



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

February, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In this month let us try to encourage our children to love God, our family, friends and neighbors, stressing how important it is to ask for forgiveness from any one we have offended.

Important feast and Saints:

February 02 Presentation of the Lord
February 03 St. Blaise-blessing of the throats
February 05 St. Agatha
February 06 St. Paul Miki and Companions
February 11 Our Lady of Lourdes
February 14 St. Cyril & Methodius
February 14 Valentine Day
February 18 St. Bernadette Soubirois

Enclosed materials and activities:

- 1) Monthly Meditations & Calendar on the Sunday Gospel
- 2) Presentation of the Lord
- 3) Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
- 4) Activity: Valentine cards for the elderly
- 5) Jesus Cures a Leper, coloring page
- 6) Activity: Lenten Commitment Cross
- 7) Lenten Activity page
- 8) Activity: Overcoming Temptation
- 9) The Transfiguration, coloring page
- 10) St. Blaise story and coloring

Suggested Dvd's

- 1) Our Lady of Lourdes
- 2) St. Bernadette
- 3) The Princess of Lourdes

May God bless you always,

Friends of Jesus & Mary

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45 S.W. 71 Ave., Miami, FL 33144 – Tel: (305) 412-1777 – E-mail: amigo_jym_miami@fcpeace.com

Webpage: www.fcpeace.com



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February 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND 1 Kings 2, 1-4.10-12 Psalm/1 Co 29, 10-12 Mark 6, 7-13	2 FIRST FRIDAY PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Malachi 3, 1-4 Psalm 23, 7-10 He 2, 14-18 Luke 2, 22-40	3 FIRST SATURDAY ST. BLAISE THROAT DISEASES 1 Kings 3, 4-13 Psalm 118 Mark 6, 30-34
4 5TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME Job 7, 1-4, 6-7 Psalm 146 1 Cor 9,16-19.22-23 Mark 1, 29-39	5 ST AGATHA PATRONESS OF NURSES 1 Kings 8, 1-7.9-13 Psalm 131 Mark 6, 53-56	6 ST. PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS 1 Kings 8, 22-23.27-30 Psalm 83 Mark 7, 1-13	7 1 Kings 10, 1-10 Psalm 36,5-6.30-31 39-40 Mark 7, 14-23	8 1 Kings 11, 4-13 Psalm 105 Mark 7, 24-30	9 1Kings 11, 29-32;12,19 Psalm 80 Mark 7, 31-37	10 ST. SCHOLASTICA 1 Kings 12, 26-32;13, 33-34 Psalm 105 Mark 8, 1-10
11 6TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME Lv 13, 1-2.44-46 Psalm 31 1 Co 10, 31-11.1 Mark 1, 40-45	12 James 1, 1-11 Psalm 118 Mark 8, 11-13	13 James 1, 12-18 Psalm 93 Mark 8, 14-21	14 ASH WEDNESDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE Joel 2, 12-18 Psalm 50, 3-6.12-14 2 Co 5, 20-6, 2 Matthew 6,1-6. 16-18	15 Dt 30, 15-20 Psalm 1, 1-6 Luke 9, 22-25	16 ABSTINENCE Isaiah 58, 1-9a Psalm 50 Matthew 9, 14-15	17 SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITES Isaiah 58, 9b-14 Psalm 85, 1-6 Luke 5, 27-32
18 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT Genesis 9, 8-15 Psalm 24, 4b-9 1 P 3, 18-22 Mark 1, 12-15	19 PRESIDENTS' DAY USA Lv 19, 1-2. 11-18 Psalm 18 Matthew 25, 31-46	20 Isaiah 55, 10-11 Psalm 33 Matthew 6, 7-15	21 ST. PETER DAMIAN Jonah 3, 1-10 Psalm 50 Luke 11, 29-32	22 CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE FEAST 1 Peter 5, 1-4 Psalm 22 Matthew	23 ST. POLICARP BISHOP ABSTINENCE Ezekiel 18, 21-28 Psalm 129 Matthew 5, 20-26	24 Dt 26, 6-19 Psalm 118 Matthew 5, 43-48
25 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT Gn 22,1-2.9a.15-18 Psalm 115 Ro 8, 31b-34 Mark 9, 1-9	26 ST ALEXANDER OF ALEXANDRIA Daniel 9, 4-10 Psalm 78 Luke 6, 36-38	27 Isaiah 1, 10.16-20 Psalm 49 Matthew 23	28 ST. HILARY POPE Jr 18, 18-20 Psalm 30 Matthew 20, 17-28			

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Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – February 2, 2018

Malachi 3: 1-4; Psalm 24: 7.8.9.10; Hebrews 2: 14-18; Luke 2: 22-32

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 first-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.”

Reflection

Imagine the scene. How does 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? Is it sometimes hard for you to say the truth? How can you bring light to others?

Activity

Make a list of things the children can do to bring light to the world. Give a cutout of a candle to each and have them draw how they can be light to others on the candle. Present them to Jesus:

Prayer

Lord, you ask us to be a light for others, 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, envy, and sadness. Make us light so that all may see the smile of your love. Amen



Song: This Little Light of Mine, Cedermont Kids,
(Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/yRhDi2aK5ac>



<p>bury the dead</p>	<h2>The Corporal Works of Mercy</h2> <p>Name _____</p>	<p>give food to the hungry</p>	<p>visit the</p> <p>imprisoned</p>
<p>comfort the sick</p>	<p>give drink to the thirsty</p>	<p>shelter the homeless</p>	<p>clothe the naked</p>

<p>forgive offenses willingly</p> <p>"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." ~Matthew 6:14</p>	<h2>The Spiritual Works of Mercy</h2> <p>Name _____</p>	<p>comfort the sorrowful</p> <p>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." ~Matthew 5:4</p>	<p>"We have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." ~Colossians 1:9</p> <p>instruct the ignorant</p> <p>"The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; fools despise wisdom and instruction." ~Proverbs 1:7</p>
<p>bear wrongs patiently</p> <p>"Put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; bearing with one another and forgiving each other." ~Colossians 3:12-13</p>	<p>admonish the sinner</p> <p>"If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him." ~Luke 17:3</p>	<p>counsel the doubtful</p> <p>"We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone." ~1 Thessalonians 5:14</p>	<p>"We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you." ~Colossians 1:3</p> <p>pray for the living and the dead</p> <p>"Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be absolved from their sin." ~2 Maccabees 12:46</p>



Friends of Jesus and Mary

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 4, 2018

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147, 1-2.3-4.5-6; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Jesus is Compassionate

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 I have come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

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 other members of the family do and feel? (concerned, sad, trusting in God) Do they pray to God for the needs of people around them? Do they know people who are always serving others? How can they bring joy to a sick person they know.

Activity

Have the children make cards for elderly in retirement homes. Take them to deliver the cards on Valentines Day, or take them and take pictures for the children to see. (Corporal Work of Mercy)

Prayer

Lord, you came to earth to show us how to serve and love our neighbor. You also healed those sick of body or spirit. Give us the strength we need to endure all and the generosity to serve others. Amen.

Song: Make me a Servant, Gee Bee

(Ctrl Click: <https://youtu.be/M P o41eN5k>)





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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 11, 2018

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

Jesus Heals a Leper

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me 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.

Reflection

Jesus approaches even those that are rejected by everyone else. Is there anyone in your school or neighborhood that is rejected? 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 gratitude?

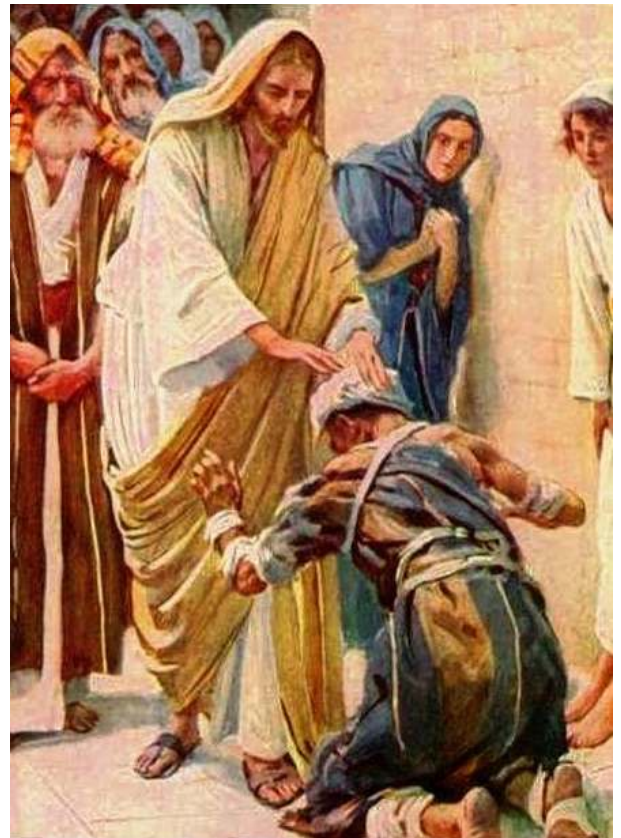
Activity

Act out the gospel as it happened in the time of Jesus. Then relate the story to modern times. Who do you know who is rejected or left out? How can you invite those people to come into your circle of friends? (Spiritual Work of Mercy, Comfort the Sorrowful)

Prayer

Lord, in your great compassion, you reject no one. Teach us to see everyone as your beloved child so that we don't reject, judge, or separate anyone from the community. Thank you for your great compassion on us. Give us the joy of your salvation so that we can share it with others. Amen

Song: Love One Another Lullaby, Dakota Pyle
(Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/p9diFwUly4M>





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Ash Wednesday --February 14, 2018

Joel 2:12-18; Psalm 51:3-4,5-6,12-13,14,17; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Mathew 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 you Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you.

Reflection

Remembering the 40 days that Jesus was in the desert preparing to start His public ministry, we also prepare for the great feast of Easter with prayer and sacrifices with the end of converting our hearts to Jesus. In this way we die to sin and live a life with the Risen Christ.

Activity

Like Jesus, we Catholics, for 40 days, offer up our prayers, sacrifices, and Works of Mercy. Color the following cross. Have the children write their Lenten promise of prayer and sacrifice on the back. Have them take the crosses home to remind them daily.

Prayer

Lord, you call us to remember that you are our true Home and our true life. Help us, Lord, on our journey back to you, so we can live a life as your faithful children. Help us to accept your love and to let go of everything in our life that displeases you. Amen

Song: Change My Heart O God, Johnnyalbert

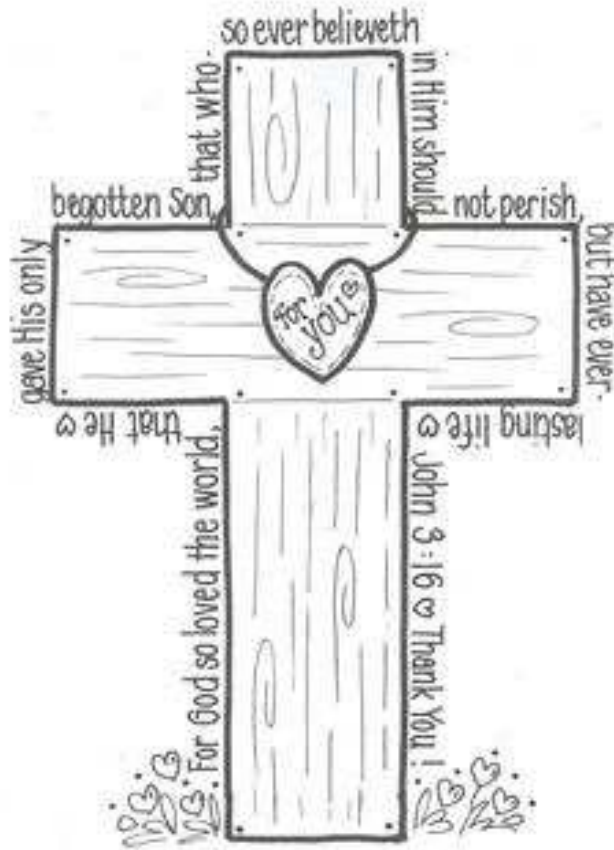
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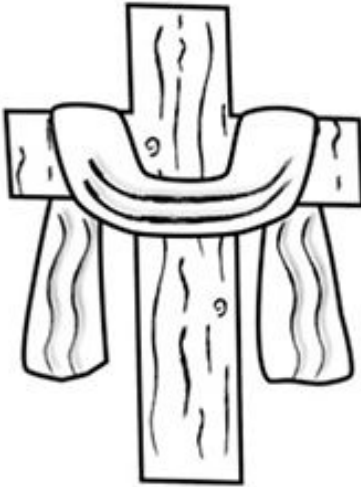


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Find all ten words:

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

Unscramble these Lenten Words

TRYFO YASD _____

HSESA _____

NLTE _____

TISFGNA _____

One thing I can do during Lent to bring me closer to God...

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1st Sunday of Lent- February 18, 2018

Genesis 9: 8-15; Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9; 1Peter 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."

Reflection

Jesus prepares for his mission by praying and Fasting for 40 days in the desert. Do you pray And ask God to be with you when you are about To do something important? In the desert, Satan Tempted Jesus, in hopes of destroying God's plan Of salvation. Do you sometimes feel tempted not to do what adults ask of you? Do you ask God for help when you're tempted to disobey?

Activity

Have the children write on papers shaped like hearts: on one side, the name of a person they need to forgive, and on the other side something they can give away to someone in need. Put the Hearts in a basket and take them to the altar. Ask God to fill their hearts with forgiveness and generosity. (Works of Mercy: Spiritual (Forgive), Corporal (Clothe the Naked) The group can start the Way of the Cross.

Prayer

Lord, sometimes we seek what's easiest. Give us a spirit of sacrifice and strength in our temptations. Help us to follow you in obedience and in serving our neighbor. Fill our hearts with love and forgiveness for those who hurt us. Amen

Song: Forgive One Another, Integrity Kids
(Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/fKcixWal9-0>

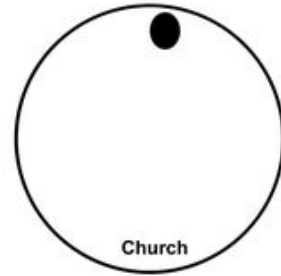
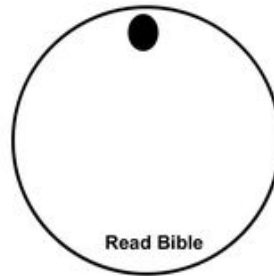
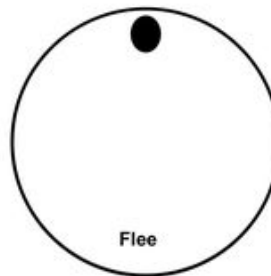




Overcoming Temptation

1 Corinthians 10:12-22

Using the template below, cut out and draw in the circles the different ways to avoid temptation. String together and make a hanging mobile.



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Second Sunday of Lent February 25, 2018

Gen: 22: 1-2.9a, 10-13, 15-18; Psalm 116:10, 15 16-17, 18-19; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10

The Transfiguration

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Reflection

The experience of the Transfiguration gives us a glimpse of the promise of a world far beyond our own imagination and dreams. Jesus invites his friends to know that he is the true Son of God. Talk with the children about the happiest moments in their lives. Do they wish those times would have lasted forever? Jesus promises us eternal life. How do they imagine heaven? What do they want to do when they grow up? Do they pray and ask God for guidance when thinking about the future?

Activity

Have the children draw three tents: on one write, “My happiest moment”; on another one, “Here I am now”; on the third one, “What I would like to be in the future”. Have them draw what they are thinking for each. Pray for the souls in Purgatory. (Spiritual Work of Mercy, Pray for the Living and the Dead)

Prayer

Loving God, we have so many dreams and hopes for us and for our family. Help me to listen to you. I know you are always with me and want me to be happy. Help me to keep my eyes on Heaven and to trust you. We pray for the souls in Purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them. Thank you for loving us. Amen

Song: We want to see Jesus Lifted High, KWSCM; (Ctrl Click)

<https://youtu.be/FfpJ1SY4uJU>





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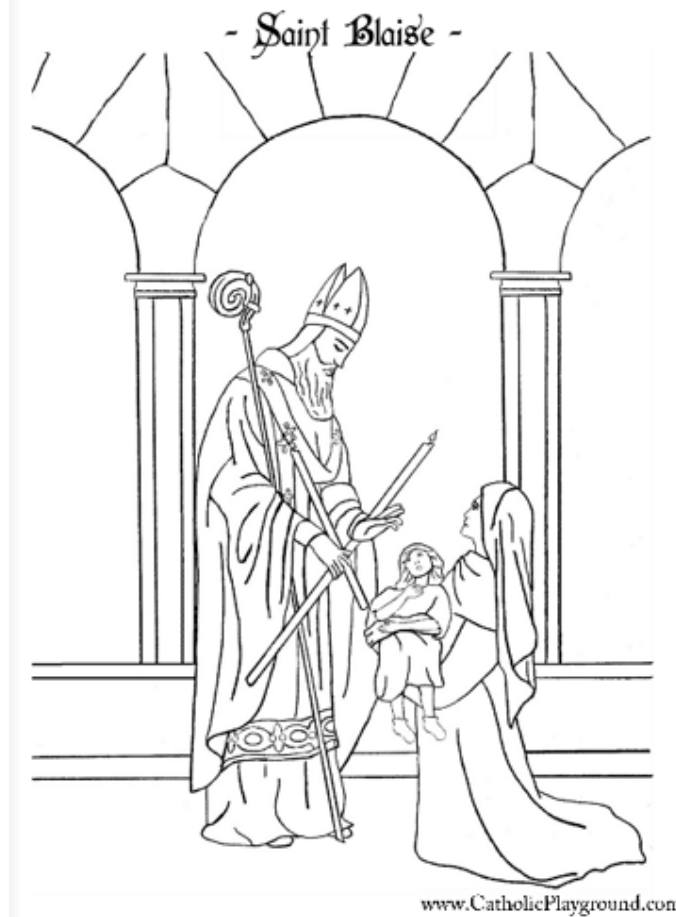
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St. Blaise was a Bishop in Armenia who suffered martyrdom under Licinius about A.D. 316. Tradition tells us that St. Blaise was born to noble parents and became a physician and later was consecrated a bishop.

Though, Emperor Constantine and Licinius co-authored the Edict of Milan in 313, which legalized the practice of Christianity in the Roman Empire, Licinius, betrayed this edict and began persecuting the Church. St. Blaise was quickly arrested for being a Christian, but on his way to the jail, a woman approached St. Blaise with her young son who was choking on a fish bone. To the amazement of the local governor, Agricola, Saint Blaise cured the boy, but refused to renounce his faith.

Either shortly before or after this healing, a woman whose pig had been seized by a wolf, begged for the help of Saint Blaise. At St Blaise's command, the wolf released the pig. The grateful woman later appeared at the prison bearing two fine candles to light the darkness of Saint Blaise's cell. Saint Blaise refused to renounce his faith and was sentenced to death by Agricola, who had him tortured and beheaded.

By the sixth century, St. Blaise's intercession was invoked for diseases of the throat. From this we have our present custom of the blessing of throats, whereby the priest holds two crossed candles across the throats of the faithful while invoking the intercession of the saint and imparting God's blessing. Saint Blaise, pray for us.

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