



Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

January 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Let us begin this New Year with our hearts full of love and gratitude for all the graces we received last year. Let's renew prayer in our families and in our prayer groups in union with Jesus and Mary.

Important feasts and Saints:

January 01 Mary, Mother of God
January 06 The Three Wise Men
January 07 Epiphany of the Lord
January 08 Baptism of the Lord
January 21 St Agnes
January 24 Saint Francis de Sales
January 27 Saint Henry de Osso
January 31 Saint John Bosco

Enclosed materials and activities:

- 1) Monthly calendar & meditations on the Sunday Gospels
- 2) Activity for Mary, Mother of God
- 3) The Presentation for coloring
- 4) The Epiphany for coloring
- 5) Activity for Baptism
- 6) Activity for the Gospel of January 14
- 7) Activity of the Gospel of January 21
- 8) Jesus calls his disciples for coloring
- 9) Novena to St. Henry of Osso
- 10) St. John Bosco story and coloring

On January 27 we celebrate the feast of Saint Henry de Osso, patron saint of Friends of Jesus and Mary. We encourage you to plan a special event for this day.

May God bless you in this New Year,

Friends of Jesus & Mary

FLORIDA

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Florida Center for Peace

January 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Numbers 6, 22-27 Psalm 66 Ga 4, 4-7 Luke 2, 16-21	2 STS. BASIL THE GREAT 1John 2, 22-28 Psalm 97 John 1, 19-28	3 1John 2, 29-3,6 Psalm 97 John 1, 29-34	4 ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON 1 John 3, 7-10 Psalm 97 John 1, 35-42	5 FIRST FRIDAY ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP 1 John 3, 11-21 Psalm 99 John 1, 43-51	6 FIRST SATURDAY Three Kings Day Isaiah 60, 1-6 Psalm 71 Eph 3, 2-3, 5-6 Mt 2, 1-12
7 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD LORD, SOLEMNITY Isaiah 55, 1-11 Psalm/Isaiah 12 1 John 5, 1-9 Mark 1, 6b-11	8 BAPTISM OF THE LORD 1S 1, 1-8 Psalm 115 Mark 1, 14-20	9 ST. ADRIAN OF CANTERBURY 1 S 1, 9-20 Psalm/1S 2, 1.4-7 Mark 1, 21-28	10 1S 3, 1-10.19-20 Psalm 39, 2-5-10 Mark 1, 29-39	11 1 Samuel 4, 1-11 Psalm 43 Mark 1, 40-45	12 1S 8, 4-7-10-22a Psalm 88 Mark 2, 1-12	13 ST. HILARY BISHOP 1S 9,1-4-17-19;10,1a Psalm 20 Mark 2, 13-17
14 2ND SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME 1S 3, 3b-10.19 Psalm 39 1 Co 6, 13c-15a.17-20 John 1, 35-42	15 1 Samuel 15, 16-23 Psalm 49 Mark 2, 18-22	16 ST. MARCELLUS POPE 1 Samuel 16, 1-13 Psalm 88 Mark 2, 23-28	17 ST. ANTHONY THE ABBOT 1S 17, 32-33.37-40-51 Psalm 143 Mark 3, 1-6	18 1S 18, 6-9; 19, 1-7 Psalm 55 Mark 3, 7-12	19 1 Samuel 24, 3-21 Psalm 56 Mark 3, 13-19	20 ST. FABIAN, POPE & ST. SEBASTIAN 2S 1,1-4.11-12.19 Psalm 79 Mark 3, 20-21
21 3RD SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME Jonah 3, 1-5.10 Psalm 24 1Co 7, 29-31 Mark 1, 14-20	22 DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN 2 Samuel 5, 1-7.10 Psalm 88 Mark 3, 22-30	23 2 Samuel 6, 12b-15.17--19 Psalm 23 Mark 3, 31-35	24 ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 2 Samuel 7, 4-17 Psalm 88 Mark 4, 1-20	25 THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL Acts 22, 3-16 Psalm 116 Mark, 16, 15-18	26 STS. TIMOTHY & TITUS 2S 11,1-4a.5-10a.13-17 Psalm 50 Mark 4, 26-34	27 ST. ANGELA MERICI ST. HENRY OSSO 2S 12, 1-7a.10-17 Psalm 59 Mark 4, 35-40
28 4TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME Dt 18, 15-20 Psalm 94 1 Co 7, 32-35 Mark 1, 21-28	29 2S 15-13-14-30; 16, 5-13a Psalm 3 Mark 5, 1-20	30 2S 18, 9-10.14b.24-25a.30-19, 3 Psalm 85 Mark 5, 21-43	31 ST. JOHN BOSCO 2 Samuel 24, 2. 9-17 Psalm 31 Mark 6, 1-6			

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Friends of Jesus and Mary

Mary Mother of God January 1, 2018

Readings: Numbers 6, 22-27; Psalms 66; Galatians 4, 4-7; Luke 2, 16-21

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angels had said about the child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said. Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them. A week later, when the time came for the baby to be circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name which the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

Reflection

What gift would Jesus like to receive. What He would love the most is that you love others and celebrate His birth with them. Mary is the Mother of Jesus and she is also your Mother. To you talk to her in prayer and ask her for help knowing she loves you more than life? The Church dedicates this day to her so we never forget her important role in God's plan of salvation. Share.

Activity

Ask the children what gifts would the Shepards give to Jesus. Talk about their poverty and about their work as a Shepard. Talk about the gift the Blessed Mother and Joseph gave at the presentation of Jesus at the Temple (two turtle doves) and their significance (purity, peace, poverty). Cut doves out of paper and have the children write on them what they would give to baby Jesus. Take doves to the altar and pray.



Prayer

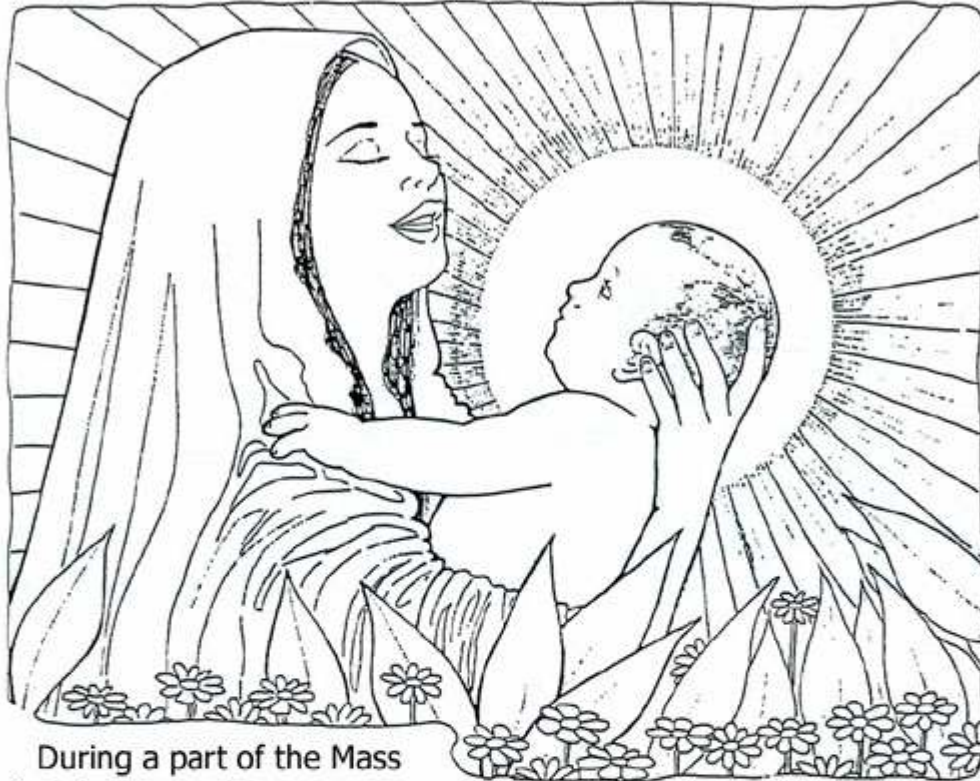
Thank you, Jesus, for making me a child like you. Thank you for coming to live amongst us. Show us how to share your peace in our families, neighborhoods, schools, and cities. Thank you for giving us Mary our Mother. Help us to imitate Mary's virtues. Amen.



JANUARY 1



Mary, Mother of God



During a part of the Mass called the General Intercessions, we ask God for our special needs. These prayers are called "petitions". To each petition, we pray, "Lord, hear our prayer", or another response.

On January 1, New Year's Day, we celebrate the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God. This is a special Feast and Holy Day of Obligation. At Mass that day, the priest will wear a white vestment in honor of Mary.

Jesus is the Prince of Peace; Mary His Mother, is Our Lady, Queen of Peace. During the Mass on this Feast Day, we pray for peace. Think of the times you have needed God's help to be a peacemaker. Write four prayers for peace to be used during the time of the General Intercessions at Mass on January 1. Use the space below:

1. Lord help us make up if we fight with a friend. Lord, hear our prayer.
2. _____
3. _____

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The Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2018

Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 72 (71); Ephesians 3:2-3^a,5-6; Mathew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Reflection

God has revealed himself to all nations, without excluding anyone. The magi started their journey to follow the Will of God, offering their best, recognizing the awesome gift of God's presence amongst us. Talk about the significance of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The magi followed the star. How can we be a star that leads others to Jesus?

Activities

Cut out and decorate stars. Have the children write on them how they plan to be a star leading others to Jesus. Share.

Prayer

Lord, you came to show us that everyone, no matter what nationality, is a son(daughter) of God. Help us to be like stars that guide others to you and that they see in us the smile of your love. Please help us to always seek you, Jesus! Amen.





What does Epiphany mean? It's a Greek word that means manifestation or revelation.

What do we celebrate? God's manifestation to the whole world. God revealed himself not only to the shepherds or the Jewish people. The magi started their journey from distant lands following a star, which they interpreted as God's presence. This means that the Son of God should be recognized by all men, in all places, always.

What gifts did the magi give? The magi knelt and adored baby Jesus. Melchior gave gold which is offered only to kings, showing Jesus is a king. Gaspar gave incense which is offered only to God, showing Jesus is God. Balthasar gave myrrh which was used in burials, recognizing that Jesus is also a man and prefiguring His suffering and death.

Why do we call them magi? The Greek word (magoi) means wise men. Originally, the word referred to Persian priests who interpreted signs, particularly in astronomy. They had access to Jewish scripture that foretold the coming of a messiah, preceded by a star. (Numbers 24:17)

Where do the magi's names originate? The names originated from a painting in San Apolinar Nuovo in Ravenna, Italy. (6th century)



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Baptism of the Lord, January 8, 2018

Readings: Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; Psalm 28; Acts 10, 34-38; Mark 1, 7-11

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Reflection

By our Baptism, we have received Jesus' mission to announce peace and justice with our lives. *"Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."* (Catechism of the Catholic Church n.1213) How do we help Jesus in His mission? How can you console someone who is lonely and/or worried?

Activity

Invite the children to talk about their Baptism. Who are their godparents and how do they share with them. Act out a Baptism following the steps and explaining their significance.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came to form a part of our family. You freed us from sin and death. Help us to be true prophets taking your message of love to all our friends and family. Amen.





Water

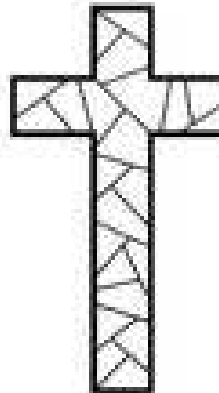


Oil



Cross

White Garment



Candle



Through Baptism we are freed from sin and become part of God's family.

Symbols

- Water:** God cleanses our soul of Original Sin.
Oil: God sends the gift of the Holy Spirit upon us.
Cross: The sign of the cross marks with the imprint of Christ and signifies the grace of the redemption Christ won for us by his cross.
White Garment: Person is purified and "puts on Christ".
Candle: God enlightens the baptized who becomes light for others.
Words: I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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Friends of Jesus and Mary

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time / January 14, 2018

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; Psalm 40(39); 1 Corinthians 6: 13c-15c, 17-20; John 1: 35-42

Jesus' First Disciples

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

Reflection

God can call us at any age. What is essential is our response: "Here I am Lord". The disciples want to know where Jesus lives. Where does Jesus live in our families, our friends, our schools, our towns?

Actividad

Color the face of a lamb and glue cotton onto the body. Glue the lamb onto the cross. Talk about the characteristics of lambs: social, peaceful, followers. Jesus is without sin and follows His Father in Heaven. Lambs were sacrificed in the Temple in the Old Testament to make up for sins.

Jesus was born to sacrifice Himself for our sins opening the gates of Heaven for us which were closed by the sin of Adam and Eve.



Oración

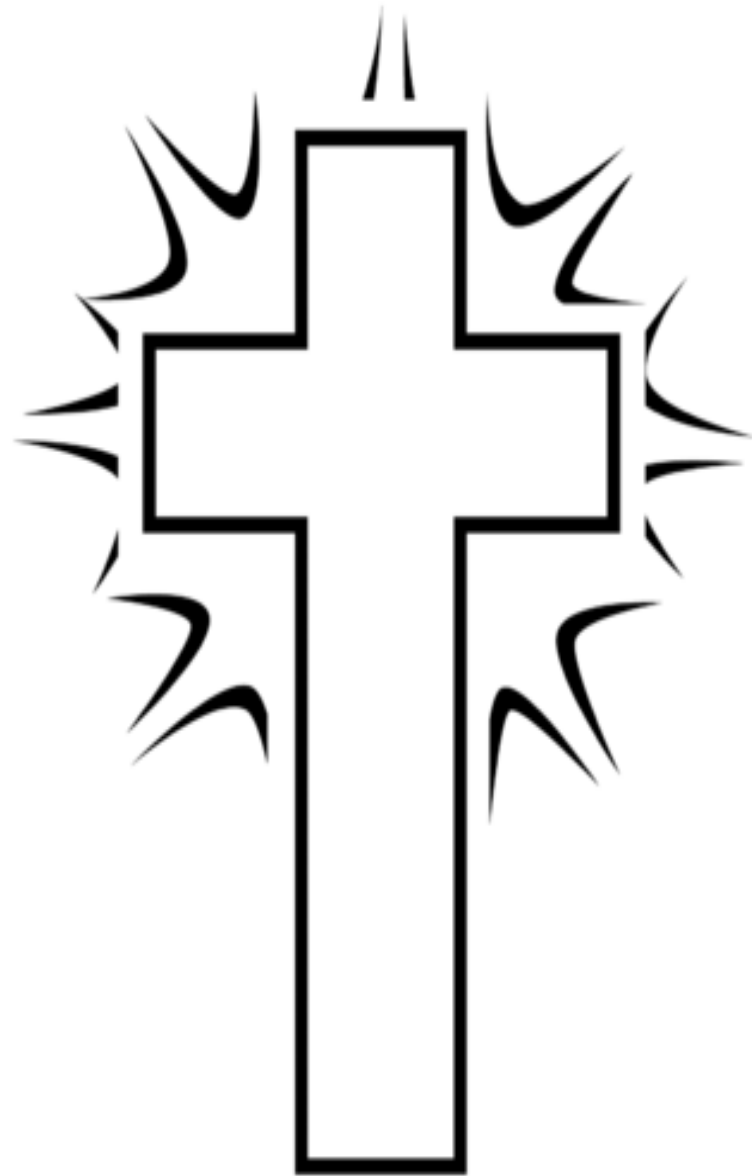
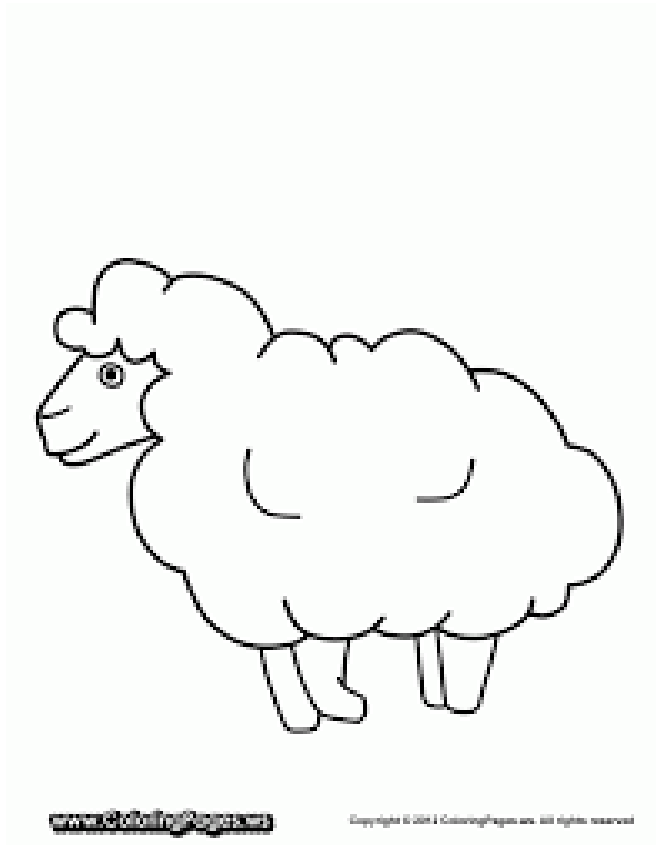
Thank you, Jesus, for coming to sacrifice yourself for our sins. Thank you for your great love for us. Help us to follow you like you followed your Father. Give us a heart attentive to you and to others. Help us to build the world of love and life that you want. Amen.



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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time/January 21, 2018

Readings: Jonas 3: 1-5, 10; Psalm 24; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1, 14-20

Fisher of Men

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 in the gospel." As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

Reflection

Jesus asks us to be ready to complete the mission to which He calls us, even if it is difficult. We must change our bad ways to follow Jesus' way.

What difficulties do I encounter daily in following Jesus?

What qualities do I have to do good? How can I use them daily?

Activity

Act out the Gospel. Need fish cut-outs and a net. Have the children write their name on a fish and their promise to follow Jesus. Give

them another fish and have them write the name of a friend they will help to follow Jesus by praying for them, inviting them to mass, and setting a good example. Jesus invites us to be fisher of souls.



Prayer

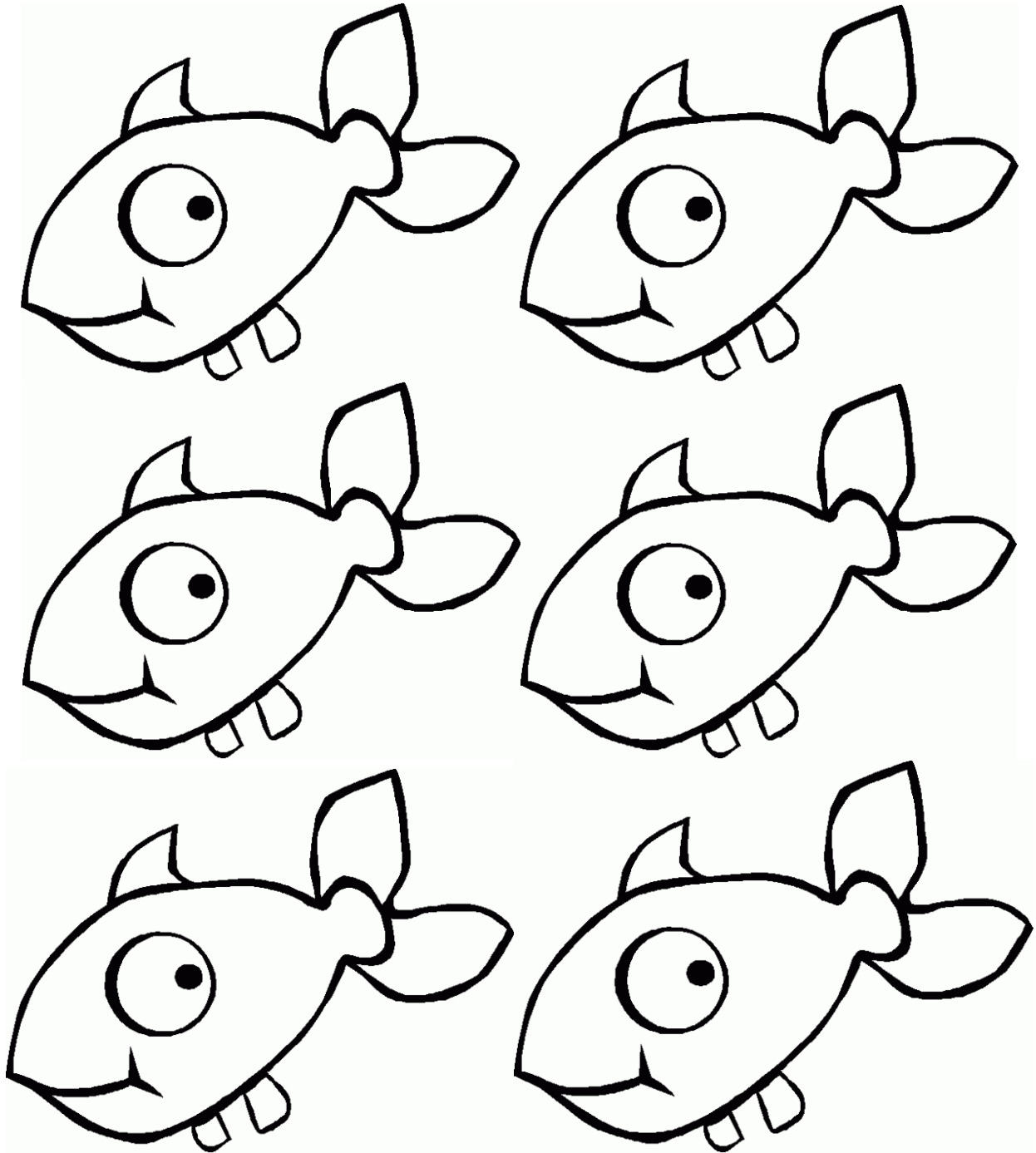
Jesus, many times we don't listen to you or we are afraid to do what you ask of us. Give us a listening heart and the courage to follow in your footsteps knowing that you are always with us. Amen.



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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ January 28, 2018

Deuteronomy 18 15-20; Psalm 94 1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1, 21-28

EL SANTO DE DIOS

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.

Reflection

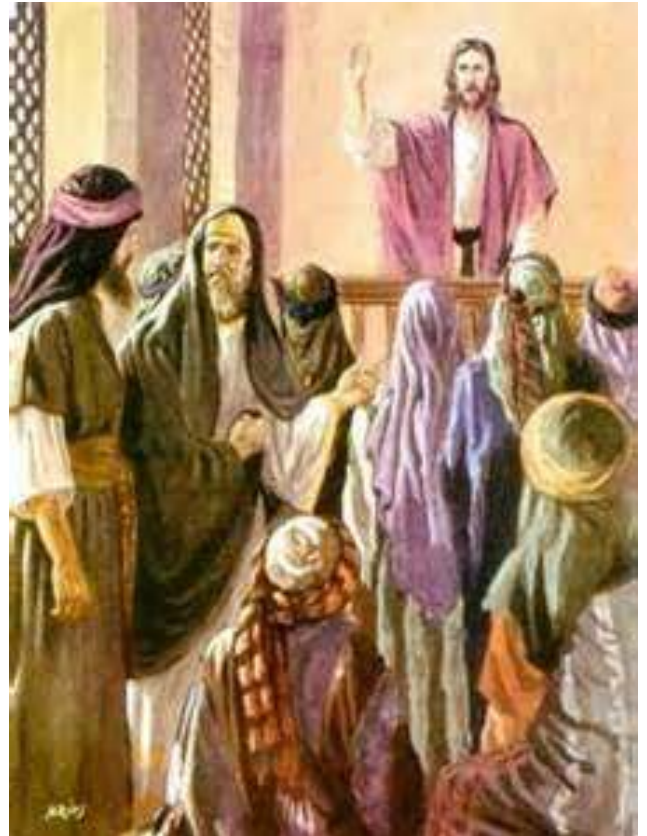
What evils, dangers, and threats do the children encounter in their neighborhoods?
What causes them anxiety?
Who are the authority figures in their lives?
Share with them.

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. Gather to pray. Ask the children to 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 resentments 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.



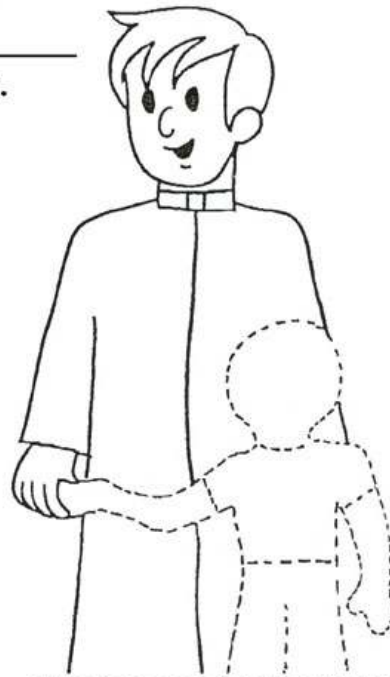


Novena to St. Henry de Osso for Children

Dear God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
We love you,
We praise you,
And we thank you
For the good example
Of St. Henry de Osso.
Help us, specially _____
To follow his good example.
Help us to believe in You,
Trust You,
And love You.
Help us to serve You.

With the help of St. Henry,
we ask you Jesus
To _____

(paraphrase of the prayer of the
Society of St. Teresa of Jesus, the
Teresian Sisters)



This is me and Father Henry.
I want to help others, and
love Jesus as he did.

Henry was born at Vinebre, Catalonia, Spain, on the 16th October 1840 and was ordained priest on 21st September 1867. He was an apostle to young people in teaching them about their faith and inspired various movements for the teaching of the Gospel. As a spiritual director he was fascinated by St. Teresa of Jesus, the great teacher in the ways of prayer and Daughter of the Church who is better known in the English-speaking world as St. Teresa of Avila. In the light of her teaching, he founded the Company of St. Teresa (1876) dedicated to educating women in the school of the Gospel and following the example of St. Teresa. He gave himself to preaching and the apostolate through the printing press. He underwent many severe trials and sufferings. He died at Gilet, Valencia, Spain, on the 27th January, 1896. He was canonized on 16th July, 1993, in Madrid, by Pope John Paul II.

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Feast Day: January 31 (Born:1815 :: Died:1888)

John Bosco was born in Turin, Italy. His parents were poor farmers. His father died when John was only two years old. John and his brothers helped their mother work on the farm as she struggled to keep the family together. He was intelligent and full of life. By the age of nine, John wanted to become a priest and his mother let him go to school. John used to wake up early in the morning to do his chores before he left for school. Finally, a holy priest, St. Joseph Cafasso, found out about John's wish to be a priest and helped him enter the seminary.

He learned to do all kinds of trades: carpenter, a shoemaker, a cook, a pastry maker, farmer.... He didn't realize how much this knowledge would help others later. John would also go to circuses, fairs and carnivals, practice the tricks he saw magicians perform, and then present one-boy shows. After his performance, while he still had an audience of boys, he would repeat the sermon he had heard in church that day. John became a priest in 1841.

As a priest, Don Bosco, which means Father Bosco, began his great ministry. This kind priest felt sad when he saw so many children living on the streets of Italy. Like a loving father, he gathered together these homeless boys and taught them trades. This way they would not have to steal or get into trouble.

By 1850, there were 150 boys living at his home for boys. Don Bosco's mother was the housekeeper. He loved these children, however naughty they were, and the boys loved him because John Bosco always encouraged them. Every night he asked his boys to say three Hail Mary's, so that the Blessed Mother would help them keep away from sin. He also helped them receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. He asked the young boys to imitate Jesus in everything they did - whether it was work, study or play and told them that God wanted everyone to be saints as He had a great reward waiting for them. His advice to them was, "Pray when it's time to pray. Study when it's time to study. Play when it's time to play. Show kindness to everyone you meet. But do it all for the love of Jesus."

Don Bosco started his own religious order of priests and brothers. They were called the Salesians, after St. Francis de Sales. Then he started the order of Salesian sisters with the help of St. Mary Mazzarello. These men and women pray and teach young people about God's love in countries all over the world even today.

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