



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

December 2013
Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Advent started December first, Christmas preparations begin. We should prepare our hearts to receive Jesus we can do little sacrifices and acts of love. Is time to give love to those people that are alone and don't have family near them. Visit your family more often and share the good news about Jesus love.

Important Feast and Saints:

December 03	Saint Francis	December 25	Christmas Day
December 06	Saint Nicholas	December 27	Saint John the Apostle
December 08	Immaculate conception	December 28	Holy Innocents
December 09	Saint Juan Diego	December 30	Holy Family
December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe		
December 13	Saint Lucy		
December 14	Saint John of the Cross		

Enclosed materials:

- 1) Monthly calendar & Sundays Gospel

Activities:

- a) Advent Wreath
- b) Christmas card
- c) Saints of December
- d) Immaculate Conception
- e) Our Lady of Guadalupe
- f) Eucharist
- g) Tree of Christmas
- h) The Birth of the Baby Jesus
- i) Saint Charbel

Suggested videos

1. Saint Martin de Porres
2. Saints & Heroes
3. Gratitude Attitude
4. Anointing of the Sick

May God Bless you always, Friends of Jesus and Mary .

FLORIDA

9779 S.W. 72ND St. – Miami, FL 33173 – Tel: (305) 412-1777 – E-mail: amigo_jym_miami@fcpeace.com
Webpage: www.fcpeace.com



December 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 2: 1-5 Psalm 121 Ro 13: 11-14 Mt 24: 37-44	2 Isaiah 4: 2-6 Psalm 121 Mt 8: 5-11	3 SAN FRANCIS XAVIER Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 71 Lk 10:21-24	4 Isaiah 25: 6-10 Psalm 22 Mt 15:29-37	5 Isaiah 26, 1-6 Psalm 117 Mt 7, 21.24-27	6 FIRST FRIDAY SAINT NICOLAS Isaiah 29, 17-24 Psalm 26 Mt 9, 27-31	7 FIRST SATURDAY Isaiah 30, 19-21 Psalm 146 Mt 9, 35-10,1.6-8
8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 1, 1-10 Psalm 97 Ro 15, 4-9 Mt 3, 1-12	9 SAINT JUAN DIEGO Gn 3.9-15 Psalm 97 Eph 1 3-6.11-12 Lk 1, 26-38	10 VIRGIN OF LORETO Isaiah 40, 1-11 Psalm 95 Mt 18, 12-14	11 SAINT DAMASO POPE Isaiah 40, 25-31 Psalm 102 Mt 11, 28-30	12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Isaiah 7, 10-14;8, 10 Psalm 66 Lk 1, 39-48	13 SAINT LUCIA Isaiah 48, 17-19 Psalm 1 Mt 11, 16-19	14 SAN JOHN OF THE CROSS Si 48, 1-4. 9-11 Psalm 79 Mt 17, 10-13
15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 35, 1-6a.10 Psalm 145 St 5, 7-10 Mt 11, 2-11	16 Nu 24, 2-7 Psalm 24 Mt 21. 23-27	17 Gn 49, 2.8-10 Psalm 71 Mt 1, 1-17	18 Jr 23, 5-8 Psalm 71 Mt 1, 18-24	19 Jg 13, 2-7.24-25a Psalm 70 Lk 1, 5-25	20 Isaiah 7, 10-14 Psalm 23 Lk 1, 26-38	21 Sgs 2, 8-14 Psalm 33 Lk 1. 39-45
22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 23 Ro 1, 1-7 Mt 1, 18-24	23 MI 3, 1-4.23-24 Psalm 24 Lk 1, 57-66	24 VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 2 S 7, 1-5.8b-12 Psalm 88 Lk 1, 67-79	25 CHRISTMAS Isaiah 52, 7-10 Psalm 97 Jn 1, 1-18	26 SAINT ESTEBAN Ac 6, 8-10; 7, 54-60 Psalm 30 Mt 10, 17-22	27 SAINT JOHN EVANGELIST 1 Jn 1, 1-4 Psalm 96 Jn 20, 2-8	28 1 Jn 1, 5-2,2 Psalm 123 Mt 2, 13-18
29 HOLY FAMILY Si 3, 2-6 Psalm 127 Col 3, 12-21 Mt 2, 13-15,19.23	30 SANTA JUDITH 1 Jn 2, 12-17 Psalm 95 Lk 2, 36-40	31 1 Jn 2, 18-21 Psalm 95 Jn 1, 1-18				
NOTES:						

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Florida Center for Peace

Friends of Jesus and Mary
First Sunday of Advent December 1, 2013
Readings: Isaiah 2, 1-5; Psalm 121; Romans 13, 11-14; Matthew 24, 37-44

No one knows the Day and Hour

The coming of the Son of Man will be like what happened in the time of Noah. In the days before the flood people ate and drank, men and women married, up to the very day Noah went into the boat; yet they did not realize what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes. At that time two men will be working in a field: one will be taken away, the other will be left behind. Two women will be at a mill grinding meal: one will be taken away; the other will be left behind. Watch out, then, because you do not know what day your Lord will come. If the owner of a house knew the time when the thief would come, you can be sure that he would stay awake and not let the thief break into his house. So then, you also must always be ready, because the son of Man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him. (Matthew 24, 37-44)

Reflection

What do you think Jesus means by being prepared as if a robber were coming? Have you ever been surprised by things you did not expect? How could you have been ready if you had known they were coming? Speak with the children about Advent. How do they prepare for the coming of people to their homes? What about when someone comes unannounced? What happens at home then? How are we going to prepare for the coming of Jesus? Share.

Activity

Explain to the children the Advent wreath and why we should prepare for the coming of Jesus. Encourage them to offer sacrifices during Advent as a gift for baby Jesus on Christmas day.

Prayer

Jesus, we want to walk in your light. We want to do the works of light, to say the truth to one another, to care for each other as if we were receiving you. Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.



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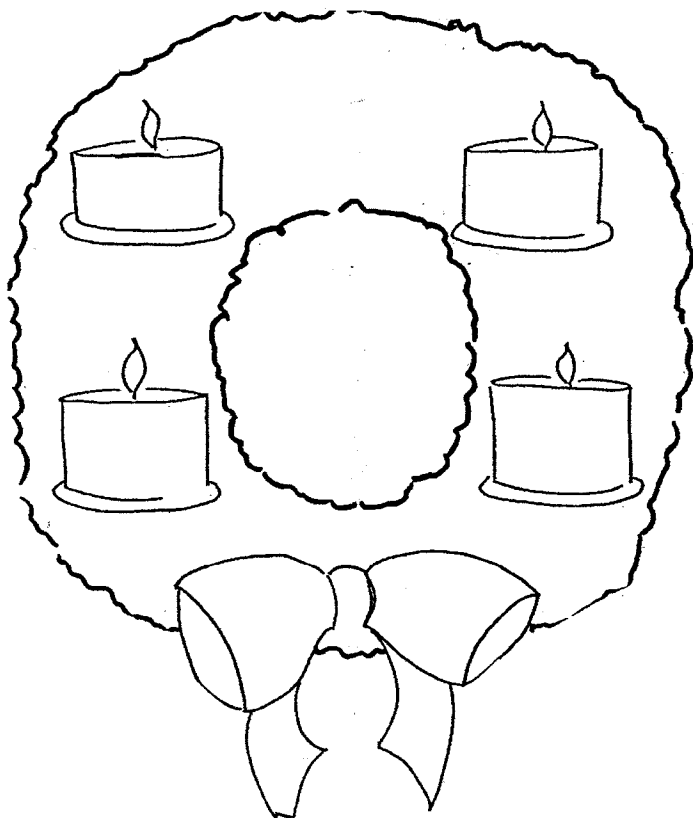
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ADVENT WREATH

Everyone in the family can be involved in making an Advent Wreath for your home. Explain the symbolism of each part. Decide how each person will participate in preparing the wreath and in daily or weekly family devotions. The first time you gather to pray around the wreath, have some review the meaning of each part.

Circular Shape

The Advent wreath is a circle. We cannot find the end or the beginning of a circle. The circular Advent wreath reminds us that Jesus came to give us a life that will never end, eternal life with God in heaven.



Evergreen Branches

The evergreen branches used to make the circle do not change color as do the leaves on other kinds of trees. The evergreens in the Advent wreath remind us that God never changes: God always has loved us and always will.

Candles

There are four candles on the Advent wreath, one for each week in Advent. They remind us that the Jewish people waited a long time for the Savior to come. The burning candles remind us that Christ, the Light of the World, brightens the darkness around us. Each week we light one more candle, a sign that the more we let Christ into our lives, the brighter our lives will be.

Opening Prayer

O God, bless this Advent wreath. May it help us prepare to welcome Jesus, your Son, into our lives, letting the light of his love shine through us. Amen.

Week 1 (Light 1 candle) Come to us, Lord Jesus. Warm our hearts with your love. Help us to prepare for your coming. Help us to see the good things we can do. Help us to see the good things others do. Come, Lord Jesus! *(Pause for silent prayer)*

Week 2 (Light 2 candles) We believe in you Lord. We know that you can help us to love each other more. You are our light. Come Lord Jesus! *(Pause for silent prayer)*

Week 3 (Light 3 candles) Jesus, we want your coming to make a difference in how we live and love. Open our hearts to hear you telling us how we can bring peace and joy to others. Come, Lord Jesus! *(Pause for silent prayer)*

Week 4 (Light 4 candles) Quiet the worries and fears in our hearts, Lord. Give us your peace. Thank you for the life you share with us. Help us to share that life with others. Come, Lord Jesus! *(Pause for silent prayer)*

Make an Advent Wreath

You can make an advent wreath for each child of your group

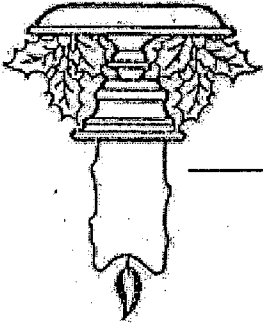
Materials needed:

- 1) One small paper plate
- 2) One donut for each
- 3) Four birthday candles three purple and one pink
- 4) A small green doilet

How to prepare it:

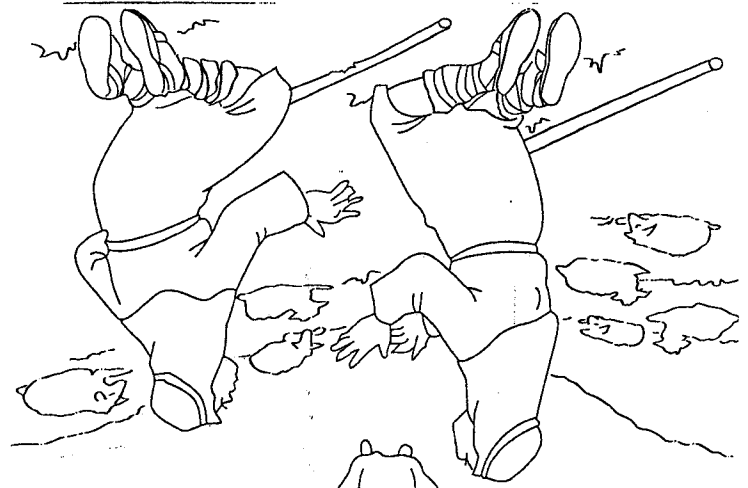
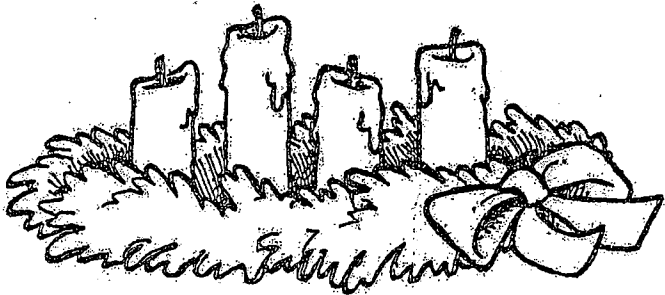
Place the donut in the paper plate over doilet. Open the holes for the candles on the donut.

Spray it to preserve it. When they are dry, place the candle on the donut and decorate it with a ribbon.



FROM:

Merry Christmas!



**"A Child is born to us!"
"A Son is given to us!"**
Isaiah 9:6

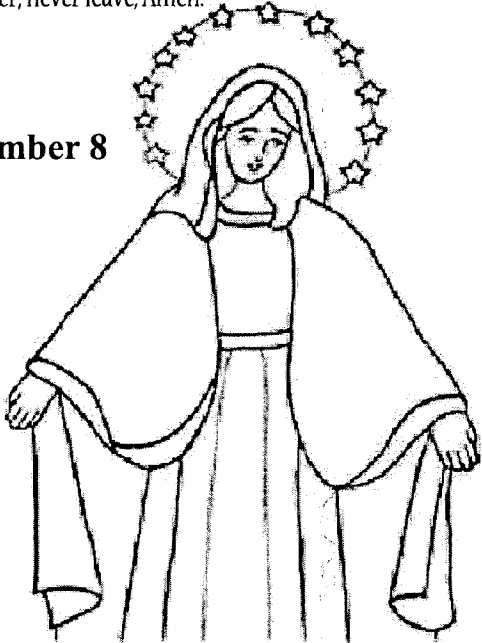


Feast for December

The Immaculate Conception

Blessed be your purity, for all eternity; God himself rejoices in such gracious beauty. To your Celestial Princess, Holly Virgin Mary, I offer this day my soul, my life, my heart. Look upon me with compassion; You are my Mother, never leave, Amen.

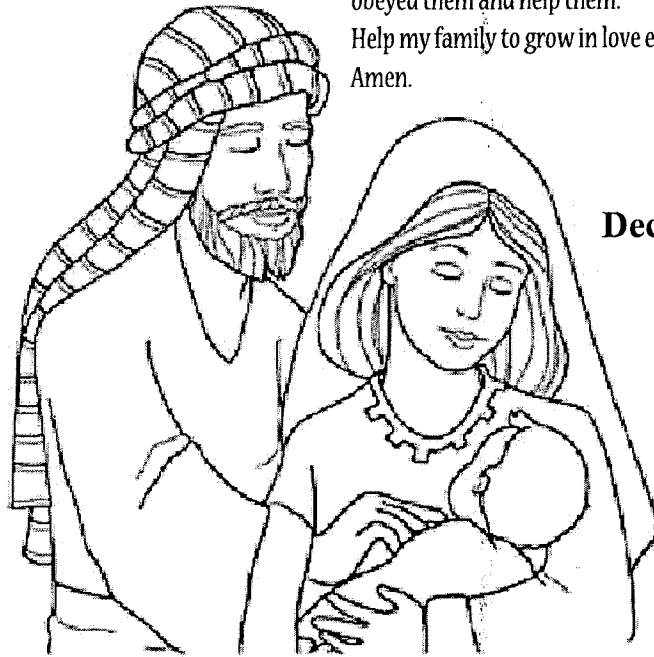
December 8



The Holy Family

Mary and Joseph, you loved each other very much, and you took good care of Jesus. Jesus, you loved Mary and Joseph. You obeyed them and help them. Help my family to grow in love every day. Amen.

December 29



Our Lady of Guadalupe

"Listen", she said to Juan Diego.

"The littlest of my children, Am I not here to help you? Are you not under my blessing and protection? Do not fear!".

Christmas

We celebrate Jesus' birthday on this day. Let's offer Him whatever small sacrifices we can make as a birthday gift to him



December 25



December 12



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Second Sunday of Advent December 8, 2013

Readings: Isaiah 11, 1-10; Psalm 71; Romans 15, 4-9; Matthew 3, 1-12

The Preaching of John the Baptist

At that time John the Baptist came to the desert of Judea and started preaching. "Turn away from your sins," he said, "because the Kingdom of heaven is near!" John was the man the prophet Isaiah was talking about when he said, "Someone is shouting in the desert, 'Prepare a road for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel!' John's clothes were made of camel's hair; he wore a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. People came to him from Jerusalem, from the whole province of Judea, and from all over the country near the Jordan River. They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan. When John saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to him to be baptized, he said to them, "You snakes who told you that you could escape from the punishment God is about to send? Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins and don't think you can escape punishment by saying that Abraham is your ancestor. I tell you that God can take these rocks and make descendants for Abraham! The ax is ready to cut down the trees at the roots; every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown in the fire. I baptize you with water to show that you have repented, but the one who will come after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He is much greater than I am; and I am not good enough even to carry his sandals. He has his winnowing shovel with him to thresh out all the grain. He will gather his wheat into his barn, but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out."(Matthew 3, 1-12)

Reflection

In the readings of this week show us that wherever God is, people live in the light and seek peace. John calls us to change our lives in preparation for the coming of God. How do they and their families prepare for Christmas? Will some relatives come? How do they prepare for visitors? What do they look forward to? Share about the story and the things that John told people around him. John insists that in order to prepare for the coming of God, we need to make some changes; live honestly and in truth. Is there something we would like to change in ourselves and in others? Share.

Activity

Bring to the group white paper. Give one to each children. Ask them to divide it in two. Ask them to write on one side the things they think should change. On the other side write what they would do to change them. Teach them about the Christmas wreath. Encourage them to do it with their families in preparation for Christmas.

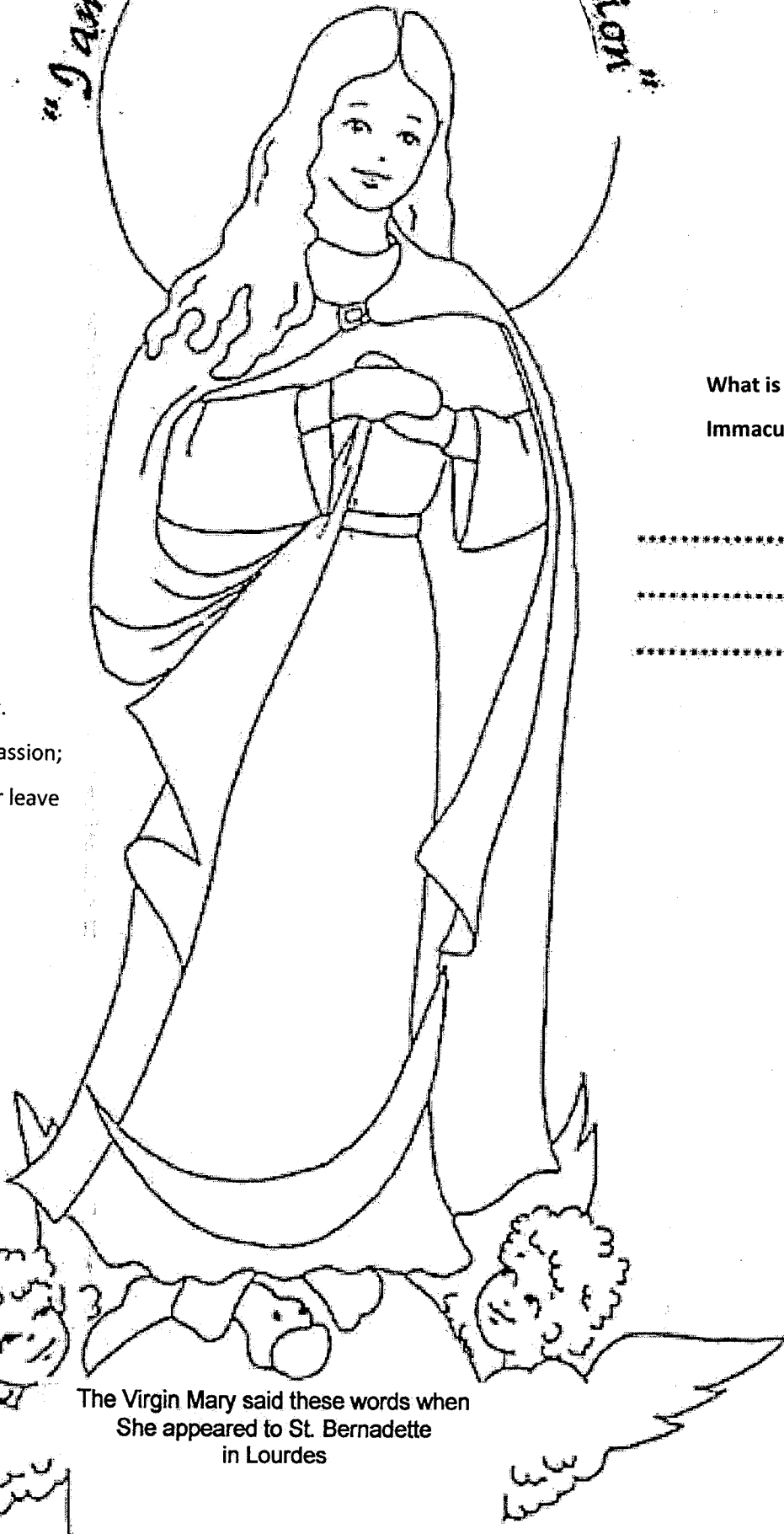
Prayer

Lord, in the midst of preparation for Christmas, sometimes we are too tense and treat each other harshly. Remind us that you are love and we should treat others with love too. Amen.



8th of December

"I am the Immaculate Conception"



PRAYER

Blessed be your purity,
for all eternity;
God Himself rejoices
in such gracious beauty.

To you Celestial Princess,
Holy Virgin Mary,
I offer this day
my soul, my life, my heart.
Look upon me with compassion;
you are my Mother, never leave
me.

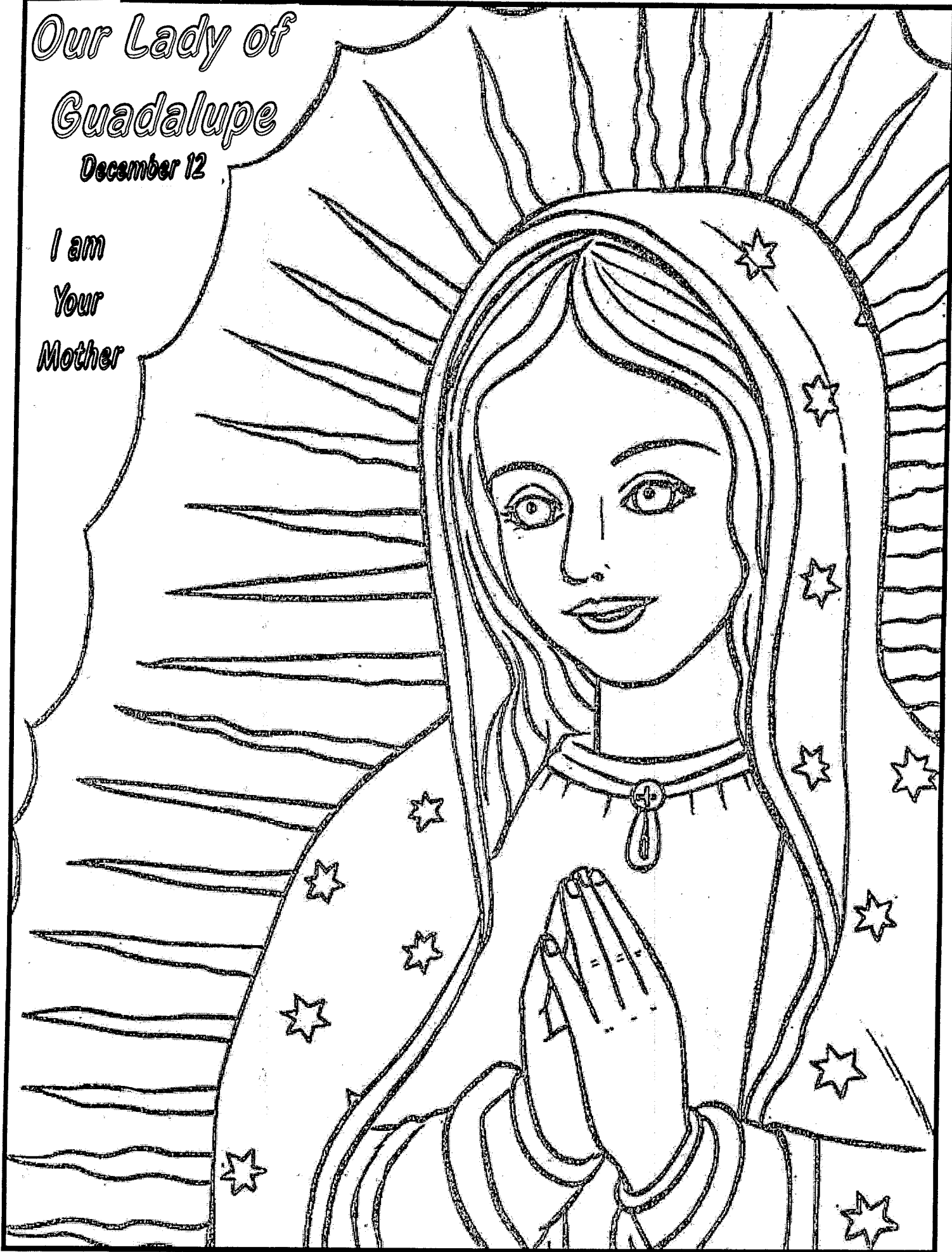
What is meant by
Immaculate Conception?

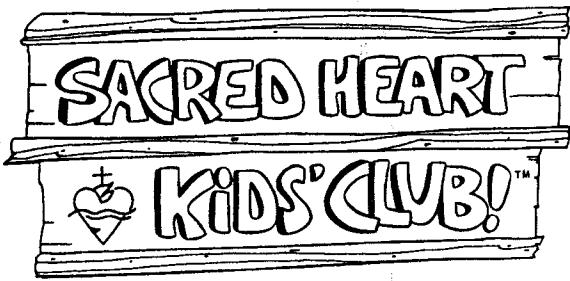
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The Virgin Mary said these words when
She appeared to St. Bernadette
in Lourdes

*Our Lady of
Guadalupe
December 12*

*I am
Your
Mother*

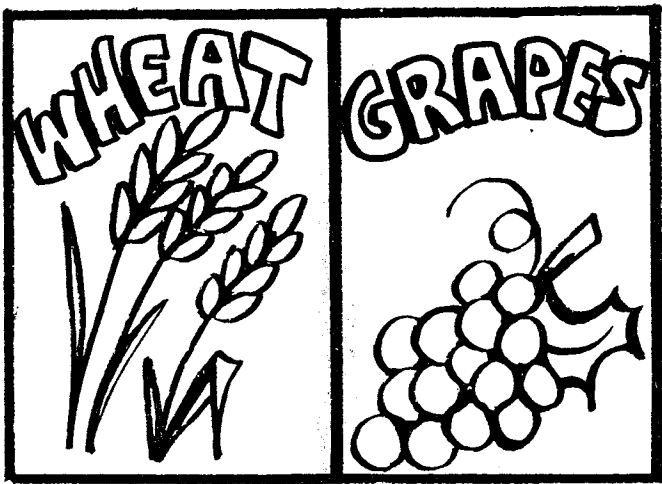




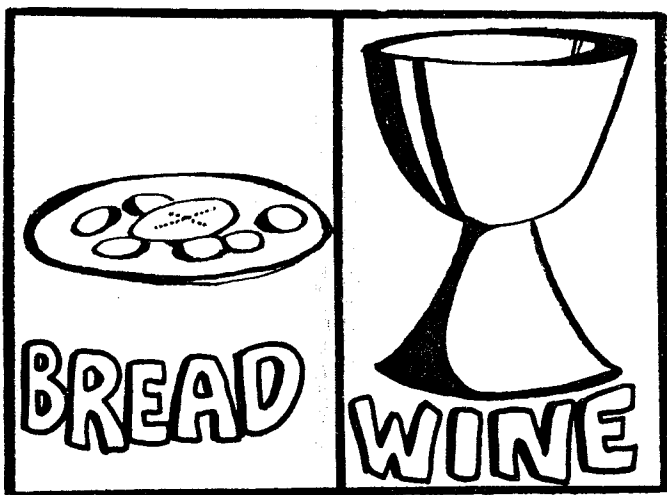
Eucharist

Read carefully below what is happening in the celebration of the Eucharist. Color the pictures. Then, by pointing at the pictures, try to explain it in your own words.

In the celebration of the Eucharist
The gifts are...
Produced by the earth...



Made into Bread and Wine by the work of human hands and...



Changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus as our gift to God the Father.

During the Eucharistic Celebration we offer bread and wine. As Jesus promised, He becomes truly present in these gifts, through the words of the priest.

Write a short prayer here, offering yourself to God as a gift, together with the bread and wine:

When the priest says the words:

This Is My — — — —
the bread becomes
the Body of Christ,
the Bread of Life;

This Is My — — — —
the wine becomes
the Blood of Christ
our spiritual drink.

God shares with us the greatest Gift ever —
His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ in the
Holy

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 2013

Readings: Isaiah 35, 1-6a.10; Psalm 145; James 5, 7-10; Matthew 11, 2-11

The Messengers from John the Baptist

When John the Baptist heard in prison about the things that Christ was doing, he sent some of his disciples to him. "Tell us," they asked Jesus, "are you the one John said was going to come, or should we expect someone else?" Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you are hearing and seeing: the blind can see, the lame can walk, those who suffer from dreaded skin diseases are made clean, the deaf hear, the dead are brought back to life, and the Good News is preached to the poor. How happy are those who have no doubts about me!" While John's disciples were leaving, Jesus spoke about him to the crowds: "When you went out to John in the desert, what did you expect to see? A blade of grass bending in the wind? What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in fancy clothes? People who dress like that live in palaces! Tell me, what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes indeed, but you saw much more than a prophet. For John is the one whom the scripture says: 'God said, I will send my messenger ahead of you to open the way for you.' I assure you that John the Baptist is greater than anyone who has ever lived. But the one who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than John. (Matthew 11, 2-11)

Reflection

To the questions of John, Jesus answers with information about the good works, the fruits of the proclamation of salvation. We are from God if our works are works of service and love for others. John wants to know what Jesus does and asks. Are you interested in knowing more about God? Why do we think some people are good? Because of their money, their movies, or the sports they play? Who do they admire? What actions show others that we are the people who do the works of God? Tell Jesus about the things you have done well this week to help your parents, teachers, and friends. What more could we have done? Why didn't we do it? What are the good works you are planning to do this week to prepare for Christmas? Share.

Activity

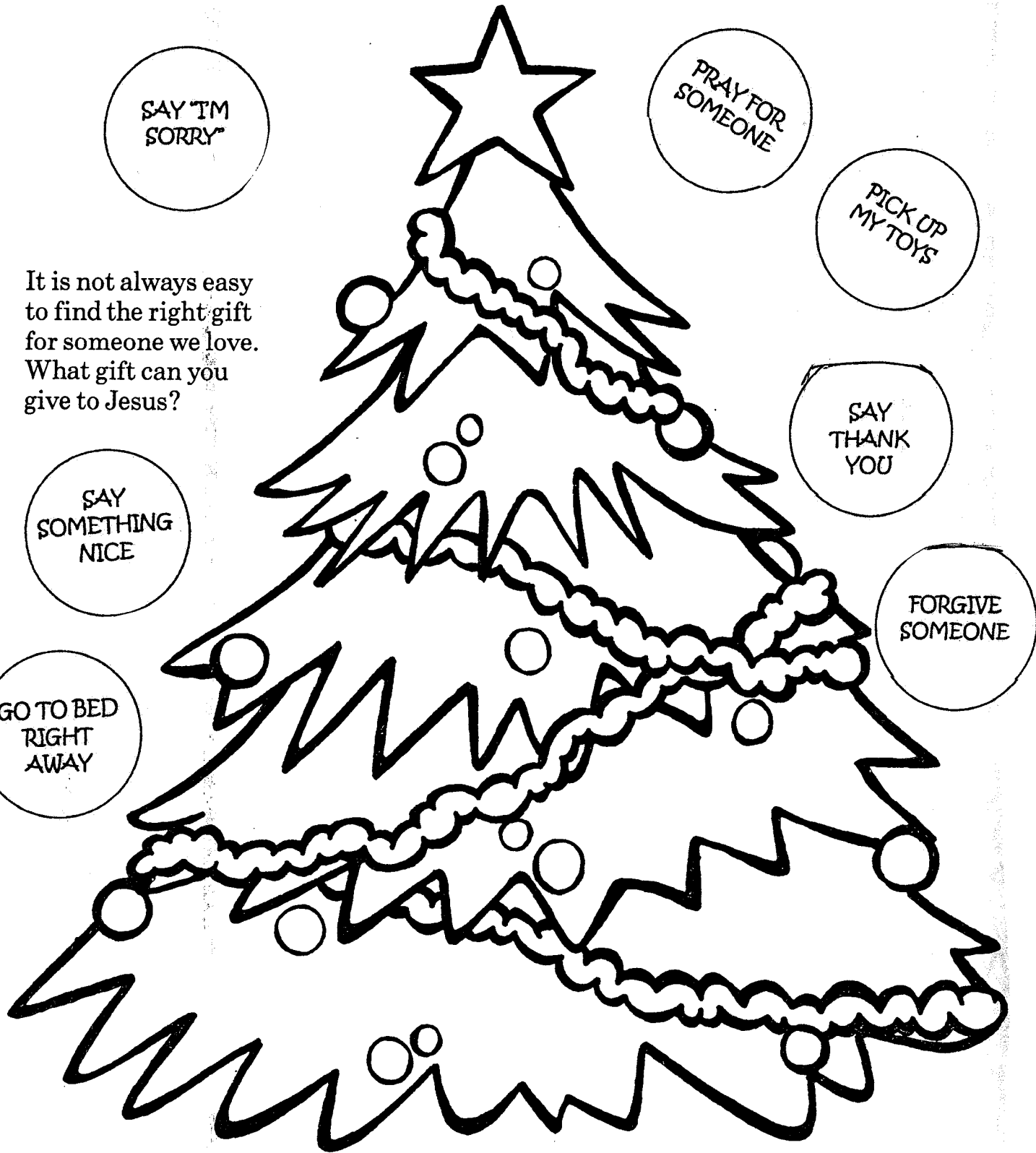
Prepare some cards with good deeds you are going to do as gifts for your love ones. In the next page you will find some ideas. Share with the group what each one will offer.

Prayer

Lord, as we prepare for your coming this Christmas, we want to learn to do the works that you ask us; caring for one another, comforting those who suffer, aiding the poor in their need. Show us Lord, how to sow those seeds of love in the world. Amen.



What Can You Give Jesus This Christmas?



It is not always easy to find the right gift for someone we love. What gift can you give to Jesus?

SAY SOMETHING NICE

PRAY FOR SOMEONE

PICK UP MY TOYS

SAY THANK YOU

FORGIVE SOMEONE

GO TO BED RIGHT AWAY

Your Good Deeds of Welcome For Jesus

Hang this tree where you will see it. Each time you help someone, color a part of the Christmas Tree branches green. When you say a prayer for someone, color a bulb. On Christmas day, after Mass, color the star.



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Fourth Sunday of advent December 22, 2013

Readings: Isaiah 7, 10-14; Psalm 23; Romans 1, 1-7; Matthew 1, 18-24

The Birth of Jesus Christ

This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a man, who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she was conceived. She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins." Now all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, "A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel" (which means, "God is with us"). So when Joseph woke up, he married Mary, as the angel of the Lord had told him to. But he had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus. (Matthew 1, 18-24)

Reflection

Mary makes possible the coming of God to the world through her acceptance. Joseph, the just man, places all his trust in God and believes God's word. Why were Mary and Joseph so surprised? Do you think only God could have done something like that? Do your parents and teachers sometimes asked you to do difficult things? Speak with the children about Joseph. Do they know men who are good and are like Joseph? Joseph trusts in God despite all appearances and decides to take care of Mary and her baby. Mary accepts God's proposal although it is very difficult. Jesus can come into the world this way. Do you think God may be asking you to do something now? Share.

Activity

Make a list of the gift Jesus will like to receive. The gifts he might like are good actions and service to others. Share with the group what each one is doing to prepare themselves for the coming of Jesus.

Prayer

As we get closer to Christmas, Lord we want to participate in your coming into the world saying yes like Mary to a life of generous service, of self-giving and sacrifice for others. Be born in us Jesus. Come soon, Lord. Amen.



JOYFUL MYSTERIES

The Birth of the Baby Jesus

IN MYSTERY

THERE WERE IN THE SAME REGION SOME SHEPHERDS. DURING THE NIGHT, THEY TOOK TURNS WATCHING OVER THE FLOCK. AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO THEM...

AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE AROUND THEM, AND THEY WERE STRUCK WITH GREAT FEAR.

DO NOT BE AFRAID, I PROCLAIM TO YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY.

FOR TODAY A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN FOR YOU WHO IS THE MESSIAH, THE LORD, IN THE CITY OF DAVID.

AND THIS WILL BE A SIGN FOR YOU: YOU WILL FIND AN INFANT WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES AND LYING IN A MANGER.

GLORY TO GOD...

AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST WITH THE ANGEL, PRAISING GOD AND SAYING:

...IN THE HIGHEST

...AND ON EARTH PEACE TO THOSE ON WHOM HIS FAVOR RESTS."

SO THEY WENT IN HASTE AND FOUND MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE INFANT LYING IN THE MANGER.



Friends of Jesus and Mary ***Christmas, December 25, 2013***

Readings: Isaiah 52, 7-10; Psalm 97; Hebrews 1, 1-6; John 1, 1-18

The Word of Life

In the beginning the word already existed; the word was with God, and the word was God. From the very beginning the word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. The word was the source of life, and this life brought light to people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. God sent his messenger, a man named John who comes to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light. This was the real light the light that comes into the world and shines on all people. The word was in the world, and though God made the world through him, yet the world did not recognize him. He came to his own country, but his own people did not receive him. Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God's children. They did not become God's children by natural means, that is, by being born as the children of a human father; God himself was their Father. The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son. John spoke about him. He cried out, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'He comes after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.'" Out of the fullness of his grace he has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another. God gave the law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is the same as God and is at the Father's side, he has made him known. (John 1, 1-18)

Reflection

What do you think of the story of Mary and Joseph asking for room at the inn? How do you feel about the story of the birth of Jesus? Do you think that because he was God, he should have had more comfort? Why would it be like that? Imagine you have a house in Bethlehem. Do you offer it to Joseph and Mary? What excuses would you give to tell them to go to another place? Mary and Joseph did not find a place to stay. Do you know someone whom everyone rejects (for instance, someone at school who has no one to play with, or someone who is never invited to parties)? What can you do? Share.

Activity

Make a living nativity scene. Distribute papers with the different characters. Dramatize the story. If possible invite the parents and have a celebration. Encourage them to give Jesus the gift they prepared for him during Advent.

Prayer

Jesus newly born, you are our God. You come to change our hearts and to tell us that we are all equal, children of the great love of God. Teach us to share your love, to change the world with you. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary ***The Holy Family December 29, 2013***

Readings: Sirach 3, 2-6, 12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3, 12-21; Matthew 2, 13-15

The Escape to Egypt

After they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph and said, "Herod will be looking for the child in order to kill him. So get up, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you to leave." Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and left during the night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod died. This was done to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, "I called my Son out of Egypt." (Matthew 2, 13-15)

Reflection

Jesus suffered a forced migration, like many of us. Imagine the many difficulties Joseph had to go through, traveling with a baby and trying to avoid danger. Have you ever heard stories about your parents or grandparents when they left their countries to reach the U.S.? What were their difficulties? Why did they go through so many risks? How were they treated when they got here? What signs of care and protection do your own families give you? Share.

Activity

Dramatize the scene of the flight into Egypt. Imagine some of the adventures they went through. How might the Egyptians have treated the Holy Family? Make the Family Tree of Jesus that is on the next page.

Prayer

Lord, we have come this far going through difficulties and successes in order to protect our families. You walked with us. Continue with us on our journey through life. Give us your feelings of compassion, generosity and forgiveness. Unite us in your love, which is the strongest bond. Amen.





SAINT CHARBEL 1828-1898 MAKHOLOUF

THE FIRST MODERN DAY CANONIZED
LEBANESE SAINT

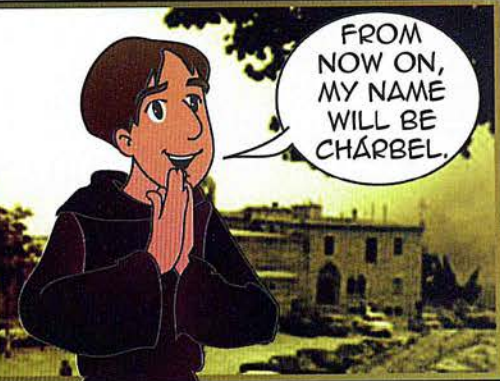
JOSEPH WAS BORN ON MAY 8, 1828 IN A SMALL TOWN IN LEBANON CALLED BIQA-KAFRA. HE WAS THE FIFTH CHILD BORN TO ANTHONY MAKHOLOUP AND BRIDGET CHOUDIAC, SIMPLE PEASANTS WITH A GREAT FAITH.



HE ENJOYED NATURE AND OFTEN VISITED A HEMITAGE OF OUR LADY.

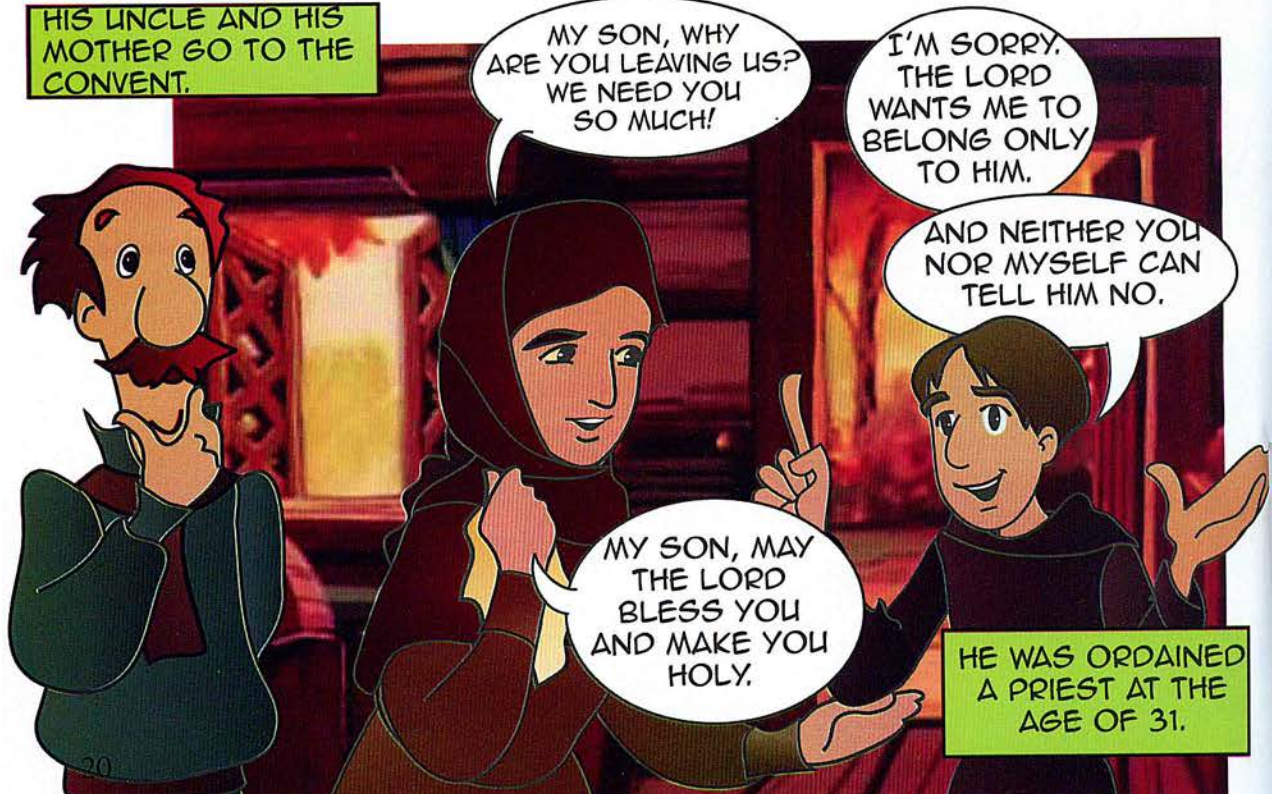


"LEAVE EVERYTHING, COME, FOLLOW ME."



HE ENTERS IN THE MONASTERY OF OUR LADY OF MAYFOUK OF THE LEBANESE MARIONITE ORDER AT THE AGE OF 23.

HIS UNCLE AND HIS MOTHER GO TO THE CONVENT.



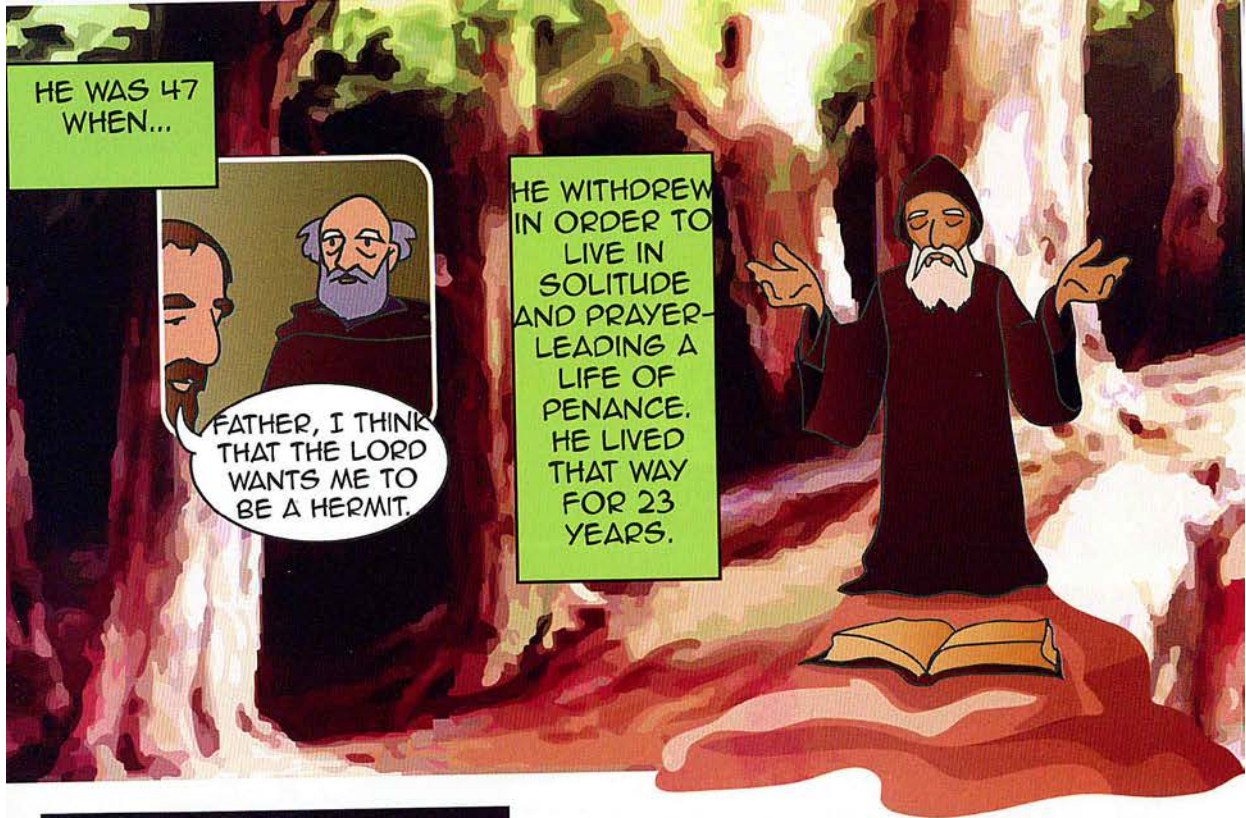
MY SON, WHY ARE YOU LEAVING US? WE NEED YOU SO MUCH!

I'M SORRY. THE LORD WANTS ME TO BELONG ONLY TO HIM.

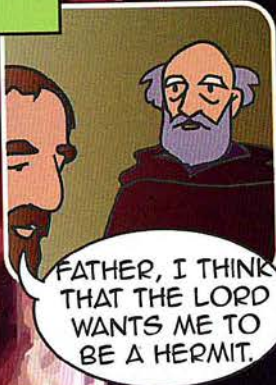
AND NEITHER YOU NOR MYSELF CAN TELL HIM NO.

MY SON, MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND MAKE YOU HOLY.

HE WAS ORDAINED A PRIEST AT THE AGE OF 31.



HE WAS 47 WHEN...

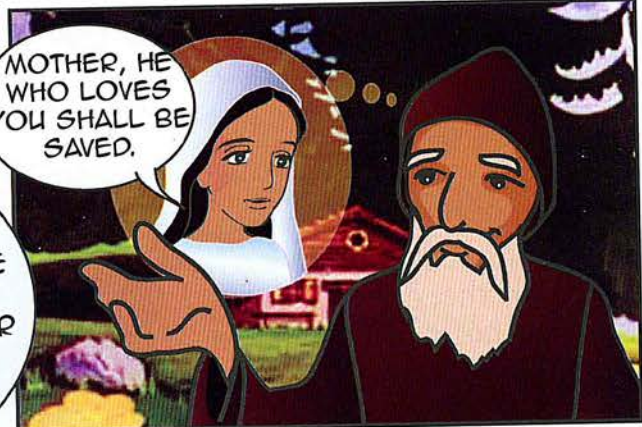


FATHER, I THINK THAT THE LORD WANTS ME TO BE A HERMIT.

HE WITHDREW IN ORDER TO LIVE IN SOLITUDE AND PRAYER—LEADING A LIFE OF PENANCE. HE LIVED THAT WAY FOR 23 YEARS.



LORD, YOU GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO CONQUER TEMPTAION.



MOTHER, HE WHO LOVES YOU SHALL BE SAVED.

HE DIED IN ANNAYA (LEBANON) ON DECEMBER 24, 1898.

HE WAS CANONIZED BY POPE PAUL VI, ON OCTOBER 9, 1977.



HIS TOMB ATTRACTS MANY PILGRIMS, CHRISTIANS AND NON-CHRISTIANS, FOR THE WONDERFUL WORKS THAT HAPPEN THERE: HIS BODY IS INCORRUPT AND SWEATS BLOOD.

WHEN GOD CALLS WE MUST RESPOND WITH GENEROSITY.