

Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María



April, 2016

Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sister:

April 03, We celebrate Sunday of Divine Mercy. Teach the children about this beautiful Sunday and encourage to continue visit the Blessed Sacraments during this month.

**Enclosed you will find some Feast and Saints of the month:**

Abril	04	The Annunciation of the Lord
Abril	07	St John Baptist de la Salle
Abril	11	St Stanislaus
Abril	25	St Mark
Abril	29	St. Catherine of Siena

**Enclosed material and activities:**

- 1) Calendar & Meditations on the Sunday Gospel
- 2) God' Rules for You and Me
- 3) Model of the Good Shepherd-Activity of 4 Sunday
- 4) Grow in God's Love
- 5) Works of Mercy -Spiritual
- 6) Comfort & compassion
- 7) St Benedict Joseph Labre

Suggest Videos:

- 1 Easter
2. The Merciful of Jesus
3. The Eucharist
4. The Story of Sister Faustina

May God bless you,  
Friends of Jesus and Mary



# April 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 FIRST FRIDAY OCTAVE OF EASTER  Acts 4, 1-12 Psalm 117 John 21, 1-14	2 FIRST SATURDAY OCTAVE OF EASTER  Acts 4, 13-21 Psalm 117 Mark 16, 9-15
3 2nd Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy Mercy Acts 5, 12-16 Psalm 117 Rev 1, 9-11a.12-13.17-19 John 20, 19-31	4 THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD  Acts 4, 23-31 Psalm 2 John 3, 1-8	5 ST VINCENT FERRER  Acts 4, 32-37 Psalm 92 John 3, 5a-7b-15	6  Acts 5, 17-26 Psalm 33 John 3, 16-21	7 ST JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE  Acts 5, 27-33 Psalm 33 John 3, 31-36	8  Acts 5, 34-42 Psalm 26 John 6, 1-15	9  Acts 6, 1-7 Psalm 32 John 6, 16-21
10 3rd Sunday of Easter  Acts 5, 27b.32.40b-41 Psalm 29 Rev 5, 11-14 John 21. 1-19	11 ST. STANISLAUS  Acts 6, 8-15 Psalm 118 John 6, 22-29	12  Acts 7, 51-8, 1a Psalm 30 John 6, 30-35	13  Acts 8, 1-8 Psalm 65 John 6, 35-40	14  Acts 8, 26-40 Psalm 65 John 6, 44-51	15  Acts 9, 1-20 Psalm 116 John 6, 52-59	16  Acts 9, 31-42 Psalm 115 John 6, 60-69
17 4th Sunday of Easter  Acts 13, 14.43-52 Psalm 99 Rev 7, 9.14b-17 John 10, 27-30	18  Acts 11, 1-18 Psalm 41-42 John 10, 1-10	19  Acts 11, 19-26 Psalm 86 John 10, 22-30	20  Acts 12, 24--13, 5a Psalm 66 John 12, 44-50	21 ST ANSELM  Acts 13, 13-25 Psalm 88 John 13, 16-20	22 EARTH DAY  Acts 13, 26-33 Psalm 2 John 14, 1-6	23 ST. GEORGE ST. ADALBERT  Acts 13, 44-52 Psalm 97 John 14, 7-14
24 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER  Acts 14, 21b-27 Psalm 144 Rev 21, 1-5a John 13, 31-33a.34-35	25 ST MARK  Acts 14, 5-18 Psalm 113 John 14, 21-26	26  Acts 14, 19-28 Psalm 144 John 14, 27-31a	27  Acts 15, 1-6 Psalm 121 John 15, 1-8	28 ST. LOUIS GRIGNION MONTFORT  Acts 15, 7-21 Psalm 95 John 15, 9-11	29 ST CATHERINE OF SIENA  Acts 15, 22-31 Psalm 56 John 15, 12-17	30 ST PIUS V  Acts 16, 1-10 Psalm 99 John 15, 18-21

FLORIDA



***Friends of Jesus and Mary***  
***Second Sunday of Easter April 03, 2016***

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

***Jesus Appears to His Disciples***

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

***Reflection***

Imagine the scene. How do we 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.**





***Friends of Jesus and Mary***  
***Third Sunday of Easter April 10, 2016***

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

***Jesus appears to His disciples / Sunday of the Divine Mercy***

At that time, Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way. Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We also will come with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord." When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish. When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

***Reflection***

In the readings of this week Jesus lets 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 you 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?

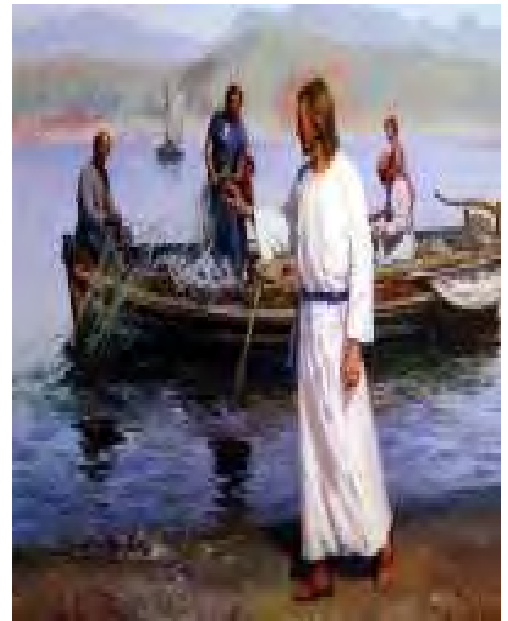
Share

***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, you 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.**



# 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.



For me, announcements are God's rules for you and me too. 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 loves 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 alone.

## God's Second Rule **HONOR GOD'S NAME**



I will pray the right way and God's name loudly 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

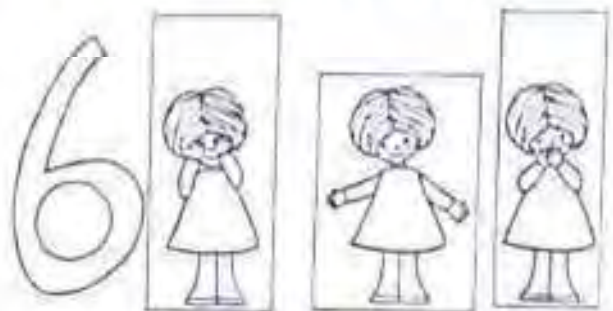


I'm just a little girl

to be kind to my sister

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 good or break



such happiness, I make

God's Eighth Rule

## BE TRUTHFUL



If I feel I can't talk  
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 show - yours and mine

show in heaven all the time



***Friends of Jesus and Mary***  
***Fourth Sunday of Easter April 17, 2016***

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

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

***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? What things do not let you listen to Jesus? TV, bad friends, video games, rock music?

***Activity***

Bring cut sheep to the group. Ask them to 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 in 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.**





MODEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND  
THE SHEEPS FOR THE ACTIVITY OF  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER





1. To admonish the sinner.



2. To instruct the ignorant.



3. To counsel the doubtful.

4. To comfort the sorrowful.



7. To pray for the living and the dead.



APRIL 27  
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



6. To forgive injuries.



5. To bear wrongdoings patiently.

**Comfort and  
Compassion**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

As Christians, we cherish the life of all people. We foster the physical life of everyone by practicing the Corporal Works of Mercy.

In each box, write a sentence or draw a picture showing how you can practice the Corporal Works of Mercy.

Feed the Hungry	Give drink to the Thirsty
Clothe the Naked	Visit the Sick
Shelter the Homeless	Visit the Imprisoned
Bury the Dead	



***Friends of Jesus and Mary***  
***5th Sunday of Easter April 24, 2016***

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

***The New Commandment***

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

***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***

On the next page you will find the 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.

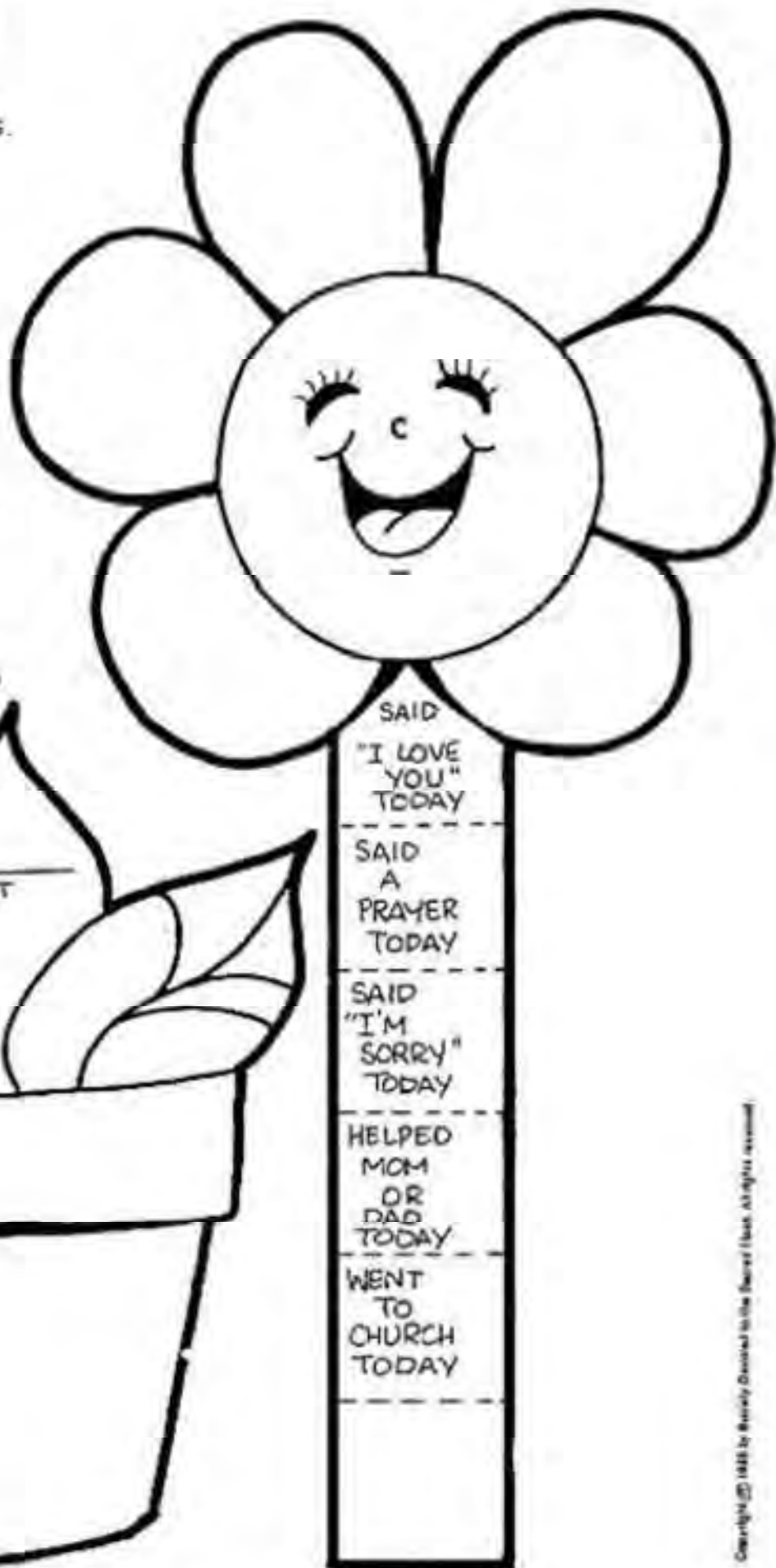
Color the flower and flower pot. Lightly color the stem.

Cut the slit on the lead carefully.

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

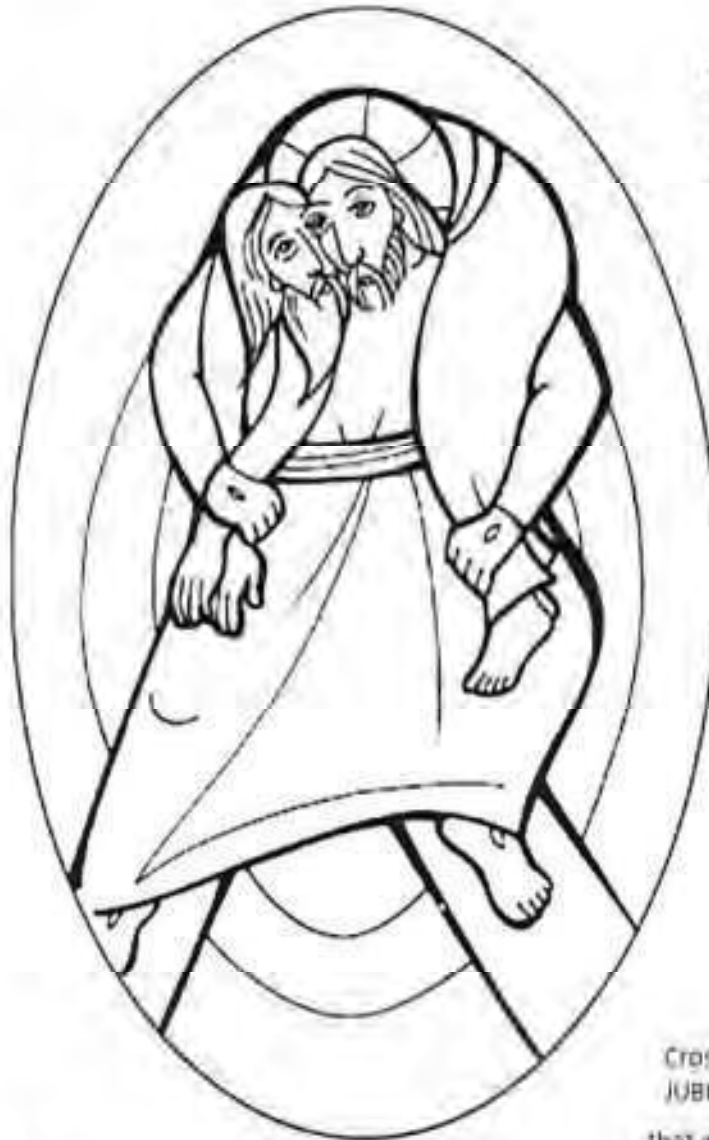
Each day you do one of the good deeds that you see printed on the stem, you may make the flower grow taller. Just pull it up a little.

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.



# Logo for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

For  
Coloring



Did you know?  
The logo is the  
work of a Jesuit  
Priest

P. Marko J.  
Rupnik

Cross out the words  
JUBILEE and LOGO

that are repeated, then  
read the theme that goes  
with the logo.

**The Theme of the Jubilee of Mercy  
is from the Gospel of Luke:**

LOGOJUBILEEMERCIFULLOGOLOGOMUBILEELIKEJUBILEELOGOTH  
ELOGOJUBILEELOGOFATHERJUBILEELOGOLOGOJUBILEE

## Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

The Year of Mercy started December 8, 2015 and will end  
November 20 2016

### What does the word Jubilee mean?

The word "jubilee" is derived from the Hebrew word "jobel" which means "ram's horn"; since it was that horn which was used to announce the beginning of the jubilee year, a year of the Lord's favor. In the Jubilee Year of Mercy, God gives a general forgiveness and calls us to a deeper relationship with Him and with each other. He also invites us to conversion.



### A little bit of history...

The Catholic Church started the tradition of the Holy Year (or Jubilee) with Pope Boniface VIII in the year 1300. This pope planned the realization of a Jubilee every 100 years. But in the year 1475 (to allow every generation to experience at least one Holy Year) an ordinary jubilee was realized every 25 years

An Extraordinary Jubilee, on the other hand, is proclaimed on special occasions

There have been 26 Holy Years celebrated to date. The last one was The Jubilee for the Year 2000 to commemorate the 2000 anniversary of the birth of Christ. Do you remember it?

### What happened in the beginning of the Jubilee Year?

The initial ritual of the Jubilee Year is the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. This door is only opened during a Jubilee Year and remains closed the rest of the time. The Pope must tap the door three times with a hammer while he says: "Open for me the doors of justice. Upon entering through them, I will confess to the Lord."

The ritual of opening the Holy Door, expresses symbolically that, during this jubilee time, the faithful are offered an "extraordinary way" to salvation.

When it's opened, the "Te Deum" is sung and the Holy Father passes through the door with his companions.



Search for and cross out the syllables of the underlined words in the text (they are mixed up).  
Read the theme of the Jubilee.

for	mer	horn	con	ci	ba	ful
ho	like	bi	con	ju	the	ness
give	fa	sal	si	ly	va	li
tion	ther	ver	lee	sion	ca	je



# St. Benedict Joseph Labre

**B**enedict Joseph Labre had a very peculiar vocation. God asked him to live like a beggar.

He walked throughout all of Europe on a non-stop pilgrimage to shrines, talking to Jesus and Mary all the time. He slept on the ground outdoors and ate whatever he was given. He never wanted money and gave it to others.



One day, he came to a square where children were playing. One of them, upon seeing him, was stunned. Benedict was pale and very skinny, and his clothes were dirty and tattered. The other children stopped playing, too. "Poor guy," murmured one of them "he must be tired and hungry."

Upon hearing this, Benedict turned to them and exclaimed radiant, "**If you only knew how happy I am!**" Certainly, he was very happy because he had something that all the riches in the world could not compare to: **he had God** in his heart.

## St. Benedict Joseph Labre

*beggar*

● **Last names:** Labre Gransire

**His parents:** Jean-Baptiste Labre and Anne-Barbe Gransire

**Birthday:** March 26th, 1748 in Amettes, France.

**Stood out for:** his profound humility, poverty and penance. He left everything to live like a beggar dedicated to prayer. He had a great love for Jesus in the Eucharist.

● **Death:** April 16th, 1783 in Rome, Italy.



**Feast day:**  
April 16th