



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

April 2013
Miami, FL

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

April is a month of joy for all of us. We celebrate the season that reminds us of new life and beginning, The Eastern Season.

Our church this year celebrates the feast of the Annunciation on April 8, because the 25th, fall on Holy Monday. We have included several sample activities to do with the children.

Enclosed you will find some Feasts and Saints for the month:

Apr 02 St. Francis of Paula	Apr 17 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Apr 04 St. Gemma Galgani	Apr 25 St Mark
Apr 07 St. John Baptist de la Salle	Apr 27 Leader's Workshop
Apr 11 St Stanislaus Kostka	Apr 29 Saint Catherine

Enclosed Materials:

- a) Calendar for the month & meditation on the Sunday Gospel..
- b) Activities
 - a. Activity of the Devine Mercy
 - b. The Ten Commandments
 - c. The Annunciation
 - d. Weird Words
 - e. Prayer Service
 - f. The Sheep's puppet
 - g. Saint George & Saint Mark
 - h. Grow in God's Love

Suggested Videos: (All available in the video club)

- 1) The resurrection celebration
- 2) The story of the Sister Faustina
- 3) Eucharist
- 4) The merciful love of Jesus

The next workshop will be Saturday, April 27th at Saint John Newman Catholic Church. It will be an all day workshop. From 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. We hope to see you.

May God bless you always,

Friends of Jesus and Mary

FLORIDA

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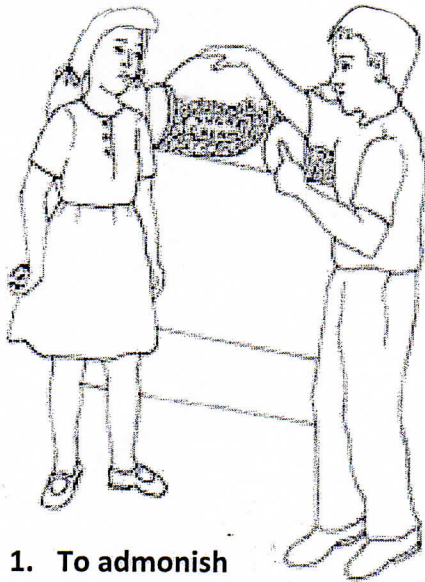
April 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Easter Monday Acts 2.14.22-33 Psalm 15 Mt 28, 8-15	2 Easter Tuesday Acts 2, 14a.36-41 Psalm 32 Jn 20, 11-18	3 Easter Wednesday Acts 3, 1-10 Psalm 104 Lk 24, 13-35	4 Easter Thursday Acts 3, 11-26 Psalm 8 Lk 24, 35-48	5 Easter Friday First Friday Acts 4, 1-12 Psalm 117 Jn 21, 1-14	6 Easter Saturday First Saturday Acts 4, 13-21 Psalm 117 Mk 16, 9-15
7 - Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Acts 5, 12-16 Psalm 117 Rev. 1, 9-11a Jn 20, 19-31	8 The Annunciation of the Lord Is 7, 10-14 Psalm 39 He 10, 4-10 Lk 1, 26-38	9 Acts 4, 32-37 Psalm 92 Jn 3, 7b-15	10 Acts 5, 17-26 Psalm 33 Jn 3, 16-21	11 St Stanislaus Acts 5, 27-33 Psalm 33 Jn 3, 31-36	12 St. Gema Galgani Acts 5, 34-42 Psalm 26 Jn 6, 1-15	13 Pope Martin I Acts 6, 1-7 Psalm 32 Jn 6, 16-21
14 Third Sunday of Easter Acts 5, 27-32 Psalm 29 Rev 5, 11-14 Jn 21, 1-19	15 Acts 6, 8-15 Psalm 118 Jn 6, 22-29	16 Acts 7, 1-8, 1a Psalm 30 Jn 6, 30-35	17 Acts 8, 1b-8 Psalm 65 Jn 6, 35-40	18 Acts 8, 26-40 Psalm 65 Jn 6, 44-51	19 Acts 9, 1-20 Psalm 116 Jn 6, 52-59	20 Acts 9, 31-42 Psalm 115 Jn 6, 60-59
21 Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 13, 14. 43-52 Psalm 99 Rev 7, 9.14b-17 Jn 10, 27-30	22 Acts 11, 1-18 Psalm 41 Jn 10, 1-10	23 St George & Adalbert Acts 11, 19-26 Psalm 86 Jn 10, 22-30	24 Acts 12, 24-13, 5a Psalm 66 Jn 12, 44-50	25 St Mark 1 P 5, 5b-14 Psalm 88 Mk 16, 15-20	26 Acts 13, 26-33 Psalm 2 Jn 14, 1-6	27 Acts 13, 44-52 Psalm 97 Jn 14, 7-14
28 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 14, 20b-26 Psalm 144 Rev 21, 1-5a Jn 13, 31-33a	29 St Catherine of Siena Acts 14, 5-18 Psalm 113 Jn 14, 21-26	30 Pope St Pius V Acts 14, 19-28 Psalm 144 Jn 14, 27-31a				
		NOTES:				

FLORIDA

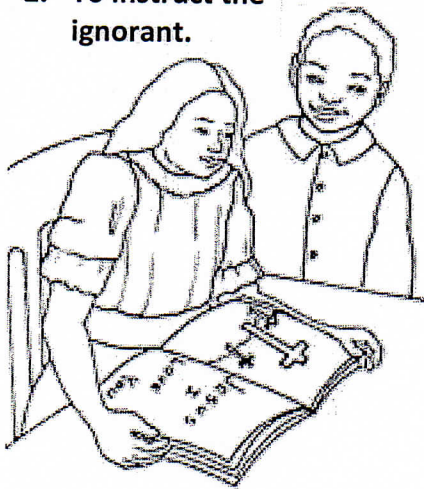
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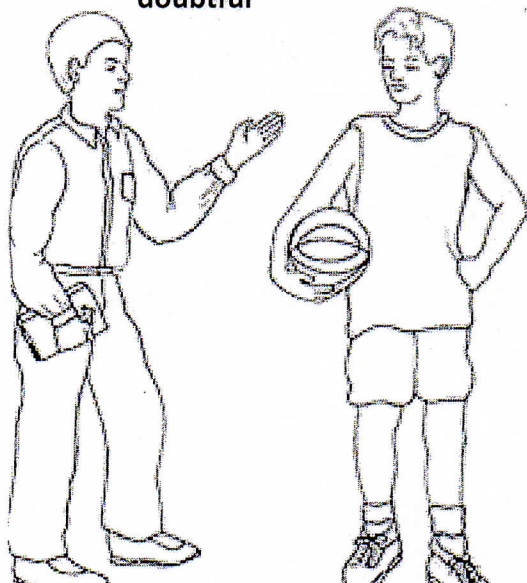


1. To admonish the sinner.

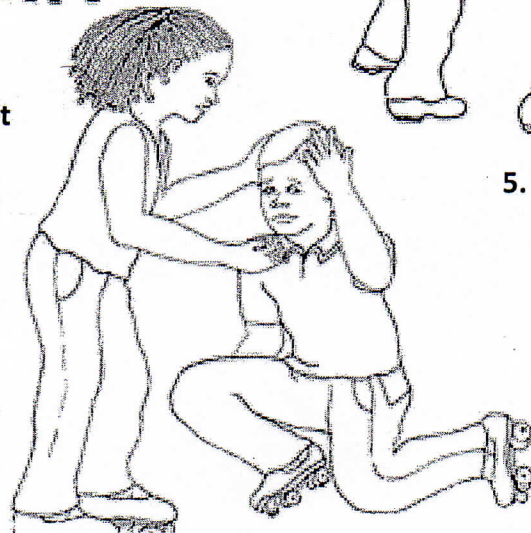
2. To instruct the ignorant.



3. To counsel the doubtful

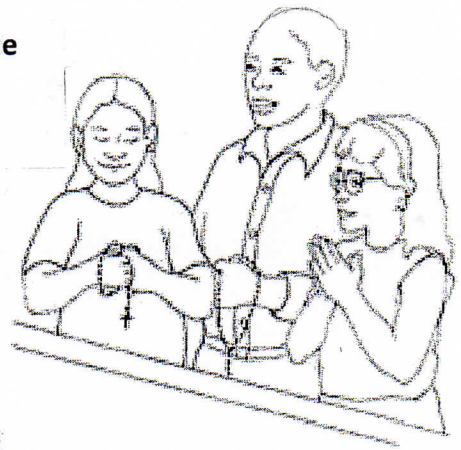


4. To comfort the sorrowful.



5. To bear wrongdoings patiently.

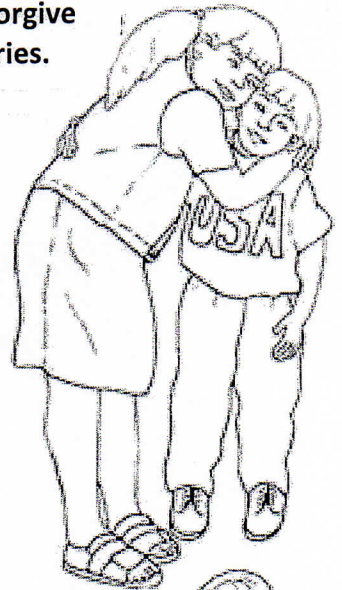
7. To pray for the living and the dead



April 7
Sunday of Divine Mercy

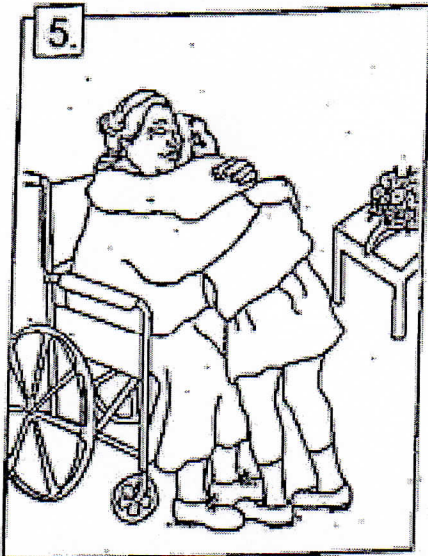


6. To forgive injuries.



Doing Good

The Church imitates Jesus by performing the Corporal Works of Mercy
TO discover how our Church serves the people of God, match the works of mercy with their proper signs of Christian love.



CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

1- Feed the hungry

2- Give drink to the thirsty

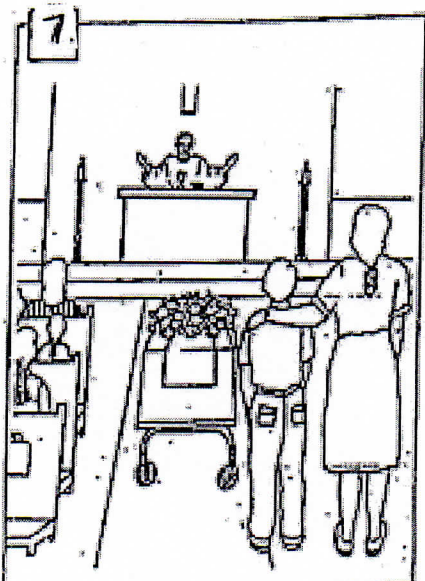
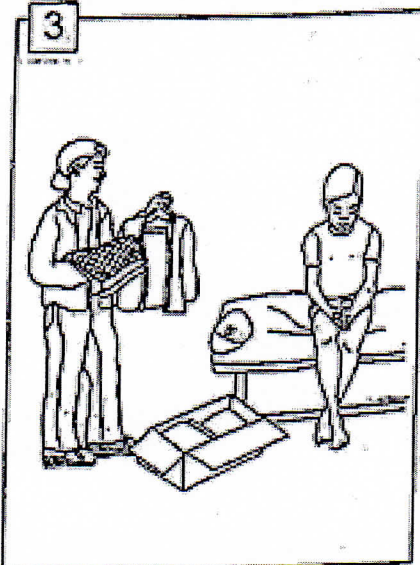
3- Clothe the naked

4- Visit the imprisoned

5- Shelter the homeless

6- Visit the sick

7- Bury the dead





Friends of Jesus and Mary

Second Sunday of Easter April 07, 2013

Readings: Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 117 Revelation, 1, 9-11a12-13.17-19 John 20, 19-31

Jesus Appears to His Disciples/ Jesus and Thomas

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.**" One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the twin), was not with them when Jesus came, so the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace be with you.**" Then he said to Thomas, "**Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!**" Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "**Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!**" In his disciples' presence Jesus performed many other miracles which are not written down in this book. But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life. **(John 20, 19-31)**

Reflection

Imagine the scene. How do you feel when you see Jesus standing there after so many days that you thought he had been dead? If you were Thomas, would you have believed what the others said? Is it easy for you to believe others? Jesus' friends were afraid. What scares you? Believing is not always easy. The community of the church accepts everyone, even those who doubt but seek God sincerely. Share.

Activity

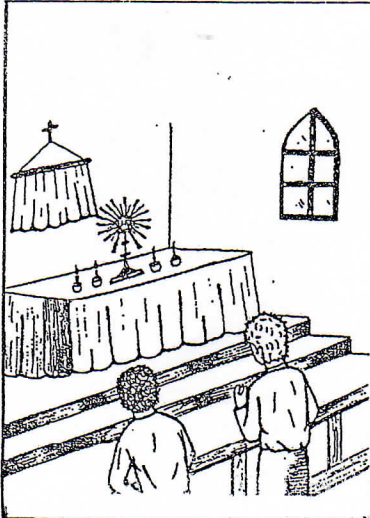
Dramatize the apparitions of Jesus to Thomas and his friends. Where was Thomas the first day? Was he not afraid, that he went out? Was he performing some service for the community?

Prayer

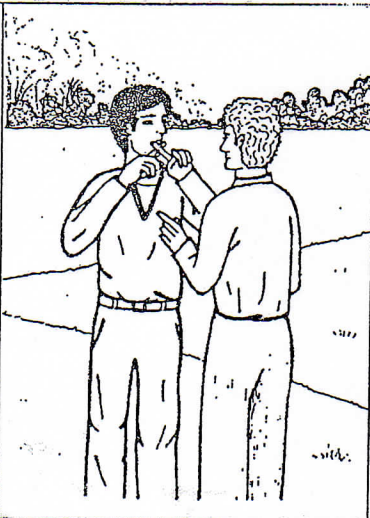
Lord, we want our words, thoughts and actions to proclaim that your presence gives joy, forgiveness, and peace to those who believe. Help us to live in this manner. Strengthen our faith. **Amen**



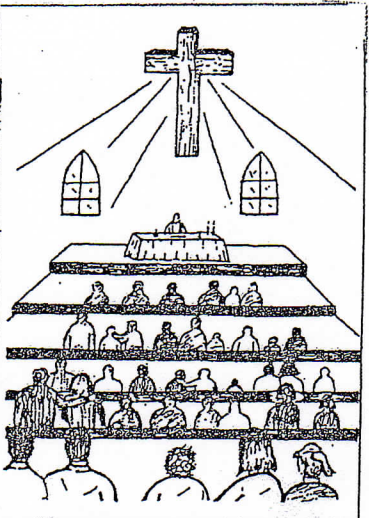
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



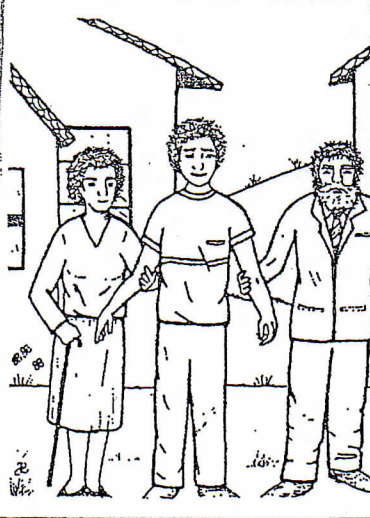
1. I, Lord, am your God, you shall not have other gods besides me.



2. You shall not take the name the name of the Lord, your god, in vain



3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.



4. Honor your father and your mother.



5. You shall not kill.



6. You shall not commit adultery.



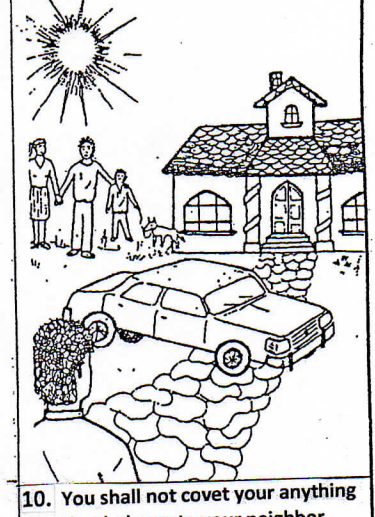
7. You shall not steal.



8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.



9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.



10. You shall not covet your anything that belongs to your neighbor.



The angel Gabriel comes to ask Mary to be the Mother of God. Mary answers "yes." I will ask Jesus to make me good and obedient like His Blessed Mother.



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Third Sunday of Easter April 14, 2013

Readings: Acts 5:27-30, 40-41; Psalm 29; Revelation 5: 11-14; John 21:1-19

Jesus appears to seven disciples/ Jesus and Peter

After this, Jesus appeared once more to his disciples at Lake Tiberias. This is how it happened. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the twin), Nathanael (the one from Cana in Galilee), the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples of Jesus were all together. Simon Peter said to the others, "I am going fishing." "We will come with you," they told him. So they went out in a boat, but all that night they did not catch a thing. As the sun was rising, Jesus stood at the water's edge but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then he asked them, "**Young men, haven't you caught anything?**" "Not a thing," they answered. He said to them, "**Throw your net out on the right side of the boat, and you will catch some.**" So they threw the net out and could not pull it back in, because they had caught so many fish. The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard that it was the Lord, he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken his clothes off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples came to shore in the boat, pulling the net full of fish. They were not very far from land, about a hundred yards away. When they stepped ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there with fish on it and some bread. Then Jesus said to them, "**Bring some of the fish you have just caught.**" Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net ashore full of big fish, a hundred and fifty-three in all; even though there were so many, still the net did not tear. Jesus said to them, "**Come and eat.**" None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. So Jesus went over, took the bread, and gave it to them; he did the same with the fish. This, then, was the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from death. After they had eaten, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "**Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?**" "Yes, Lord," he answered, "You know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "**Take care of my lambs.**" A second time Jesus said to him, "**Simon son of John, do you love me?**" "Yes, Lord," he answered, "You know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "**Take care of my sheep.**" A third time Jesus said, "**Simon son of John, do you love me?**" Peter became sad because Jesus asked him the third time, "do you love me?" and so he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you!" Jesus said to him, "**Take care of my sheep. I am telling you the truth: when you were young, you used to get ready and go anywhere you wanted to; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will tie you up and take you where you don't want to go.**" (In saying this, Jesus was indicating the way in which Peter would die and bring glory to God.) Then Jesus said to him, "**Follow me!**" (John 21:1-19)

Reflection

In the readings of this week Jesus let us know that in spite of our unfaithfulness, God says once again he trusts us if we reaffirm our faith and love. Share with the children about what they understand by obedience. Whom do they obey? Has this person sometimes asked for difficult things? Did they do it? Do they feel that the adults trust them? How do they feel when it is not so? Have they ever done something they thought they would never be forgiven for? What happened? Share.

Activity

Prepare in red construction paper or cardboard, one heart for each child. Bring some extras just in case one of them would like two. Ask them to write on them the name of one family member to whom they will show special love this week. In the back of the heart write what they would do to show their love for them. Place them in a basket on the altar of the group and as they place them say: Lord, I love you. Help me to love all my family members and to show them my love.

Prayer

Lord, you know we love you. Teach us to show love to all people around us. Keep us in unity with our family and friends. Teach us to trust one another and to show each other daily the love we have for one another.

Amen.



Have A Prayer Service

With Your Family or Class

Before you start, sit down together and decide:

1

How do you prepare? — Suggestions: you may gather around the table. Put a nice tablecloth on it. Place a picture of Jesus in the center, or a crucifix, or each person could bring his/her favorite holy card. Bring some flowers from the garden, or a potted plant. Light a candle or vigil light.

2

Discuss with the others how you would pray during this very special prayer time? (Make a list of suggestions below:)

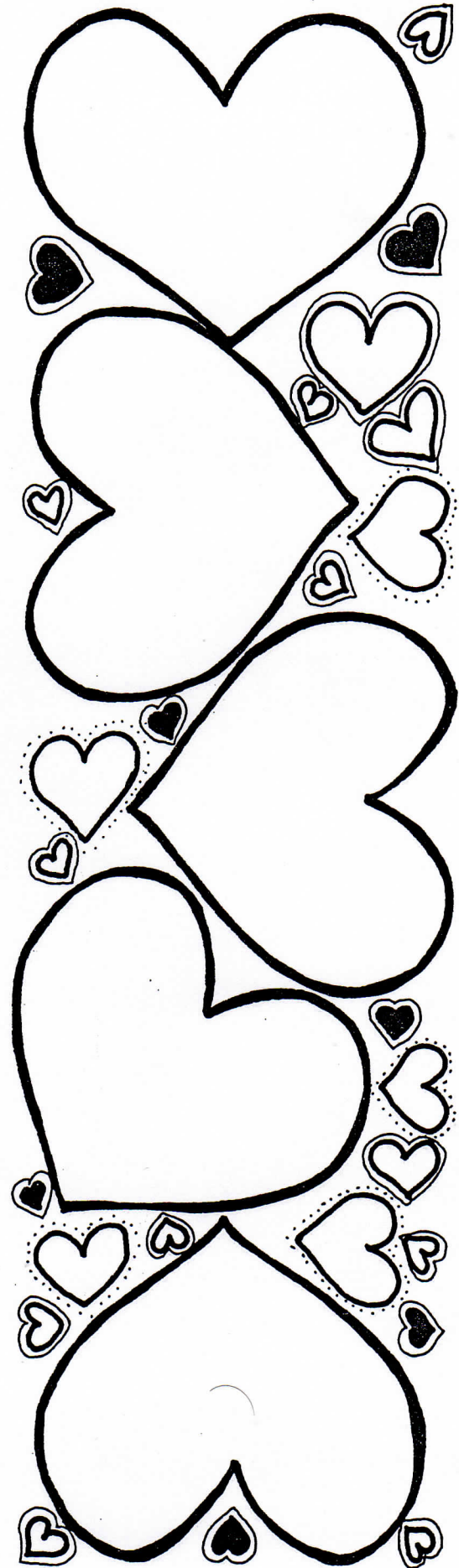
What would you like to SAY to Jesus?	What could you ASK for?	What could you THANK for?

3

Have a leader. Cut out the hearts on this page. The leader gives one or more to each person and asks them to write on it what they want to pray for, (or whom they want to pray for).

4

Begin your Prayer Service with the Sign of the Cross. Then invite everyone in the group to read what they wrote on their hearts or just simply say what they want to tell Jesus. Finish with a song (or a hug, or both, or with the Sign of the Cross).





Friends of Jesus and Mary

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2013

Readings: Acts 13:14, 43-52; Psalm 99; Revelation 7:9, 14-17; John 10, 27-30

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from me. What my Father has given me is greater than everything, and no one can snatch them away from the Father's care. The Father and I are one." **(John 10: 27-30)**

Reflection

What sheep do you think Jesus is talking about? Why does he say he is a good shepherd? Could you be one of those sheep Jesus is talking about? Do you recognize his voice when he calls you to do something? What do you think he is asking you to do? In order to hear well, you need to listen. How can you listen to Jesus every day? Share.

Activity

Ask the children to draw and cut sheep. They must write their name on one side and on the other side what they would do for a friend this week. Bring to the group a big poster of the Good Shepherd. Ask the children to place their sheep on the poster. As they do it say: "You are my shepherd, Jesus, I want to listen to your voice."

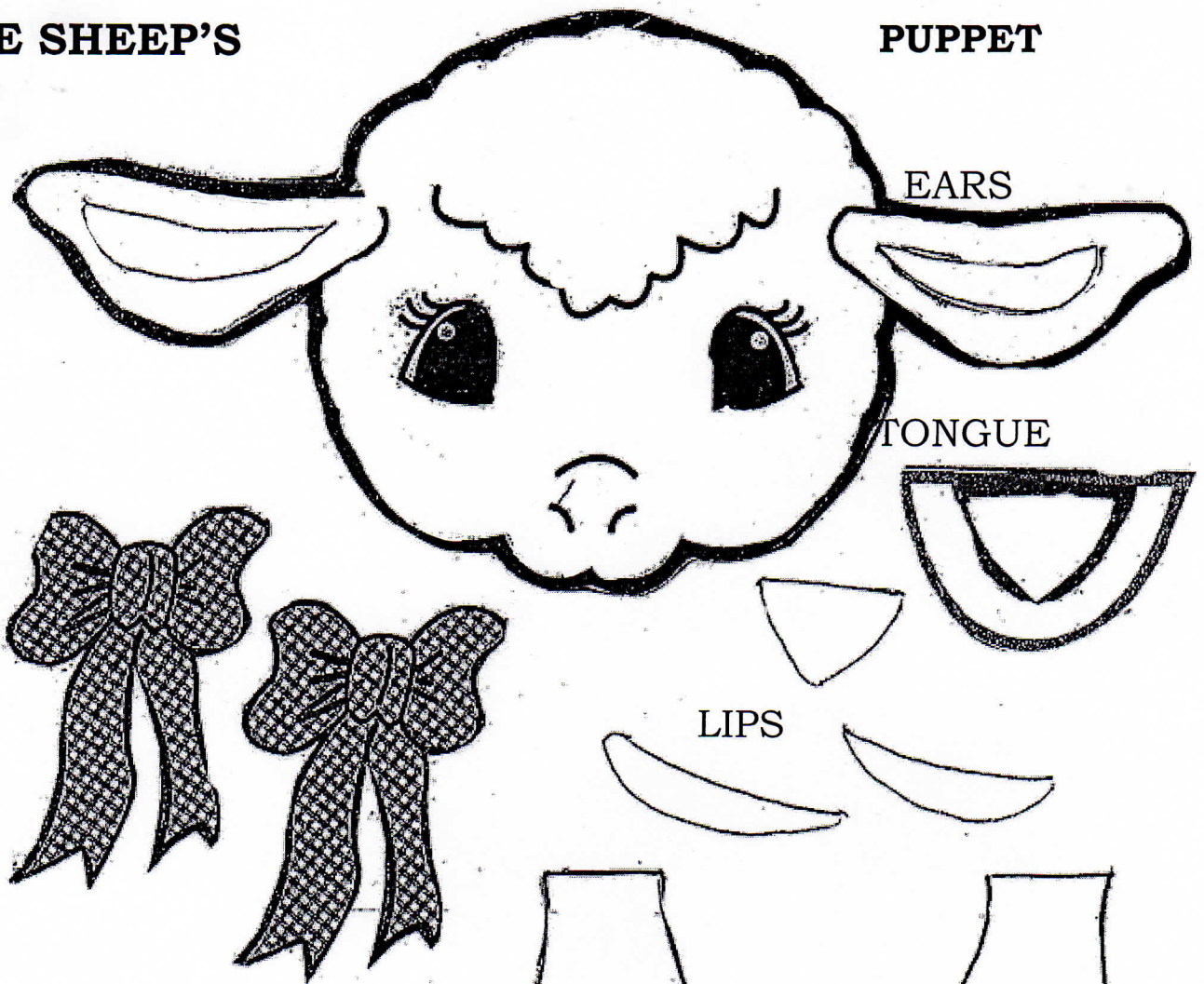
Prayer

Lord, you offered yourself for us as lamb, but you are also our shepherd. You teach us to listen to you, to follow you, and to be good shepherds for one another, caring for one another with affection and working for the common good, which is to be with you. Thank you, our Good Shepherd. **Amen.**



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!

Saint George APRIL 23

Pictures of Saint George usually show him killing a dragon to rescue a beautiful lady. The dragon stands for wickedness. The lady stands for God's holy truth. Saint George is slaying the dragon because he has won the battle against the devil.

Not much is known about Saint George except that he was a martyr. He was a soldier in the army of Diocletian, a pagan emperor. Diocletian was a bitter enemy of the Christians. In fact, he put to death every Christian he could find.

It is believed that Saint George was one of Diocletian's favorite soldiers. When George became a Christian, he went to the emperor and scolded him for being so cruel. Then he gave up his position in the Roman army. St. George paid a very high price for his bravery. He was cruelly tortured and beheaded.

So boldly daring and so cheerful was St. George in declaring his faith that people felt courage when they heard about it. Many songs and poems were written about this martyr. Soldiers, especially, have always been devoted to him. He was named the patron of England in 1222.

St. George was killed in Lydda, Palestine, around the 303.

We all have some "dragon" we have to conquer. It might be selfishness or anger. It might be laziness or greed, or something else. We can ask St. George to help us fight against these "dragons". He will help us if we ask.



My Prayer

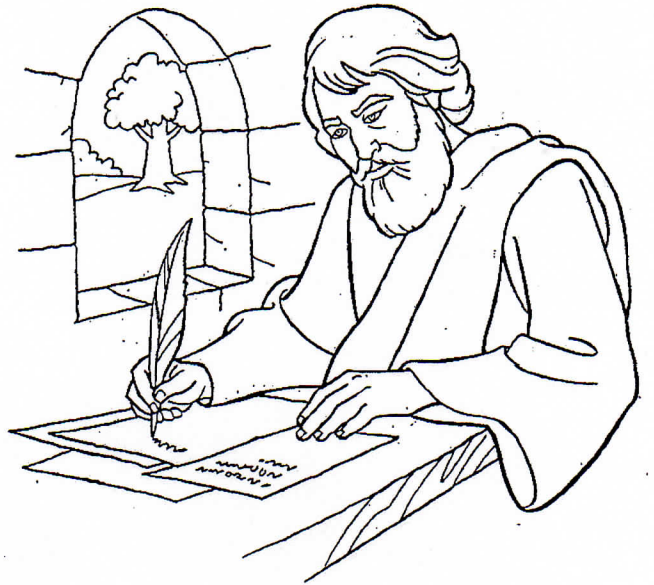
***God, I need courage to fight
the bad ways that are in me.
Help me to love you and do
good.***

AMEN.

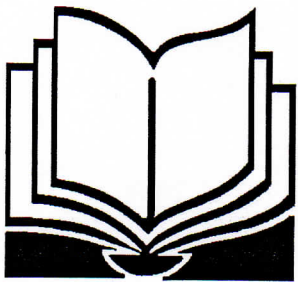
St. MARK

APRIL 25

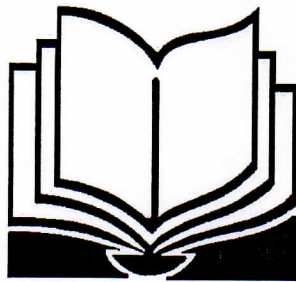
Mark lived at the time of Jesus. Although he was not among the original twelve apostles, he as a relative of St. Barnabas, an apostle. Mark is well-known because he wrote one of the four Gospels. That is why he is called an evangelist, a Gospels, a Gospel writer. Mark's Gospels is short, but it gives man little details that we are not in the other Gospels.



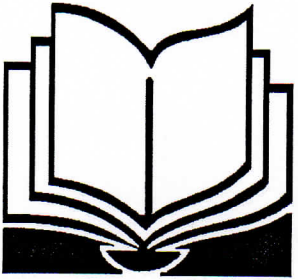
St. Mark wrote one of the four Gospels



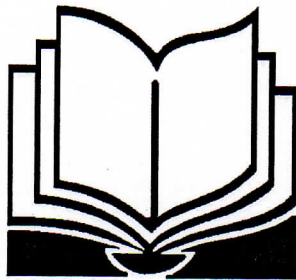
MATHEW



MARK



LUCK



JOHN

My Prayer

*Lord Jesus there is so much
to learn from the gospels.
Help me to read it with love
and put to practice your
words.
Amen*

While still young, Mark went with the two great saints, Paul and Barnabas, on a missionary journey to bring the teachings of Jesus to new lands. Before the journey was over, though, Mark seems to have had a disagreement with St. Paul. Mark suddenly returned to Jerusalem. Paul and Mark later worked out their differences. In fact, Paul wrote from prison in Rome that Mark came to console and help him.

Mark also became a beloved disciple of St. Peter, the first pope. St. Peter called St. Mark "my son". Some think that Peter meant to say that he had baptized Mark. Mark was consecrated a bishop and sent to Alexandria, Egypt. There he converted many people. He worked hard to spread love for Jesus and his Church. It is believed that he went through long and painful sufferings before he died.

Saint Mark's relics were brought to Venice, Italy. He is the patron saint of that famous city. People go to the beautiful basilica of St. Mark to honor him and to pray him.

We can remember St. Mark when we have a disagreement with someone. We can think of him also when we can't get along with people even if we want to. At those difficult moments, we can ask St. Mark to show us his secret for patching up differences.



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2013

Readings: Acts 14: 21-27; Psalm 144; Revelation 21: 1-5; John 13: 31-35

The New Commandment

After Judas had left, Jesus said: “Now the Son of Man’s glory is revealed; now God’s glory is revealed through him. And if God’s glory is revealed through him, then God will reveal the glory of the Son of Man in himself, and he will do so at once. My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. You will look for me, but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities, ‘You cannot go where I am going.’ And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.” **(John 13: 31-35)**

Reflection

The sign of Christians is the love for one another. What distinguishes Christians is that, despite difficulties, they can continue to love, going beyond discrimination, hatreds, and hurts. We are invited to love like Christ did, with a real interest for those who were poor and for their problems. With respect and acceptance for each person. Listening, believing in the capacity of people to do good. Being a friend of Jesus “inside” is not enough. We have to show it. Who is it difficult for you to love? Are there people whom you really dislike? What are their ideas about love? Share.

Activity

In the next page you will find an activity “Grow in the love of God.” Do it with the children and show them how we can grow in the love of God and our brothers and sisters with our good deeds. There is also another activity that you can use, according to the age of the children.

Prayer

Lord, you ask us to love one another with a love that is not easy because it demands forgiveness, understanding and inclusion even of our enemies. But we know that this love is possible because you loved us this way. Help us to be signs of your love for the world. **Amen.**



Grow In God's Love

You will grow in God's love all your lives if you love him and love others. This flower can help you to keep track of how your love grows.

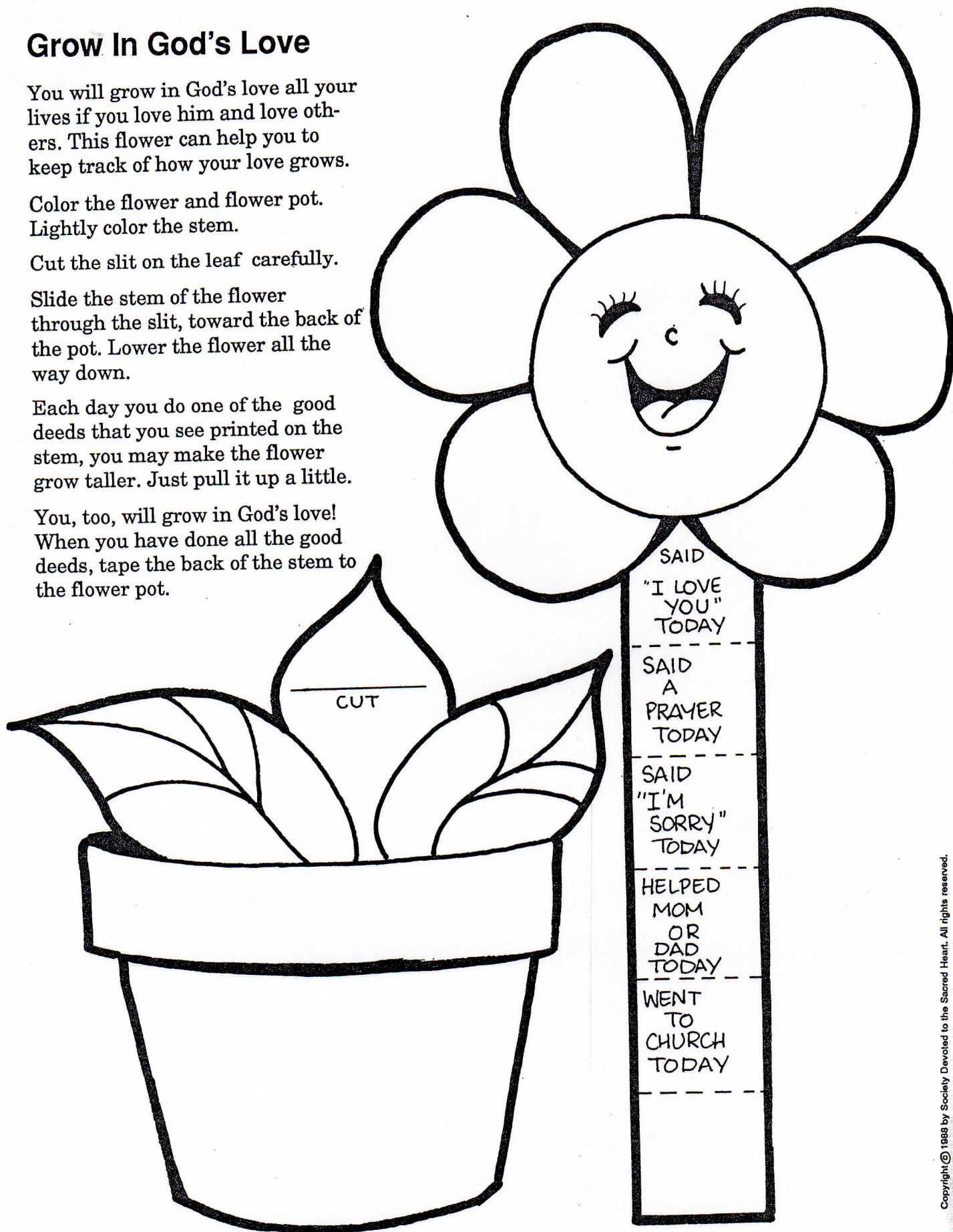
Color the flower and flower pot.
Lightly color the stem.

Cut the slit on the leaf carefully.

Slide the stem of the flower through the slit, toward the back of the pot. Lower the flower all the way down.

Each day you do one of the good deeds that you see printed on the stem, you may make the flower grow taller. Just pull it up a little.

You, too, will grow in God's love!
When you have done all the good deeds, tape the back of the stem to the flower pot.



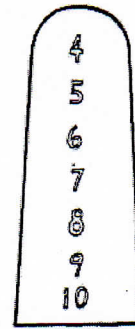
GOD' RULES FOR YOU AND ME



Come with me, hear and see God made rules for you and me .
I'll be good, very good, doing what God says I should.



The ten commandments are God's rules for you and me for all of us.
They are even more important than the traffic light that tells us when to stop and when to go.



They are so important because God made them for us. God made them for us because He love us.
I'm going to remember God's rules always. How about you?

God's First Rule

LOVE GOD AND PEOPLE



I will love, really love, love and pray to God above.

God's Second Rule

HONOR GOD'S NAME

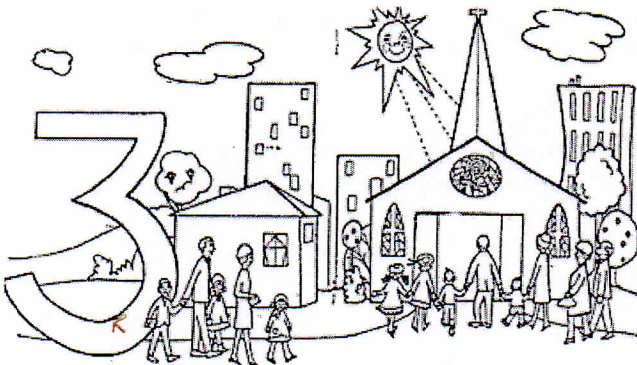


I will pray-the right way-

and God's name devoutly say

God's Third Rule

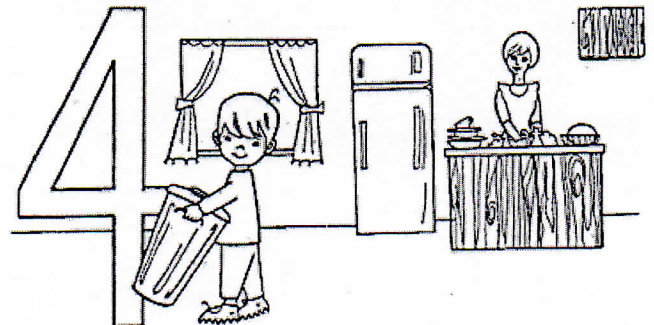
KEEP GOD'S DAY HOLY



Special day —God's own day-

God's Fourth Rule

BE OBEDIENT



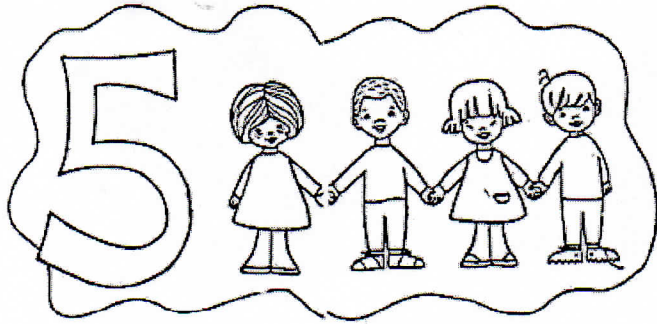
Every day —I'll obey—

doing all my parents say

GOD'S RULES FOR YOU AND ME

God's Fifth Rule

BE KIND

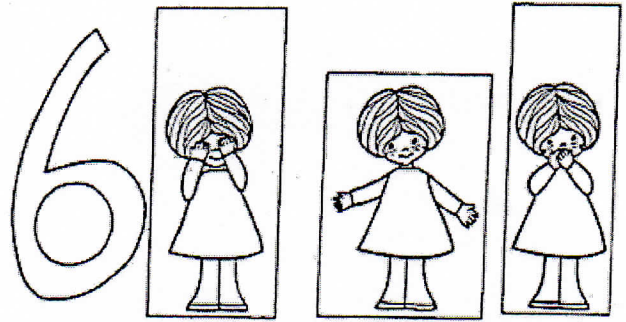


I'm polite - I don't fight -

to be kind is my delight

God's Sixth Rule

BE MODEST



I won't watch -

do or say - anything not right today

God's Seventh Rule

BE HONEST



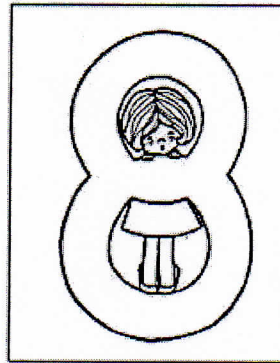
If I take spoil or break -



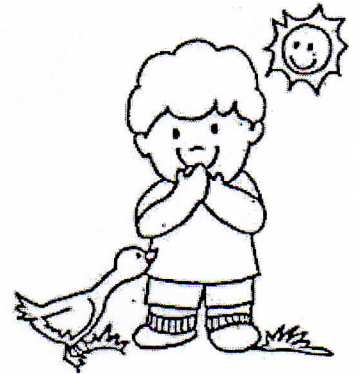
much unhappiness I make

God's Eighth Rule

BE TRUTHFUL



If I lied, I can't hide.
God sees all, even my thoughts inside.



I won't lie. I'll be true

God's Ninth and Tenth Rules

BE HAPPY AND SATISFIED

9 & 10



With my things I'm satisfied

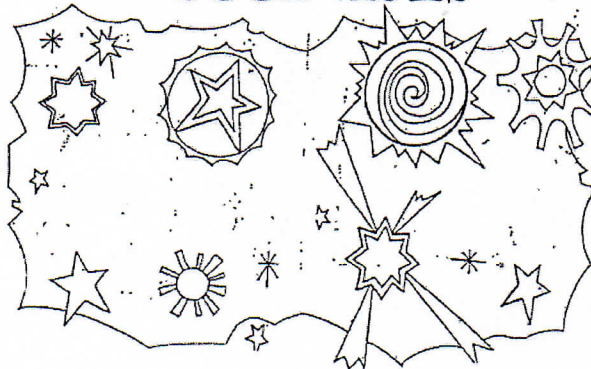


I don't want what isn't mine



I'll enjoy - friends and toys - and not envy other's joys.

GOOD ACTS



Good acts shine - yours and mine

-shine in heaven all the time.