



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

December 2015

Miami, Florida,

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Advent started on November 29, Christmas preparation begin. We should prepare our hearts to receive Jesus. Together with the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and the Shepherds; let us adore and love Him. In this way our hearts will be ready to receive Him and live a true Christmas.

Important feast and Saints:

December 03 Saints Francis Xavier

December 06 Saint Nicholas

December 08 Immaculate Conception

December 09 Saint Juan Diego

December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 14 Saint John of the Cross

December 25 Christmas Day

December 28 Holy Innocents

December 30 Holy Family

Enclosed materials:

1 - Monthly Calendar & Sunday Gospel

6. Christmas Card-Jesus is the Reason

2- Activity taking the right path

7. Christmas tree

3-Feast of December

8. The Miracle of Siena

4. Immaculate Conception

9. Christmas Activity

5. Queen of the Americas

Our IX Congress will be on February 18 – 21, 2016 please try to come and enjoy with us this beautiful experience.

The committee of Friends of Jesus and Mary would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas. and happy New Years. May God's blessing shine upon you and your families during the holidays.

God Bless you,

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



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Isaiah 11, 1-10 Psalm 71 Luke 10, 21-24	2 Isaiah 25, 6-10a Psalm 22 Matthew 15, 29-37	3 ST FRANCIS XAVIER Isaiah 26, 1-6 Psalm 117 Matthew 7, 21.24-27	4 FIRST FRIDAY ST. JOHN DAMASCENE Isaiah 29, 17-24 Psalm 26 Matthew 9, 27-31	5 FIRST SATURDAY Isaiah 30, 18.21.23-26 Psalm 146 Matthew 9, 35-10,1.6-8
6 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Isaiah 40, 1-5.9-11 Psalm 84 2 Peter 3, 8-14 Mark 1, 1-8	7 ST AMBROSE Isaiah 35, 1-10 Psalm 84 Luke 5, 17-26	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Isaiah 40, 1-11 Psalm 95 Matthew 18, 12-14	9 ST. JUAN DIEGO Isaiah 40, 25-31 Psalm 102 Matthew 11, 28-30	10 OUR LADY OF LORETO Isaiah 41, 13-20 Psalm 144 Matthew 11, 11-15	11 ST. DAMASUS I.POPE Isaiah 48, 17-19 Psalm 1 Matthew 11, 16-19	12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Zechariah 2, 14-17 Psalm/Judith 13 Luke 1, 26-38
13 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Zephaniah 3, 14-18 Psalm/Isaiah 12, 2-3. Philippians 4, 4-7 Luke 3, 10-18	14 ST JOHN OF THE CROSS CROSS Numbers 24,2-7.15-17 Psalm 24 Matthew 21,23-27	15 Zephaniah 3, 1-2.9-13 Psalm 33 Matthew 21, 28-32	16 Isaiah 45,6-8,18.21-25 Psalm 84 Luke 7, 19-23	17 SAINT LAZARUZ Genesis 49, 2. 8-10 Psalm 71 Matthew 1, 1-17	18 Jeremiah 23, 5-8 Psalm 71 Matthew 1, 18-24	19 Judges 13, 2-7.24-25 Psalm 70 Luke 1, 5-25
20 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Micah 5, 1-4 Psalm 79 Hebrews 10, 5-10 Luke 1, 39-45	21 ST. PETER CANISIUS SGS 2, 8-14 Psalm 32 Luke 1, 39-45	22 1 Samuel 1, 24-28 Psalm/1 S 2, 1. 4-8 Luke 1, 46-56	23 Malachi 3, 1-4.23-24 Psalm 24 Luke 1, 57-66	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 2 S 7, 1-5.8-12.14.16 Psalm 88 Luke 1, 67-79	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Isaiah 62, 1-5 Psalm 88 Acts 13, 16-17.22-25 Matthew 1, 1-25	26 ST STEPHEN Acts 6, 8-10;7,54-59 Psalm 30 Matthew 10, 17-22
27 HOLY FAMILY FEAST Sirach 3,3-7.14-17 Psalm 127 Colossians 3,12-21 Luke 2, 41-52	28 HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS FEAST 1 John 1, 5-2, 2 Psalm 123 Matthew 2, 13-18	29 ST THOMAS BECKET 1 John 2, 3-11 Psalm 95 Luke 2, 22-35	30 1 John 2, 12-17 Psalm 95 Luke 2, 36-40	31 ST. SYLVESTER I. POPE NEW YEAR'S EVE 1 John 2, 18-21 Psalm 95 John 1, 1-18		

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Friends of Jesus and Mary
Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2015
Readings: Baruch, 5:1-9; Psalm 125 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3: 1-6

The Preaching of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Luke 3: 1-6)

Reflection

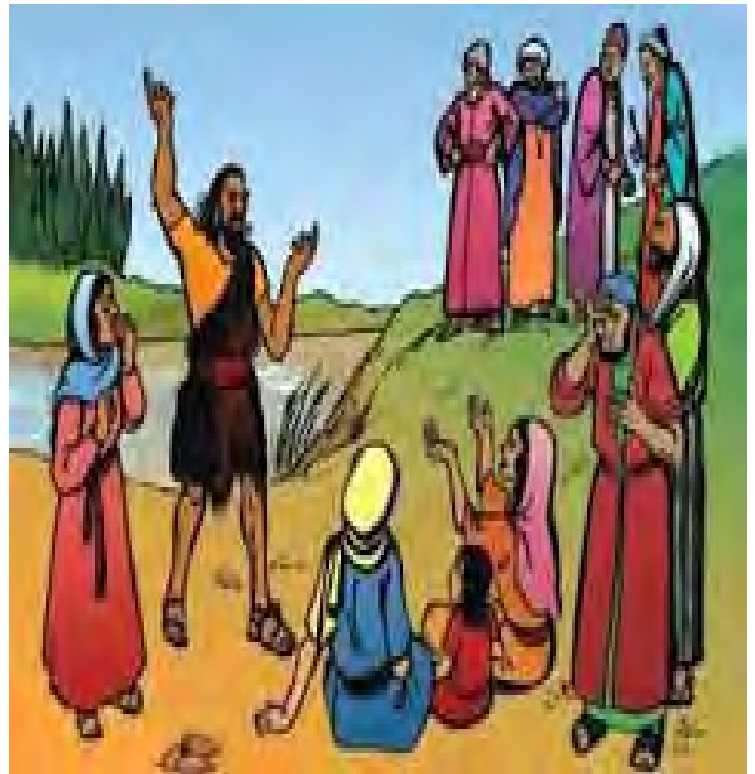
John calls for a change of life to prepare the way of the Lord. We must straighten what is crooked in our lives, remove the obstacles and walls built by selfishness. John says that obstacle must be overcome so that Jesus can be with us. Is there anything in your home and family that you think is not totally right? What can you do to make things easier? What are some of the obstacles in their lives that are hard to overcome to prepare to receive Jesus?

Activity

Light the second candle of the Advent Wreath. Pray together the prayer for this week and then share how they are preparing to receive Jesus. On the next page you will find an activity.

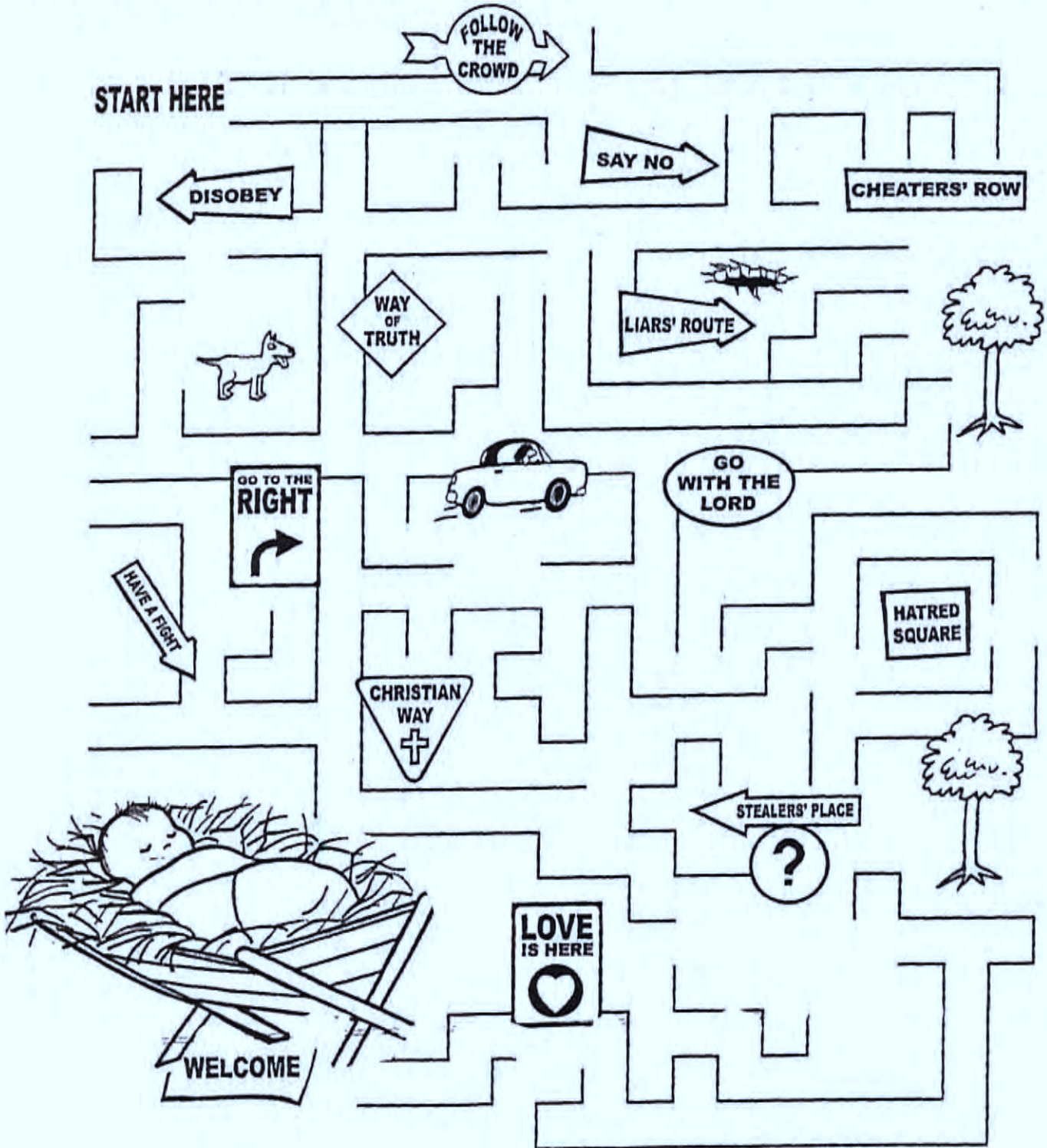
Prayer

Lord, we await you. Help us to prepare so when You come You find our love, respect, and fairness in the family grown. May you find us walking in honesty, sincerity, and affection for each other. **Amen.**



Taking the right path

Can you find the way through this maze to the place where Jesus waits for you? Watch out for the temptations along the way



Feast for December

The Immaculate Conception

Blessed be your purity, for all eternity: God himself rejoices in such gracious beauty.
To your 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, 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 30



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

Our Lady of Guadalupe

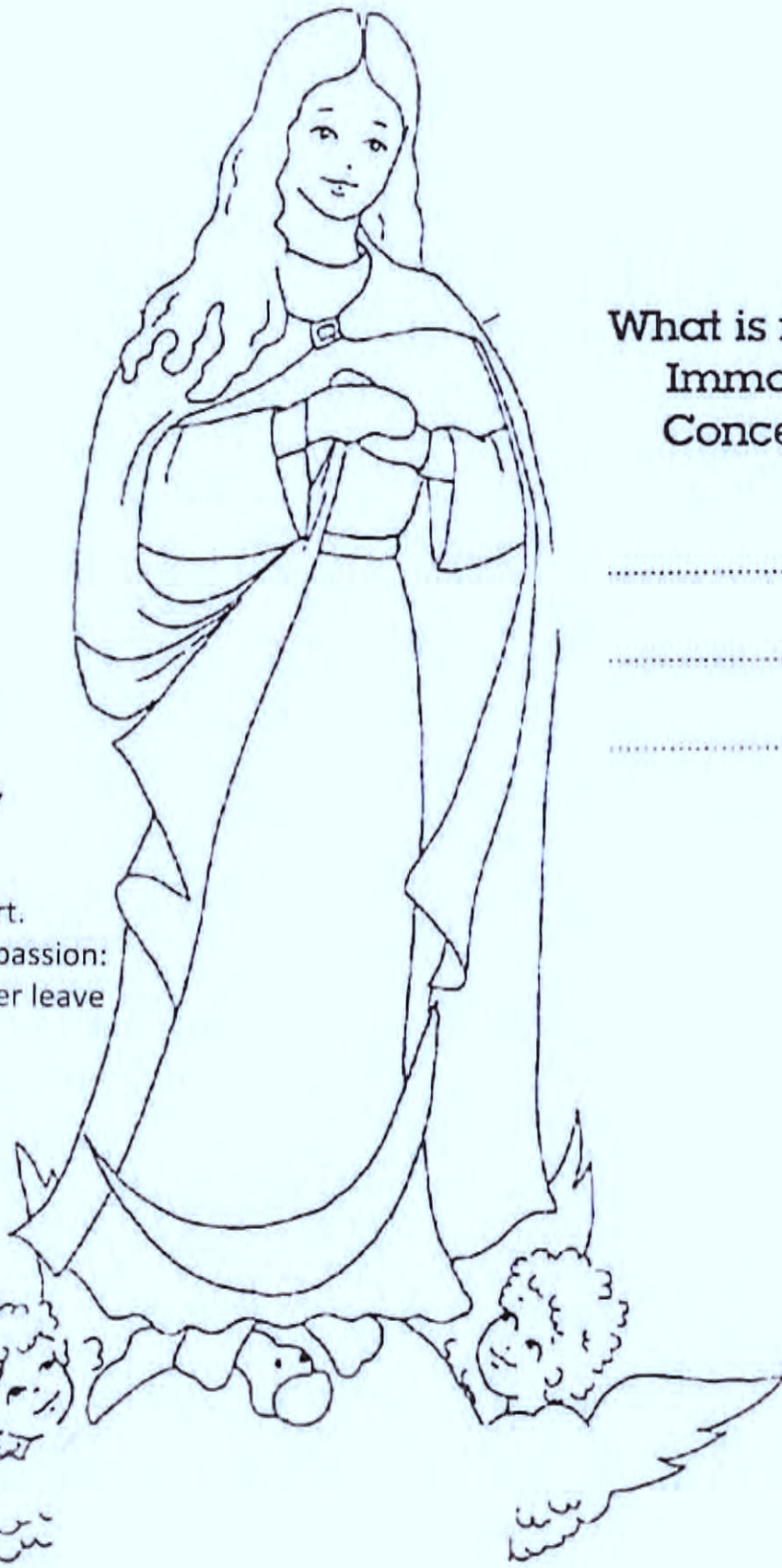
"Listen", she said to Juan Diego.
"The littlest of my children, Am I not here to help you? Are you not under my blessing and protection? Do not fear!"



December 12

Immaculate Conception

December 08



Learn this 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. Amen

What is meant by
Immaculate
Conception?

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.....

.....

Queen of the Americas

December 12:
Our lady of Guadalupe

Luke 1: 26-38

Zac. 2:14-17;
Rev. 11:19a; 12:1-6a,10ab;
Luke 1:26-38

Talk about the story. Discuss with the children what seeing Mary must have been for Juan Diego. What would they do if they, too, saw her? Discuss how Mary wanted to show herself to Juan Diego to prove that all peoples and races are equal in God's eyes.

Reflection. Leave a few minutes for the children to reflect on the questions.

Discuss their responses.

Leave some time for them to write their commitments for the week.

Activities and prayer. Bring red roses or cut red roses out of construction paper for the children to present to Our Lady of Guadalupe. They should express their resolution for this day.



Jesus, your friend, invites you:

◆ Our Lady of Guadalupe chose a poor and simple person to carry her message. Do you feel too young to do the good things God asks of you?

What am I going to do? ✍

Speak to Jesus and tell him that even if you are young, you want to do what he wants. Tell him what you want to do this week:

◆ For example: *I will respect everyone, even those who seem to be less powerful or unimportant.*

◆ For example: *I will thank Mary for choosing Juan Diego to announce that God loves all people and all races.*

◆ _____

WORD SEARCH:

Find the following hidden words in Spanish and write a sentence using them:

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	P	A	B
C	D	D	I	E	G	O	E	T	F
G	O	H	I	M	U	J	F	E	K
L	B	M	N	O	A	P	Q	P	R
S	I	T	M	A	D	R	E	E	U
V	S	W	X	Y	A	Z	I	Y	A
B	P	C	D	F	L	G	H	A	M
R	O	S	A	S	U	N	O	C	P
Q	R	S	T	U	P	V	W	X	Y
Z	A	I	G	L	E	S	I	A	A

Q: The bishop believes Juan Diego when he sees the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on his cloak. Do you find it hard to believe something you can't see?



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2015

Readings: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm Isaiah 12, 3.4b 5-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

The Preaching of John the Baptist

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people. (Luke 3:10-18)

Reflection

The coming of Jesus calls us to a change of life; to share, to free our hearts from selfishness, to give up any ambitions or power or money. Our greatest joy must be to give ourselves to others and to perform good deeds. John invites us to prepare to receive Jesus by sharing what we have with others. Tell Jesus about the things you have that you would like to share with others. Tell him what you want to do this week. The readings remind us that Christmas is close. As it gets closer, what gives them joy?



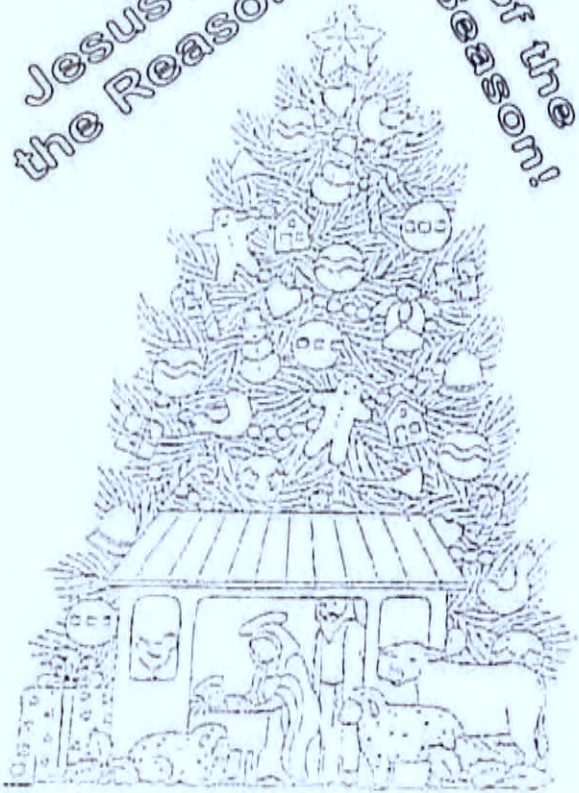
Activity

This week the pink candle is light. Say the prayer for this week. Share with the children the things that give them joy and those they plan to share with others. Remind them to bring a toy or gift for someone who doesn't have any.

Prayer

Lord, you are near, and that fills us with joy. May the conviction of your presence motivate us to bring joy to one another in our family, and to all those around us. **Amen.**

Jesus is
the Reason
Of the
Season!



TO: _____

FROM: _____

**JESUS IS BORN!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*"a Child is born to us!
A son is given to us"*

Isaiah 9:6



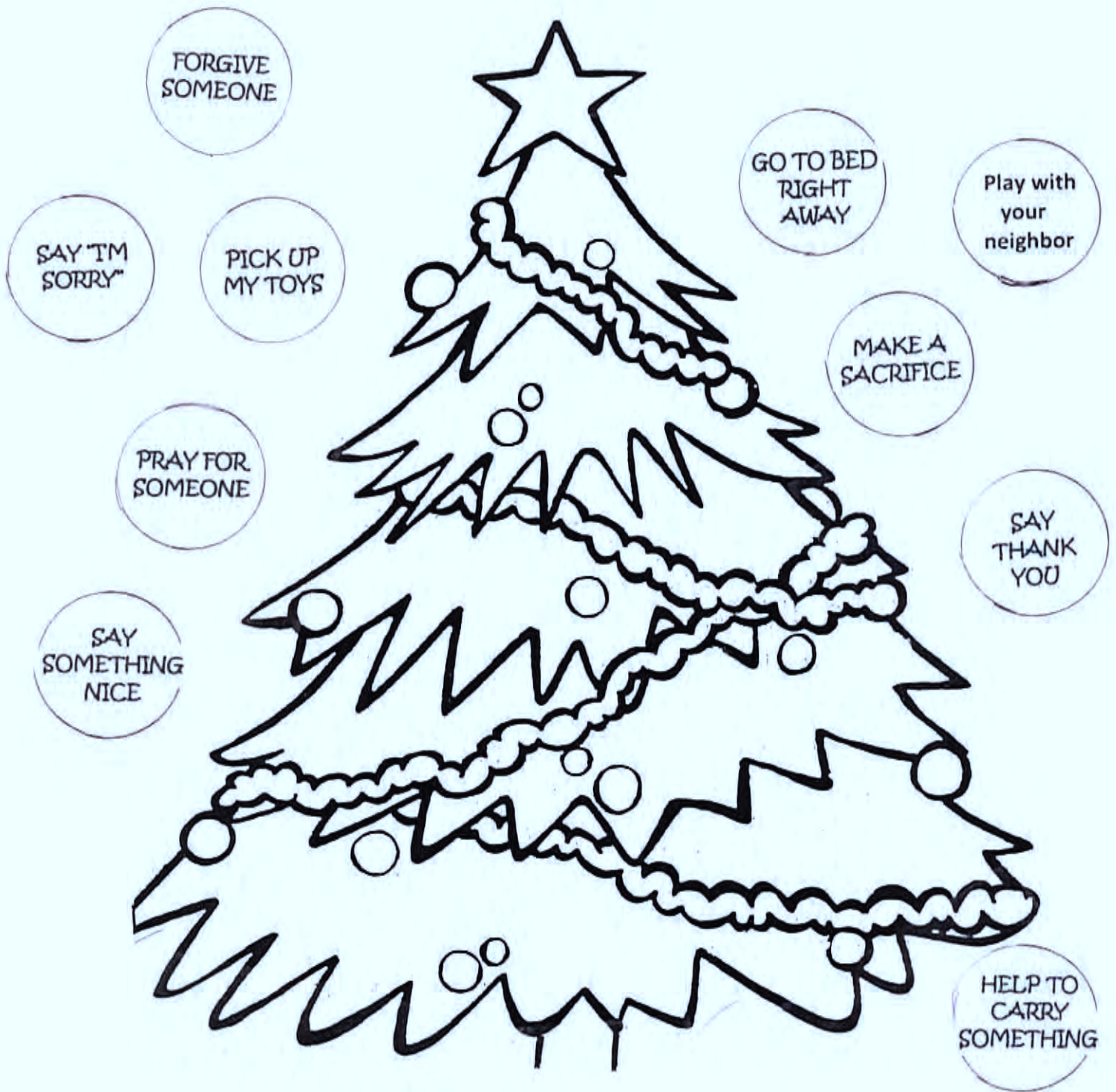
TO: _____

FROM: _____

**JESUS IS BORN!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*"a Child is born to us!
A son is given to us"*

Isaiah 9:6



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 20, 2015
Readings: Micah 5:1-4a Psalm 79 Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1: 39-45

Mary Visits Elizabeth

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1: 39-45")

Reflection

Mary doesn't think of herself, but of what she can offer her cousin. The two women recognize the gifts and grace of God in each other. Do you hurry up to help others when you see help is needed? John jumped for joy when he recognized Jesus inside Mary. Do you rejoice when you see something that reminds you of Jesus' goodness?

Activity

Light the last candle of the Advent wreath. Give out paper. Ask the children to write the names of people in whom they recognize Jesus. Also write about the visitors who give them joy and why. Collect the toys or gifts they pledged to bring last week for the children who do not have any.

Prayer

Loving Jesus, true God and true man, we thank you for becoming one of us. Teach us to share your peace in our family, neighborhood, city and country. **Amen.**





Christmas

Search The Scriptures

The Birth of Jesus is an important and joyful event in our lives as Christians. Read the story in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Draw a picture of each passage in the squares and write next to them what you read. Then think of the answer to the question below and discuss.

Matthew 1:18-2:12, Luke 2:1-20

A large empty square box intended for drawing a picture of the passage in Matthew 2:1,2.

MATTHEW 2:1,2

A large empty square box intended for drawing a picture of the passage in Matthew 2:9,10,11.

MATTHEW 2:9,10,11

A large empty square box intended for drawing a picture of the passage in Luke 2:4-7.

LUKE 2:4-7

A large empty square box intended for drawing a picture of the passage in Luke 2:8-11.

LUKE 2:8-11

A large empty square box intended for drawing a picture of the passage in Luke 2:15,16.

LUKE 2:15,16

What differences did you find between the two versions of the Christmas story?



Friends of Jesus and Mary ***Holy Family December 27, 2015***

Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart and Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. (Luke 2:41-52)

Reflection

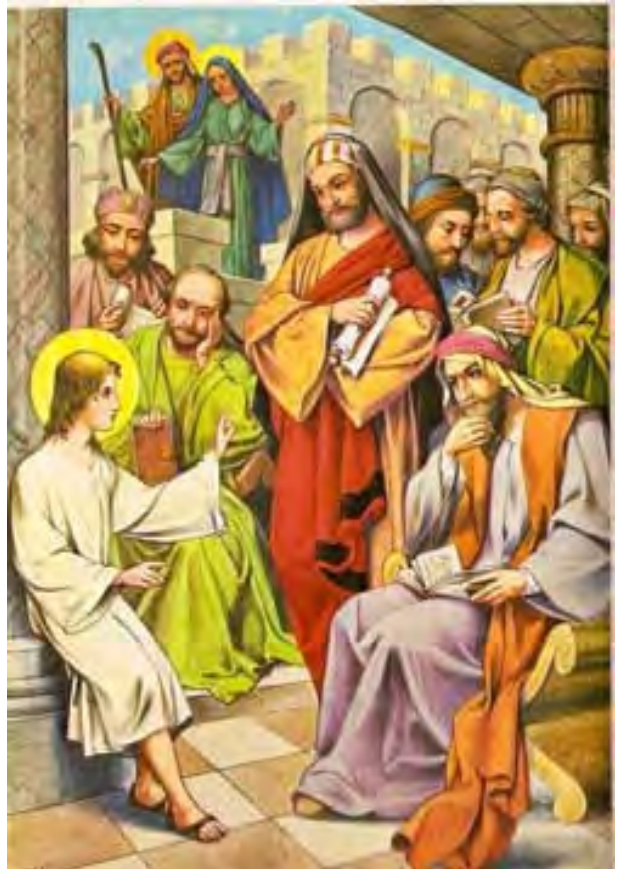
In the readings of this week, Paul gives us a whole list of attitudes to nurture at home: compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, love, mutual forgiveness, support, and encouragement. Mary and Joseph soon learn that their son does not belong to them but to God. Talk with the children about their families. With whom do they get along best? What would they like to change about the ways they relate to family members? Have they ever gotten lost or done something that has greatly worried their parents? What did they learn from their experience? Is it hard for them to obey? Share.

Activity

Dramatize the scene of gospel. Make a script to give to each child. Mary and Joseph looking for Jesus and the great joy they felt when they find him. What did Jesus say to his parents? When the presentation is finished, all are united in prayer. Each child names one adult from his home and prays for something that seems to be worrying a certain family member.

Prayer

Lord, we often suffer anxiety and worry about the future of our family and friends. Help us to foster trust and to freely speak to one another and forgive, help, and encourage one another, so that our family may become what you call us to be. **Amen**





THE MIRACLE of SIENA

Italy, 1330

AN OVERSIGHT

In 1330, there was a farmer who lived on the outskirts of Siena. One day, he became very ill and as he wanted to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, he sent word to a priest in Siena. The priest was very busy, so he went in a hurry to open the Tabernacle and take out the Eucharist. He placed the Sacred Host in between the pages of a book, instead of in the pix as he should have. And, in a hurry, he went on his way to the farmer's house.



BLOOD!

When the priest went over to the sick man's bed, and opened the book to give him Communion, to his surprise he found that the Host was now a mass of blood! He remained speechless and without saying a word closed the book and returned to Siena.

He felt bad, because he realized that he should have treated Jesus with more respect and delicacy. So, he decided to go see Fr. Simone, a priest known for his holiness. He told him what had happened and gave him the book with the pages full of Blood. Afterwards, he went to confession with him and returned home at peace, knowing that God had forgiven him.



SCIENTIFIC PROOF

In 1962, a scientific study was done on the blood-stained pages. Examining them under the microscope, scientists discovered blood clots still perfectly intact.

Amigos de Jesús y María

IX Congreso Internacional

Estados Unidos de América

Del 18 al 21 de febrero 2016

"Celebrando los 25 años del Ministerio"

¡¡Cupo Limitado!!



Para Líderes de Grupo de Oración de Niños y todos los llamados a servir a la niñez enseñándoles a orar en familia y en comunidad.

\$295.00 para **internos**, incluye: Cuarto semi-privado por 3 noches, comidas para 3 días completos y cena el jueves. Noche extra (**Domingo**) \$40.00 adicional incluye Desayuno

Externos: \$40.00 Pre pagado no incluye alojamiento **ni** comidas.
\$50.00 día del evento

Lugar: Casa Manresa
12190 SW 56 Calle
Miami, FL 33183

Depósito de \$100.00 **no reembolsables** es requerido para reservar cupo de internos. **Reservar antes de Enero 15, 2016**

Para más información llame al Florida Center for Peace:
(305) 412-1700 info@fcpeace.com - amigo_jym_miami@fcpeace.com. www.fcpeace.com

Formulario de inscripciones – Para participantes internos
IX Congreso Internacional “Amigos de Jesús y María”
Del 18 al 21 de febrero 2016

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Ciudad: _____ País _____ Zona Postal _____

Correo Electrónico: _____ Teléfono(s): _____

Costo: \$295.00 Incluye 3 noches de alojamiento doble, comidas y transporte del aeropuerto Internacional de Miami a Ignatius Retreat House (Casa Manresa) de ida y vuelta. Deposito requerido \$100.00 no reembolsable.

El Lunes 22 habrá un paseo por Miami si quiere participar haga planes para viajar el Martes 23. El precio del paseo y de la noche adicional no está incluido en el costo del Congreso. Costo de paseo pendiente

No habrá recogida en ningún otro aeropuerto de la Florida

Noche Adicional con desayuno: \$40.00

Necesita noches adicionales? _____ Si _____ No

Forma de Pago:

_____ Apadrinado(a) _____ Efectivo _____ Cheque _____ Giro

Tarjeta de Crédito: () Visa () Máster Card () American Express () Débito

No. _____ Fecha de expiración: _____

Datos de Llegada: Fecha y día de Llegada: _____

_____ Línea Aérea _____ Número de Vuelo _____ Hora de Llegada

Datos de Regreso: Fecha y día de Regreso: _____

_____ Línea Aérea _____ Número de Vuelo _____ Hora de Regreso

Alojamiento: *Por favor indique el nombre de la persona con quien compartirá habitación*
