



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

## Amigos de Jesús y María

---



**Florida Center for Peace**

February 2015  
Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sister:

In this month try to encourage our children to love God and our neighbors, stressing how important it is to ask for forgiveness from any we had offended. Share the Works of Mercy

Enclosed you will find the most important Feast and Saints:

February 02 Presentation of the Lord Mary's Purification	February 21 St Peter Damian
February 03 St Blasé-blessing of the throats	
February 05 St Agatha	
February 06 San Paul Miki and Companions	
February 11 Our Lady of Lourdes	
February 14 San Cyril & Methodius	
February 14 Valentine Day	
February 18 St Bernadette	

**Enclosed Material:**

- a) Calendar & Meditations on Sunday Gospel
- b) A Time to grow and change
- c) Journeying through Lent to Easter
- d) Saint Josephine Bakhita
- e) Our Lady of Lourdes
- f) Happy Valentine Day
- g) Our Heavenly Father
- h) Valentine's Card
- i) Our Father
- j) Some tips to practice in Lent

**Suggested videos:**

- 1) Our Lady of Lourdes
- 2) St Bernadette
- 3) The Princess of Lourdes
- 4) Sharing-Quigley's Village

Remember about our IX Congress to be placed in Miami, Florida on February 2016. Share this beautiful experience with us. Make plans for next year.

God Bless you, Friends of Jesus and Mary

---

**FLORIDA**

9779 S.W. 72<sup>ND</sup> St. – Miami, FL 33173 – Tel: (305) 412-1777 – E-mail: amigo\_jym\_miami@fcpeace.com

**Webpage: [www.fcpeace.com](http://www.fcpeace.com)**



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
 Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

February 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Dt. 18:15-20 Psalm 95 1Co 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28	<b>2</b> PRESENTATION OF THE LORD  Mt 3:1-4; Psalm 24 He 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40	<b>3</b> ST BLAISE BISHOP  He 12: 1-4 Psalm 22 Mk 5: 21-43	<b>4</b> ST ANDREW CORSINI  He 12: 4-7, 11-15 Psalm 103 Mk 6; 1-6	<b>5</b> ST AGATHA  He 12:18-19,21-24 Psalm 48 Mk 6:7-13	<b>6</b> FIRST FRIDAY ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS He 13:1-18; Psalm 27 Mk 6: 14-29	<b>7</b> FIRST SATURDAY  He 13: 15-17,20-21 Psalm 23 Mk 6:30-34
<b>8</b> 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Job 7:1-4,6-7 Psalm 147 1Co 9:16-19,22-23 Mk 1:29-39	<b>9</b> ST. APOLLONIA  Gn 1:1-19 Psalm 104 Mk 6:53-56	<b>10</b> ST. SCHOLASTICA  Gn 1:20-2:4a; Psalm 8 Mk 7:1-13	<b>11</b> OUR LADY OF LOURDES  Gn 2: 4b-9,15-17; Psalm 104 Mk 7: 14-23	<b>12</b> ST DAMIAN  Gn 2: 18-25; Psalm 128 Mk 7:24-30	<b>13</b> ST CATHERINE DE RICCI RICCI  Gn 3: 1-8; Psalm 32 Mk 7:31-37	<b>14</b> ST. VALENTINE  Gn 3: 9-24; Psalm 90 Mk 8: 1-10
<b>15</b> 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  Lv 13: 1-2,44-46 Psalm 32 1Co 10:31--11:1 Mk 1:40-45	<b>16</b> President's day  Gn 4:1-15,25; Psalm 50 Mk 8:11-13	<b>17</b>  Gn 6:5-8;7:1-5 10; Psalm 29 Mk 8: 14-21	<b>18</b> ASH WEDNESDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE  Jl 2:12-18 Psalm 51 2Co 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6,16-18	<b>19</b>  Dt 30:15-20; Psalm 1 Lk 9:22-25	<b>20</b>  Isaiah 58: 1-9a; Psalm 51 Mt 9:14-15	<b>21</b> ST PETER DAMIAN  Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 86 Lk 5:27-32
<b>22</b> <u>1ST SUNDAY OF LENT</u>  Gn 9:8-15 Psalm 25 1Pe 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15	<b>23</b> ST POLICARP  Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Psalm 19 Mt 25:31-46	<b>24</b>  Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 34 Mt 6:7-15	<b>25</b>  Jon 3:1-10; Psalm 51 Lc 11:29-32	<b>26</b> ST ALEXANDER  Esther C:12,14-16,23-25 Psalm 138 Mt 7:7-12	<b>27</b>  Ez 18:21-28; Psalm 130 Mt 5:20-26	<b>28</b> ST HILARY  Dt 26:16-19; Psalm 119 Mt 5:43-48



## *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

### *Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time February 01- 2015*

*Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28*

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the Sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are the Holy one of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee. **(Mark 1:21-28)**

### **Reflection**

What evils, dangers, and threats do the children encounter in their neighborhoods? What causes them anxiety? Who are the authority figures in their lives? Share with them.

### **Activity**

Make a chain with colorful cardboard or construction paper links. On each link ask the children to write one thing that is evil or makes people unhappy. Get together to pray. As the children express their commitment for the week, break each one of the links. All respond: "Thank you Jesus, for setting us free"

### **Prayer**

Lord, sometimes we are too concerned about our own interests. Sometimes selfishness and resentment don't allow us to feel free. Give us your word and strength so that we may do good and free others through our forgiveness.

**Amen.**





## *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

### *Jesus s presented in the Temple – February 2, 2015*

*Readings: Malachi 3, 1-4; Psalm 24, 7, 8, 9, 10; Hebrews 2, 14-18; Luke 2, 22-40*

The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the law of Moses commanded. So they took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the law of the Lord: "Every fist-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord." They also went to offer a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of the Lord. At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah. Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the temple to do for him what the law required, Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God: "Now, Lord you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples: A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles and bring glory to your people Israel." **(Luke 2, 22-40)**

### **Reflection**

Imagine the scene. How do Hannah and Simeon feel? How does Mary feel? Jesus was a child like you. He came to bring light. His light is stronger than the darkness of our lies and all those things people are ashamed of. Do you see any darkness around you? How could you bring light to others? Is it hard for you to tell the truth sometimes?

### **Activity and Prayer**

Have the children make a list of things they can do to bring light to the world. Give a candle to each child. Present each child to God. As they express their desire to become light for the world, they light a candle. Then together say the following prayer:

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





## *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

### *5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 8, 2015*

*Readings: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39*

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many, who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

**(Mark 1:29-39)**

### ***Reflection***

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

### ***Prayer***

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





## *Friends of Jesus and Mary*

### *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 15, 2015*

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

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere. **(Mark 1:40-45)**

#### **Reflection**

Jesus is near even to those that seem rejected by everyone else. Is there anyone in your school or neighborhood that seems to be rejected or feared? Do you reject anyone? The leper went to tell everyone what had happened, because he was grateful. When someone does something for you, do you show gratefulness?

#### **Activity**

Act the gospel as it happened in the time of Jesus. Then relate the story to modern times. Who is rejected or left out? How do we invite those people to come into the circle?

#### **Prayer**

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





**Friends of Jesus and Mary**  
**Ash Wednesday - February 18, 2015**

*Readings: Joel 2:12-18; Psalm 51:3-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6,16-18*

**Lent: Time to return to God**

Make certain you do not perform your religion duties in public, so that people will see what you do. If you do these things publicly, you will not have a reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give something to a needy person, do not make a big show of it, as the hypocrites do in the houses of worship and on the streets. They do it so that people will praise them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. But when you help a needy person, do it in such a way that even your closest friend will not know about it. Then it will be a private matter. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you. When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites! They love to stand up and pray in houses of worship and on the street corners, so that everyone will see them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. But when you pray, go to your room, close the door, and pray to your Father who is unseen. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you. And when you fast, do not put on a sad face as the hypocrites do. They neglect their appearance so that everyone will see that they are fasting. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. When you go without food, wash your face and comb your hair, so that others cannot know that you are fasting, only your Father, who is unseen, will know. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you." **(Matthew 6, 1-6, 16-18)**

**Reflection**

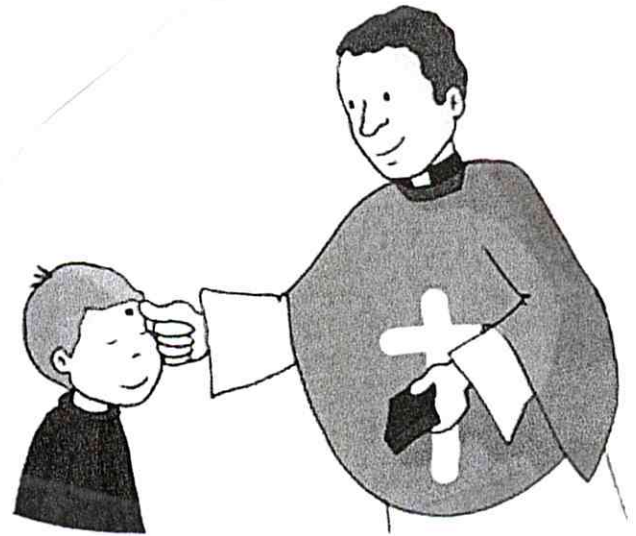
The Lenten practices (prayer, fasting, and almsgiving) are expressions of our desire to draw closer to God, and not reasons to brag about our goodness. Jesus says that more important than what people do or give up for Lent is what they do because they love God and God loves them. What do you think would please Jesus that you could do this Lent? Share what each one would offer.

**Activity**

Prepare a money box for each child. Ask them to place in it some of the money they receive from their parents for food or something they wanted to have. In this way they will offer a sacrifice to Jesus of something they wanted to have. At the end of Lent give it as a group to the needy children.

**Prayer**

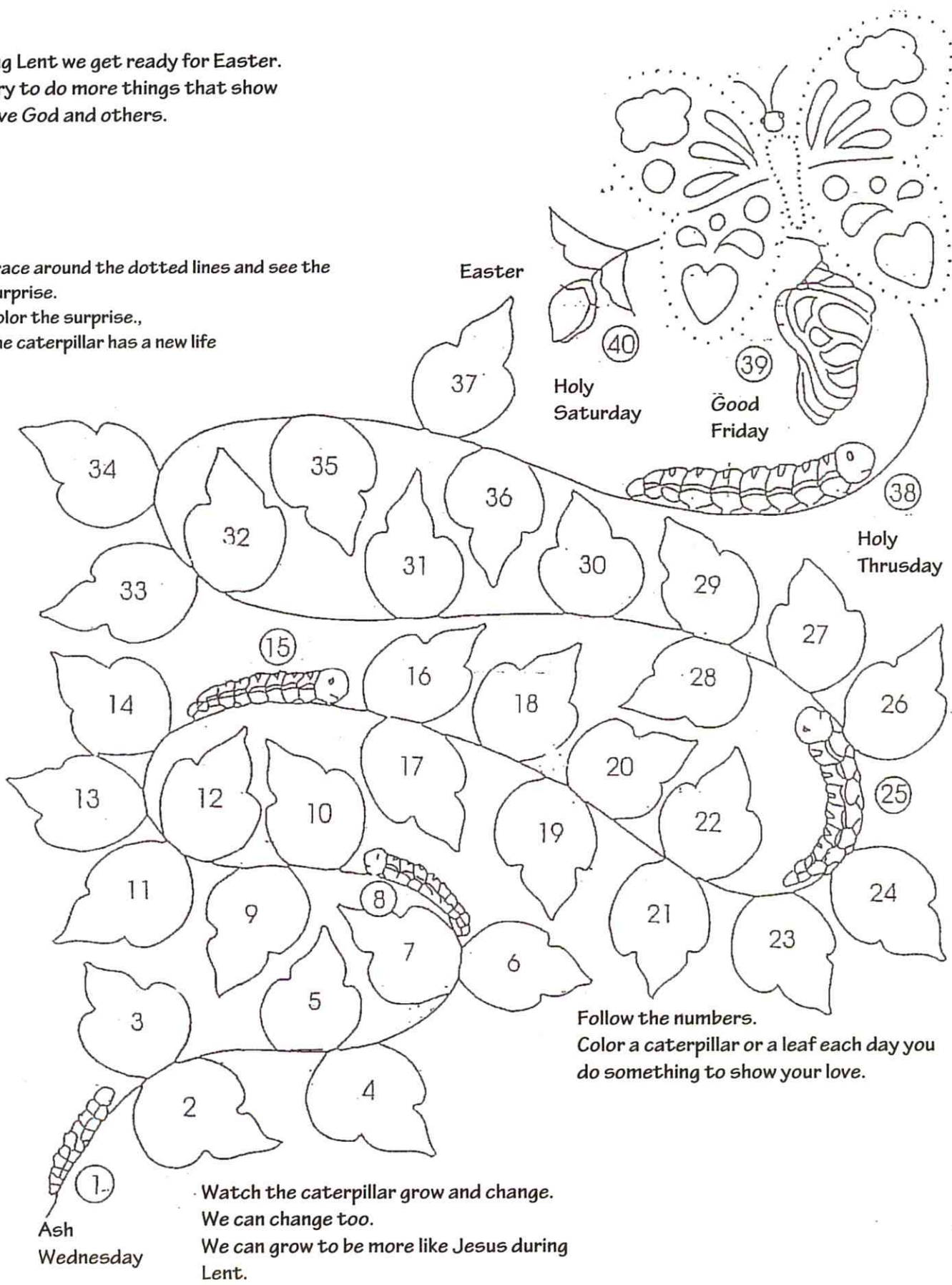
Lord, these ashes remind us of our origin on earth and our destiny, which is you. Rekindle our fire, our love for you and one another, and lead us to a new life of love, affection, compassion and forgiveness. **Amen.**



# A Time to Grow and Change

During Lent we get ready for Easter.  
We try to do more things that show  
we love God and others.

Trace around the dotted lines and see the  
surprise.  
Color the surprise.,  
The caterpillar has a new life



Follow the numbers.  
Color a caterpillar or a leaf each day you  
do something to show your love.

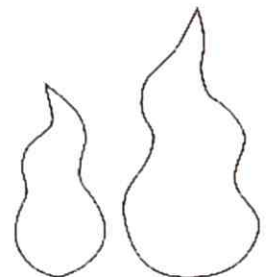
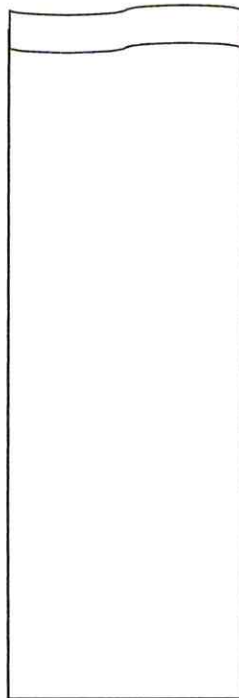
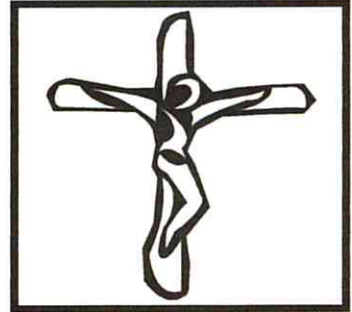
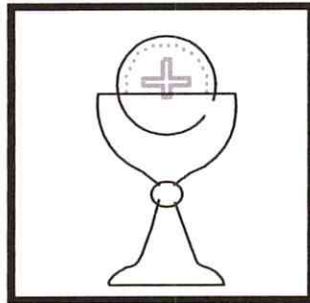
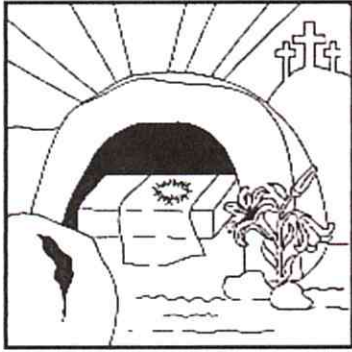
Watch the caterpillar grow and change.  
We can change too.  
We can grow to be more like Jesus during  
Lent.

Ash  
Wednesday



# JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT TO EASTER

Pattern to prepare a big poster for your group



# JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT TO EASTER

In Lent we remember the 40 days Jesus spend in the desert.

Time when we prayerfully examine the times we have failed and pray for the guidance and strength of the Holy Spirit to be with us and help us become closer to God and his ways.

We fast on Ash Wednesday and Fridays and Good Fridays during the Lent.

We make an extra effort to give to those in need, with the works of Mercy.

As leader we can help the children and their families in this journey since Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Instruction:

You will need to cut 47 shoe print in construction paper (one for each day of lent)

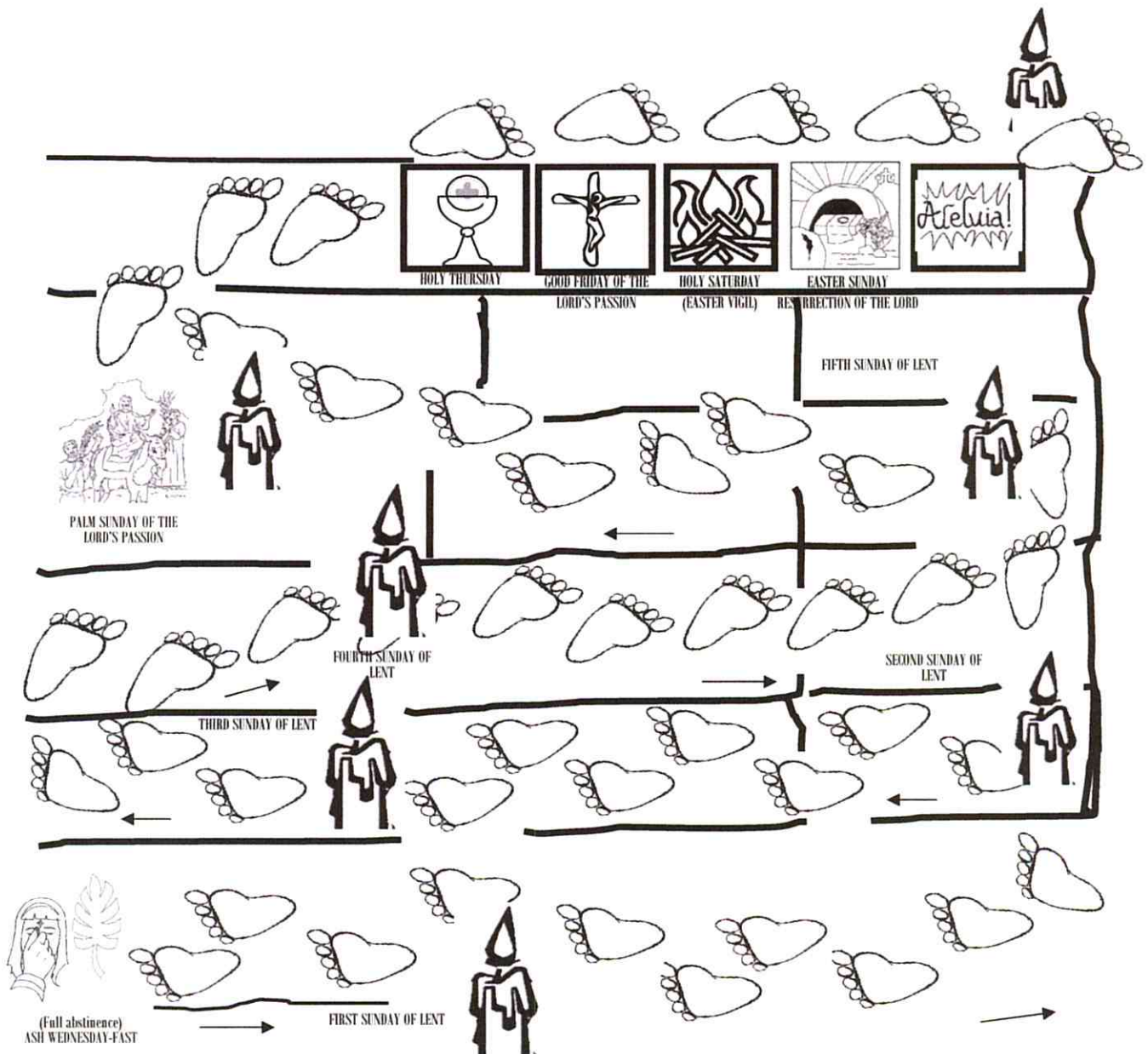
The flame and the branch as a symbol of the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

6 Candles one for each Sunday of Lent and Palm and Easter Sunday.

The pictures to represent Palm/Sunday, Holy Thursday, good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Assemble your path in the bulletin board. Each day you get together note what day of Lent it is.

Color in the shoe print since the last time you were together and ask God to bless your Lenten journey.





# St. Josephine BAKHITA



St. Josephine was born in Sudan (Africa). Her family was pagan, which means that they were not Christian. She lived happily with her parents, her three brothers and two sisters. One day, she was out in the fields with one of her friends, near her house, when all of a sudden two strange men appeared behind her. She tried to escape, but she couldn't. The men kidnapped her and sold her as a slave. Josephine never saw her family again.

She had many owners who treated her badly, but she never hated anyone. She was eventually sold to an Italian man who treated her very well and took her with him to Italy. As slavery was prohibited there, Josephine was set free. It was in Italy that she first heard about Jesus and about that God who, from a young age, she had felt so close to her heart without knowing who He was. For the first time in her life she was completely happy. She said, "If I came across the slave traders who kidnapped me, and even those who tortured me, I would kneel down and kiss their hands, because if all that had not occurred, I would not be a Christian and a religious sister today."

# St. Josephine BAKHITA

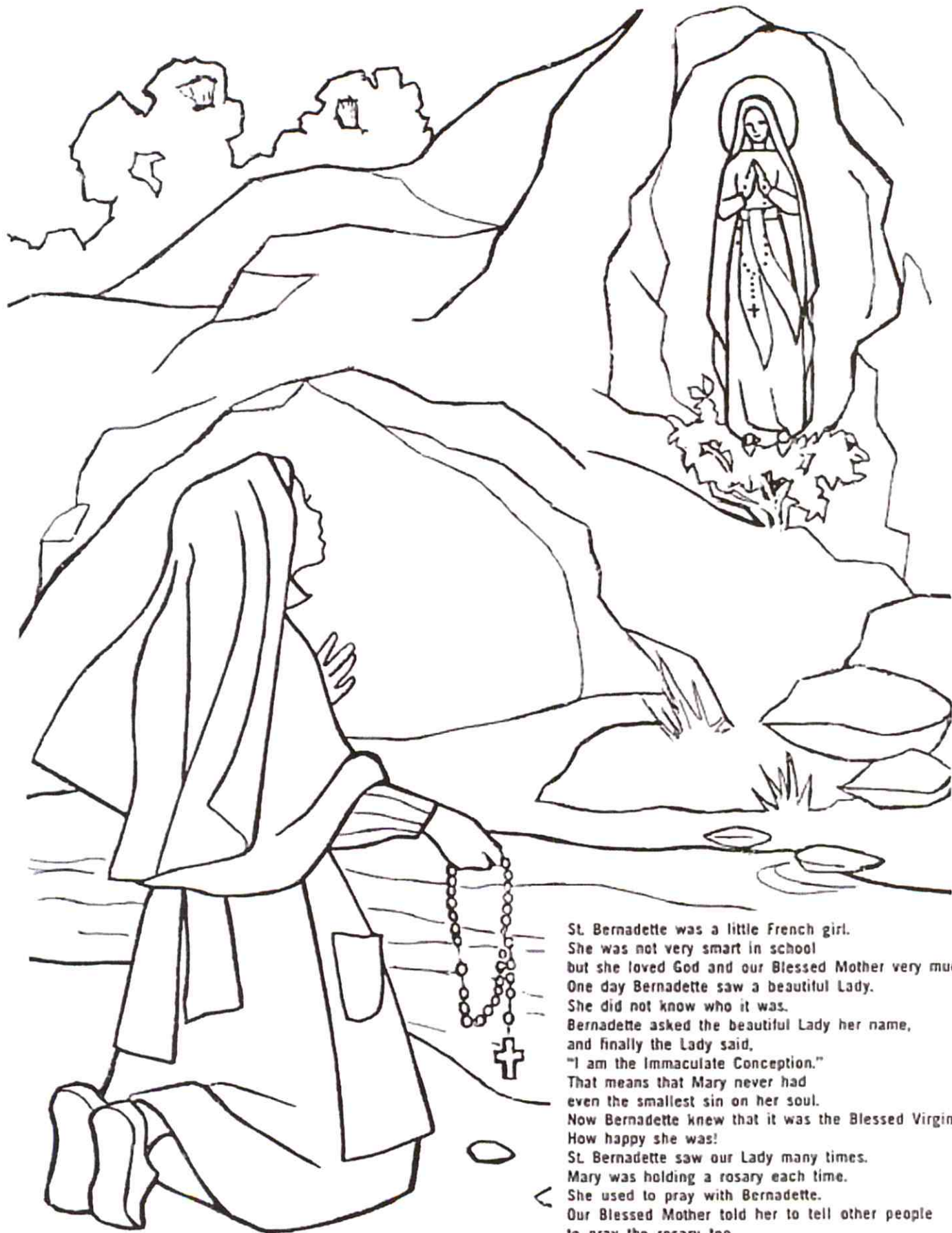


**Name:** Josephine Margaret Bakhita  
**Place of Birth:** Olgossa, Darfur, Sudan  
**Tribe:** Nubia  
**Date of Birth:** in the year 1869  
**Known for:** her humility, her extraordinary strength, and her supernatural spirit of forgiveness. She was a slave and after converting to Christianity became a religious sister. She is the first Sudanese saint ever.  
**Place and Date of Death:** Schio (Italy), 1947  
**Feast:** February 8  
**Patroness of:** Sudan



**NAME:** JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

**FEAST:** FEBRUARY 8



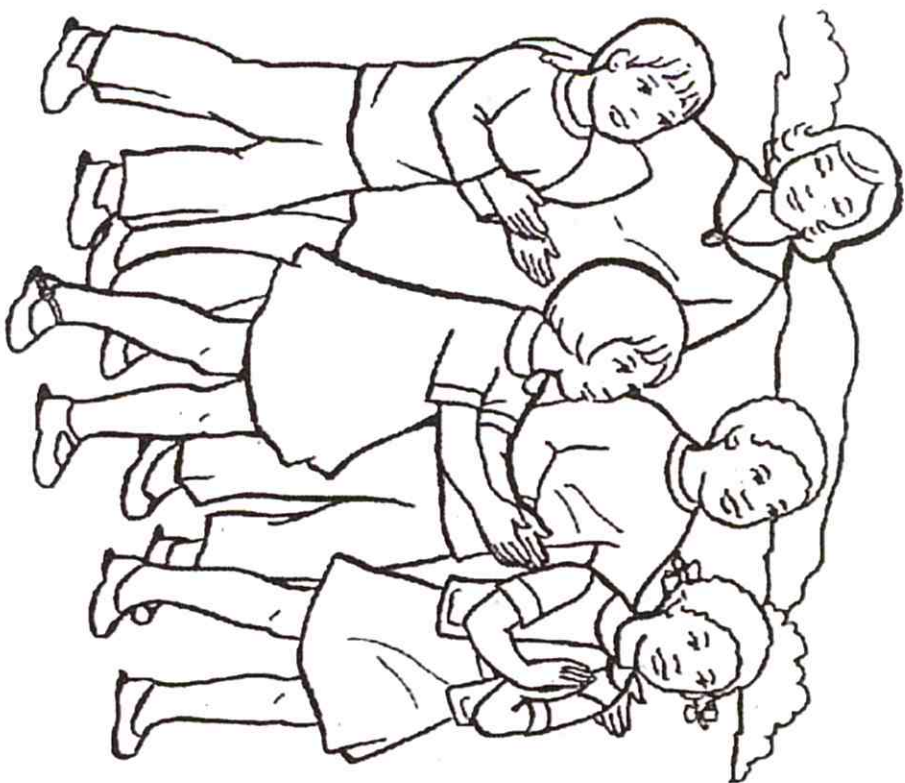
St. Bernadette was a little French girl. She was not very smart in school but she loved God and our Blessed Mother very much. One day Bernadette saw a beautiful Lady. She did not know who it was. Bernadette asked the beautiful Lady her name, and finally the Lady said, "I am the Immaculate Conception." That means that Mary never had even the smallest sin on her soul. Now Bernadette knew that it was the Blessed Virgin! How happy she was! St. Bernadette saw our Lady many times. Mary was holding a rosary each time. She used to pray with Bernadette. Our Blessed Mother told her to tell other people to pray the rosary too. There are many beautiful names for our Lady. One of them is "Our Lady of Lourdes." That is the name of the town where St. Bernadette saw her.

## OUR LADY OF LOURDES

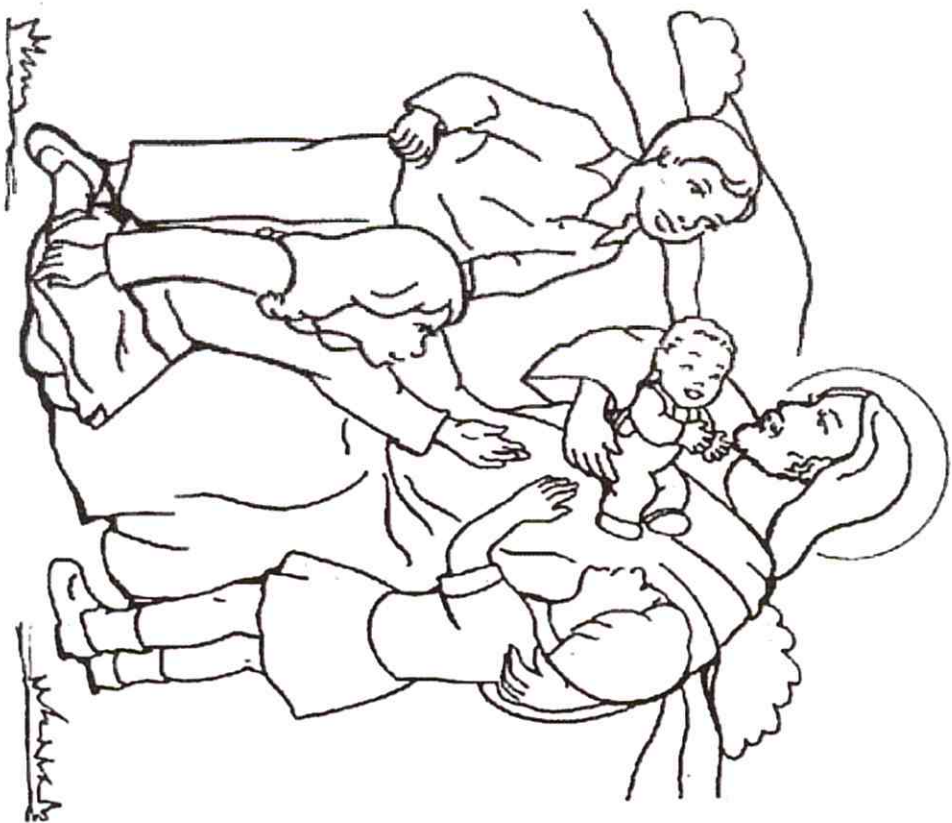
February 11

Like St. Bernadette, I will tell others about the rosary. I will pray it as well as I can in order to receive many favors from our Blessed Mother.

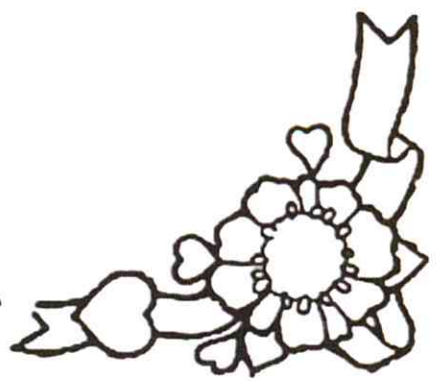
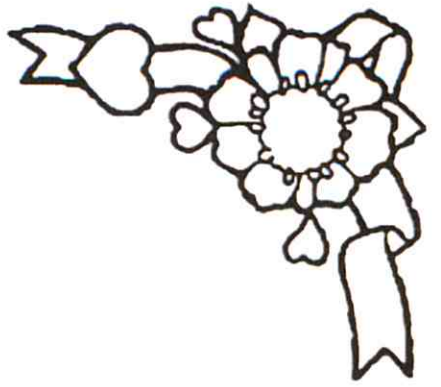
# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me.."

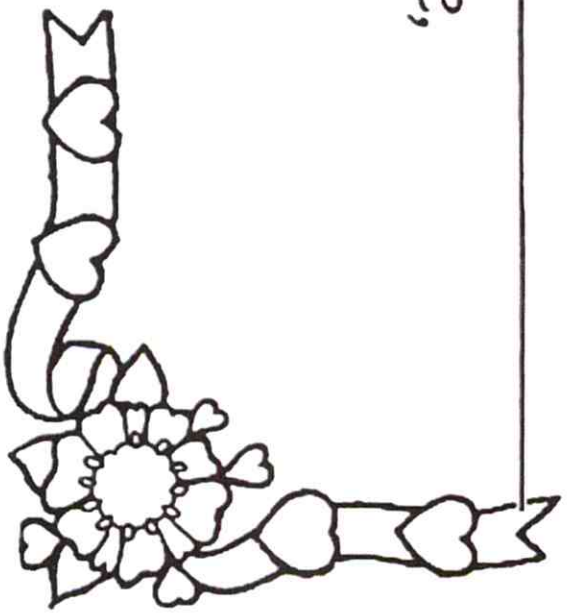


Jesus loves little children and gives them His blessings.



to \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy Valentine's  
Day

\_\_\_\_\_  
with love,  
From,





### Memory Verse

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name

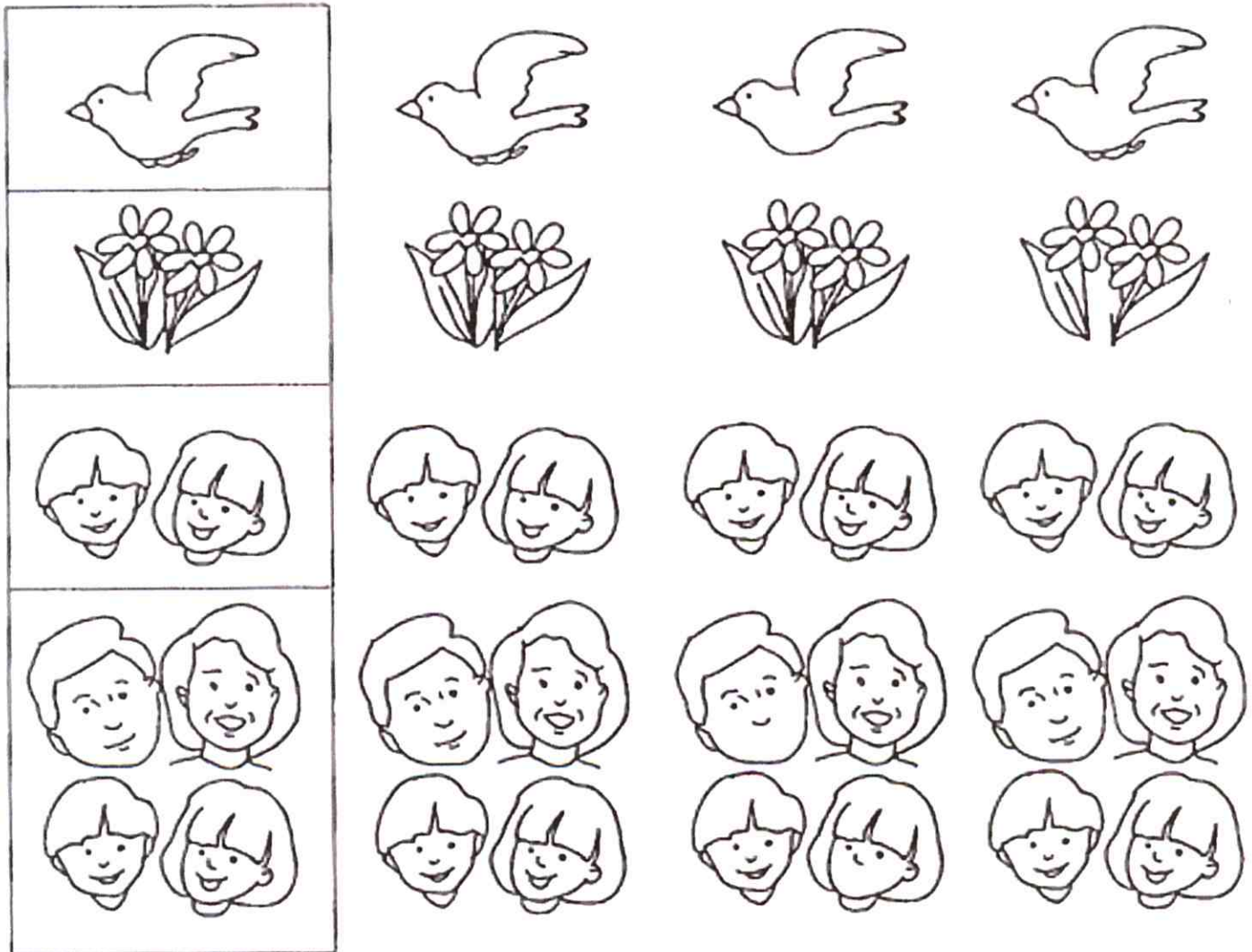
*Matthew 6:9*

### Teacher Talk

Say, Jesus taught His friends how to pray. He told them that God was their Heavenly Father and that He was holy. Jesus said, "Do not worry about your life. Your Father in heaven takes care of the birds. He will also take care of you." Jesus wanted them to know that God loved them and will care for them. Jesus also said, "Don't worry about what you wear. Look at the flowers. They don't make clothes. But God the Father dresses them beautifully." Jesus said that all we need to worry is loving God. He will take care of the rest.

### ► Which one is different?

God the Father takes care of us all. Look at the pictures in each row. Color the pictures in each row that look the same as the first picture in that row.



# OUR FATHER -



Our Father who art in heaven,



hallowed be Thy name;



Thy Kingdom come;



Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.



Give us this day our daily bread;



and forgive us our trespasses,



as we forgive those who trespass against us,



and lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.





## ***Friends of Jesus and Mary***

***1st Sunday of Lent- February 22, 2015***

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

### ***Jesus says no***

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

### ***Reflection***

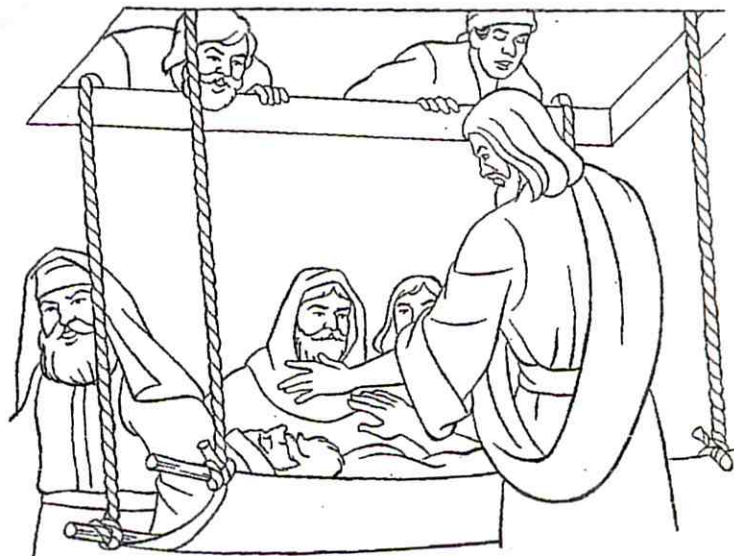
Jesus prepares for his mission by praying; He resists the temptation to look for something easier and goes out to preach inviting all to a new life. Do you sometimes feel tempted not to do what adults ask of you? Do you ask God to be with you when you are about to do something important? Of all the things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

### ***Activity***

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

### ***Prayer***

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



# SOME TIPS TO DO IN LENT

*The Heart of Jesus is full of merciful love for you: His Heart is moved by your need.*

*Let your heart be moved by someone else's need.*


## Do some of the works of Mercy that Jesus did:

- ☺ Give food to the hungry
- ☺ Give drink to the thirsty
- ☺ Clothe the poor
- ☺ Shelter the homeless
- ☺ Visit the sick
- ☺ Help prisoners

Teach those who need to learn  
Help those who have doubts  
Encourage sinners to change  
Be patient when you are hurt  
Forgive those who hurt you  
Comfort the sad and suffering  
Pray for those who are living  
Pray for those who are dead.

## Sacred Heart Minute Prayers

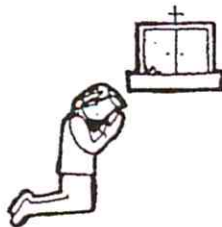
♥ Jesus, your Heart is gentle and humble, make my heart like yours

 Jesus, you died for me because you love me. Help me to live for you!




Keep the picture of Jesus in a place of honor at home

Stop by the church after school.  
Visit Jesus in the tabernacle.



 Sacred Heart of Jesus, I love You!

 Sacred Heart of Jesus, I give my heart to you and to our Mother Mary.

✝ Heart of Jesus  
You are full of goodness and love.  
Have mercy on me.

Be kind, say gentle words.



People You Will Prayer For