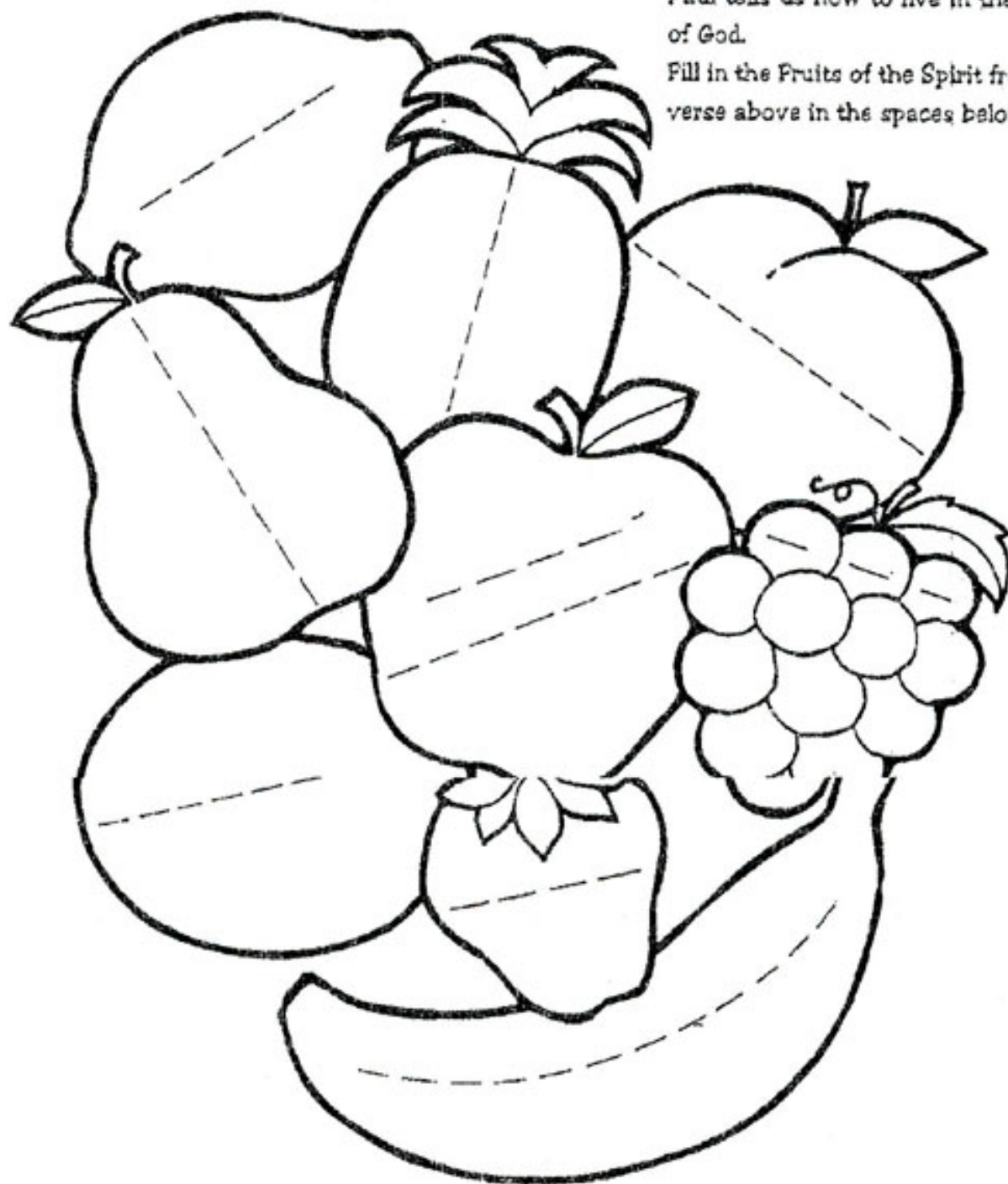


# Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the spirit is  
LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS,  
FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS and SELF-CONTROL

Paul tells us how to live in the Spirit  
of God.

Fill in the Fruits of the Spirit from the  
verse above in the spaces below.



The Visitation of Mary  
to her cousin Elizabeth

May 31





# A MARVELOUS DREAM...



Hey mom, if the Blessed Mother is also my Heavenly Mother, why can't I see her like I see you? Is there anyone who has seen her?

My child, we'll be able to see the Blessed Mother when we go to heaven, but here on earth God has given some people the grace of seeing her. But it's late now and it's time to sleep, tomorrow I'll tell you some stories. May Mother Mary grant you sweet dreams...

Let's fly!



I'm going to take you to meet some children who have seen the Blessed Virgin.

AND THAT NIGHT HE HAD A DREAM ... IN WHICH A CLOUD TOOK HIM AROUND THE WORLD AND SHOWED HIM SOME OF THE APPARITIONS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN...



Blessed Mother, I would love to see you...

"Hello. I am Juan Diego. You just reached my Mexican homeland. I saw the Blessed Virgin Mary on December 9, 1531."



## Mexico



What did she say to you?

"She was so, so beautiful. Her image was imprinted on my cloak. She wanted her Son to be known in the New World that not long beforehand has just been discovered in 1492. This cloak is on display in the great Basilica of Guadalupe where thousands of people visit to pray every day."

LITTLE JUAN, LITTLE JUAN DIEGO, AM I NOT HERE WHO AM YOUR MOTHER?

She wanted a temple to be built, so that everyone who went there could experience her motherly love.

She is so beautiful!

## Guadalupe

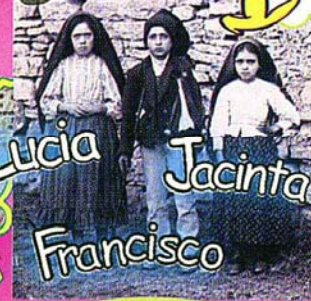


# Portugal



What are their names?

"Now you are going to meet the 3 shepherd children of Fatima, who saw the Blessed Virgin on May 13, 1919 in Portugal."



Lucia  
Jacinta  
Francisco

"Oh Jesus, it is for love of You and for the conversion of sinners."



"MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL BE YOUR REFUGE."

"MAY THEY STOP OFFENDING GOD."

"The Virgin Mary asked us to pray the Rosary for peace in the world. We saw where the souls of those who die in mortal sin go."

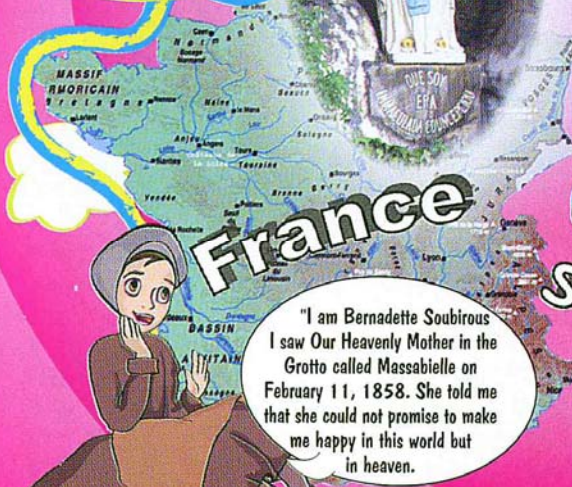
# Fatima

Will you offer yourselves to the Lord to accept with generosity all the sufferings that God allows and offer everything in reparation for the offenses that our Lord receives?

"She asked us to do penance. Since then, thousands of pilgrims and sick people come to bathe in the miraculous water that flows from the place where the Virgin showed me and made me wash myself."



# Lourdes



# France



"I am Bernadette Soubirous I saw Our Heavenly Mother in the Grotto called Massabielle on February 11, 1858. She told me that she could not promise to make me happy in this world but in heaven."



France!

And now we're going to Lourdes in France.

"GO, DRINK AND WASH IN THE FOUNTAIN."

THE LADY REPEATED OVER AND OVER: PENANCE, PENANCE, PENANCE. PRAY FOR SINNERS

SHE SAID TO ME: "I AM THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION."

The next day our friend woke up, he told his mother the dream he had had and asked why the Virgin appeared to people. His mother answered:

How would you feel if you got an e-mail from heaven that told you that God himself was coming over for dinner tonight? Well, something even greater happened to Mary. It had nothing to do with a dinner or a visit, but rather that she was going to be the Mother of God. She has served God as a bridge so that He might become man among us. For this reason, Mary is the first person interested in ensuring that everyone knows her Son. That is why sometimes, just like in your dream, Mary speaks in a particular way with people such as Juan Diego, the three shepherd children in Fatima, and Bernadette in Lourdes. And always with the goal of bringing us to Christ. She is in heaven, in body and soul, and when she appears in different ways on earth it is because God allows her to do so for our good. She does not tell us new things, but rather reminds us all that her Son has told us to pray more, to do more penance, to make reparation for our sins ... in short, to love the Lord more.