



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

February 2014
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 with everybody the Ten Commandments.

Enclosed you will find the most important Feast and Saints:

February 02 Presentation of the Lord
Mary's Purification
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 | h) Valentine's Card |
| b) Presentation of Jesus in the Temple | i) Sacredness-Respectful Love |
| c) Saint blasé | j) Bookmarkers |
| d) Saint Bernadette | k) Song of Praise-Psalm 150 |
| e) St. Paul Miki & Companions | |
| f) The Light of Christ | |
| g) St Bernadette | |

Suggested videos:

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

Remember about our VIII Congress to be placed in Nicaragua, on June 19 to 22, 2014. Share this beautiful experience with us. Don't wait make a reservation.

FLORIDA

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February 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 First Saturday 2s 12, 1-7A.10-17 Psalm 51 Mark 4:35-41
2 Presentation of the Lord Malachi 3: 1-4 Psalm 24 Hebrews 2: 14-18 Luke 2:22-40	3 Saint Blaise Throat Diseases 2 S 15:13-14,30;16:5-13 Psalm 3 Mark 5: 1-20	4 2 S 18:9-10,14b,24-25a 30-19,3 Psalm 86 Mark 5:21-43	5 Saint Agatha 2 S 24:2, 9-17; Psalm 32 Mark 6: 1-6	6 Saint Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12; Psalm/1Cr29:10,11ab. Mark 6: 7-13	7 First Friday Sirach 47:2-11; Psalm 18 Mark 6: 14-29	8 1 Kings 3:4-13; Psalm 106 Mark 6:30-34
9 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 58:7-10 Psalm 112 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5: 13-16	10 Saint Scholastica 1 Kings 8:1-7,9-13; Psalm 132 Mark 6:53-56	11 Our Lady of Lourdes 1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30; Psalm 84 Mark 7:1-13	12 Saint Damian 1 Kings 10:1-10; Psalm 37 Mark 7:14-23	13 1 Kings 11:4-13; Psalm 106 Mark 7:24-30	14 Saints Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishop 1 Kings 11:29-32;12:19; Psalm 81 Mark 7:31-37	15 1Kings 12:26-32;13:33 Psalm 106 Mark 8: 1-10
16 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sirach 15:15-20 Psalm 119 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Matthew 11:25	17 James 1:1-11 Psalm 119 Mark 8:11-13	18 James 1:12-18; Psalm 94 Mark 8:14-21	19 James 1:19-27; Psalm 15 Mark 8:22-26	20 James 2: 1-9; Psalm 34 Mark 8-27-33	21 Saint Peter Damian James 2:14-24,26; Psalm 112 Mark 8:34-9:1	22 Chair of St. Peter the Apostle Feast 1 Peter 5:1-4; Psalm 23 Matthew 16:13-19
23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 Psalm 103 1 Corinthians 3: 16-23 Matthew 5:38-48	24 James 3:13-18; Psalm 19 Mark 9, 14-29	25 James 4: 1-10; Psalm 55 Mark 9:30-37	26 Saint Alexander of Alexandria James 4:13-17; Psalm 49 Mark 9:38-40	27 St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows James 5: 1-6; Psalm 49 Mark 9:41-50	28 Saint Hilary James 5: 9-12; Psalm 103 Mark 10: 1-12	
		NOTES:				

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Friends of Jesus and Mary
The Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2014
Readings: Malachi 3: 1-4; Psalm 23, 7.8.9.10 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2: 22-40

Jesus is presented in the Temple

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." (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

With 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 altogether said the following prayer: Oh 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.



Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

February 2

The STORY of the Feast ...

It was a custom among the Jews that when a baby boy was a month old he was brought to the Temple and given to the Lord. So Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to Jerusalem.

A good old man named Simeon was led by the Spirit of God to the Temple. He took Jesus into his arms and praised God. "Now, Lord, I am ready to die, for I have seen the promised Child Who is to be the Savior of the world."

Simeon then said to Mary: "Because of your Child, many in Israel will fall and rise, for He will not be received by all. A sword will pierce your own soul."

THIS IS THE WAY
THE BABIES WERE
WRAPPED IN THE
TIME OF JESUS



The Messiah

The great hope of the Jewish people. In that time was the coming of a Messiah promised by God.

"Messiah" means the anointed (in the Old Testament the king, prophets, and priest were anointed as a sign of dedication for a special task).

The Jewish Scriptures were filled with predictions about the Messiah, and many Jews thought the Messiah would be a great ruler, equal to the greatest of their kings, King David. However the Messiah would also have to be a priest in order to spread the true teaching of God.

Under this King-Priest, peace and justice would rule and would again become a great nation.

It isn't surprising that the people anxiously awaited the arrival of the "Messiah"



The MEANING of this Feast ...

When only forty days old, Jesus was offering Himself to His heavenly Father as a sacrifice for the salvation of the world in the arms of His Mother.

She now offered her Son to God as she would offer Him standing beneath the cross on Calvary.

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated on February 2

A SAINT FOR FEBRUARY

SAINT BLASE

Febrero 3

Bellow is the story of Saint Blasé.

Select words from the list to fill in the blanks.

PRAYED

Blasé was a physician and _____

ILL

because he was a _____, he was sent to _____.

STOPPED

One his way to prison, he was _____ by a

CROSS

woman whose _____ was very _____.

CHILD

Blasé _____ over the child, and the child was _____

THROATS

of a throat infection.

REMEMBER

Blasé was to prison and was _____ in A.D. 316. Today we

BISHOP

_____ him on February 3rd. On his day people may

PRISON

have their _____ blessed. The priest holds two candles in

CURED

the form of a _____.

CHRISTIAN

While holding the candles at the people's throat, the priest prays

MARTYRED

this prayer.

Through the merits and intercession of Saint Blasé, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all diseases of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Decorate the prayer card with symbols to help you remember Saint Blasé

February 6th

ST. PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS

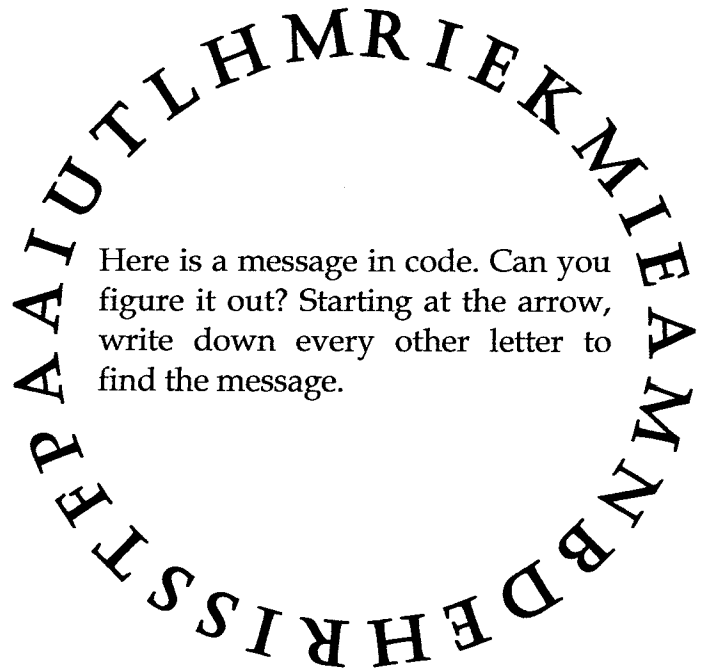
These twenty-six martyrs are sometimes called the martyrs of Nagasaki and the martyrs of Japan. St. Francis Xavier brought the Good News of Christianity to Japan in 1549. Many received the Word and were baptized by St. Francis himself. Although Francis moved on and eventually died near the shores of China, the faith had grown in Japan. By 1587 there were over two hundred thousand Catholics. Missionaries from various religious orders were there. Japanese priest, religious and lay people lived the faith joyfully.

In 1597, forty-five years after the arrival of Francis Xavier, a powerful Japanese official Hideyoshi, listened the gossip of a Spanish merchant. The merchant whispered that the missionaries were traitors of Japan. He suggested that these traitors would cause Japan to be defeated by Spain and Portugal. The claim was false and absurd. But as an overreaction, Hideyoshi had twenty-six people arrested. The group included six Franciscans from Spain, Mexico and India; three Japanese Jesuit catechists, including St Paul Miki; and seventeen Japanese Catholic lay people, including children.

The twenty-six were led to the place of execution outside Nagasaki. They were fastened to individual crosses with chains and cords and had iron collars clamped around their necks. Each cross was hoisted and the base was lowered into a hole dug for it. They died almost at the same moment. Their blood-stained clothes were treasured by the Christian community and miracles happened through their intercession.

Each martyr was a gift to the Church. St. Paul Miki, a Jesuit catechist, had been a great preacher. His last valiant homily came from the cross as he encouraged the Christian community to be faithful and his companions were proclaimed saints by Pope Gregory XVI in 1862.

We can pray every day for people who live in parts of the world where they are persecuted for their beliefs. We can also ask St. Paul Mike and his companions for courage to be faithful to Jesus.



Here is a message in code. Can you figure it out? Starting at the arrow, write down every other letter to find the message.



Friends of Jesus and Mary

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 9, 2014

Readings: Isaiah 58, 7-10; Psalm 111; 1Corinthians 2, 1-5; Matthew 5, 13-16

Salt and Light

You are like salt for the whole human race. But if salt loses its saltiness, there is no way to make it salty again. It has become worthless, so it is thrown out and people trample on it. You are like light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl; instead it is put on the lamp stand, where it gives light for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5, 13-16)

Reflection

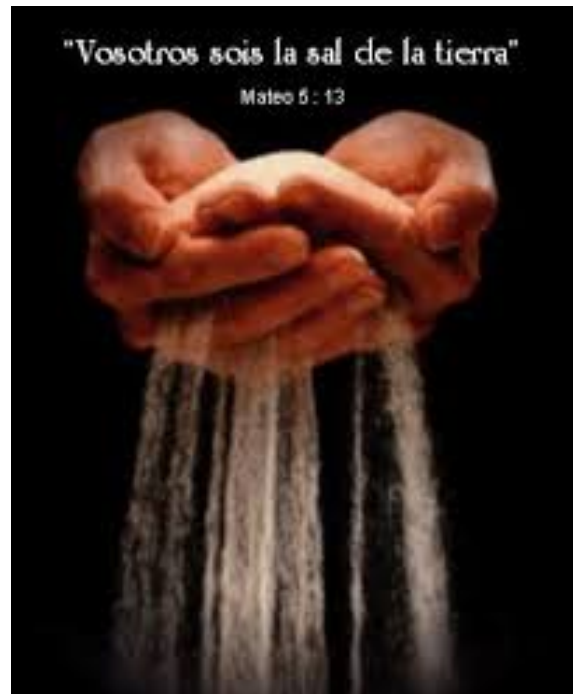
The readings of this week let us know that we are called to be salt and light in our daily acts of service, listening and generosity. What do you think Jesus means by we have to be salt? What does salt do for food? How does food without salt taste? What should the friends of Jesus do to give "taste" to the world? Jesus says that we need to give good taste and light to the world by our good works? What types of good works does Jesus like best? What can you do? Share.

Activity

Bring a candle for each child to the prayer group. Try to use the ones that use batteries, for security reasons. Ask them to express how they can be salt this week. Then ask them to think of one other child in the class whom they have seen doing something good. Ask each to present his or her candle to that other child and tell the others how he or she has been a light by doing something good. Light each candle. Then all respond: "I want to be salt and light with you Jesus." On the next page you will find an activity for the small ones.

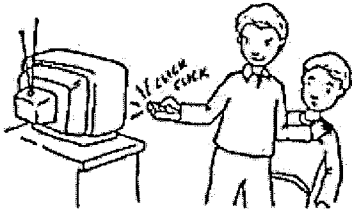
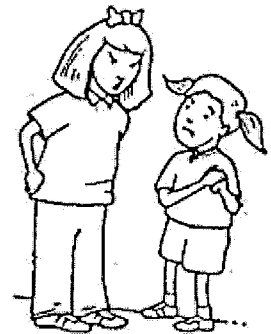
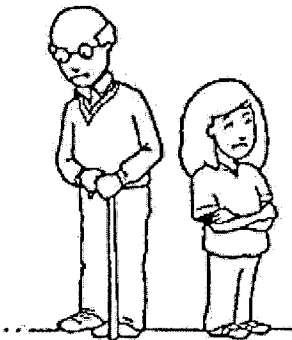
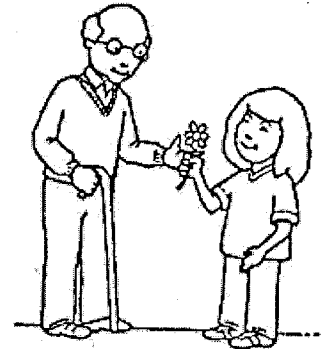
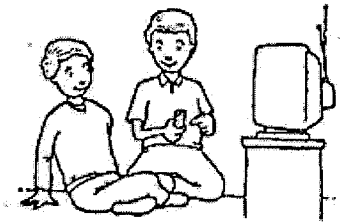
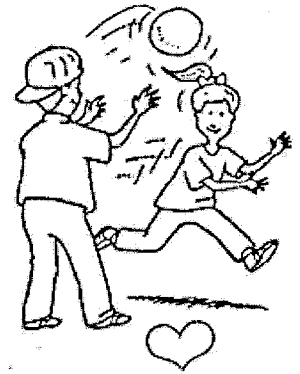
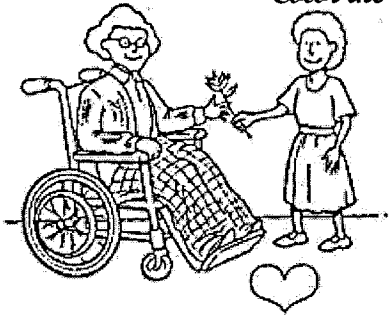
Prayer

Lord, sometimes we seek to be brilliant, but not to be light that is shared. Come to our home, to our school, to teach us to share with all so that we can become light for the world. Amen.

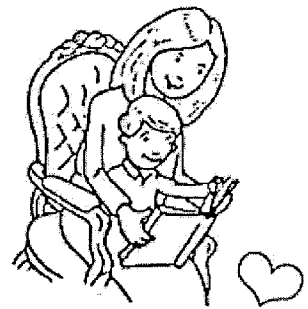
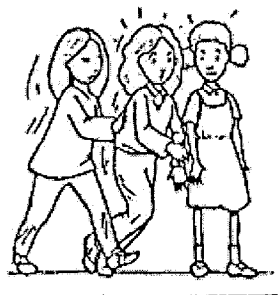


The Light of Christ

Color the pictures that help you be salt and light in the world like Jesus ask us.



J e s u s



St. Bernadette

Text and drawings: Michelle Maes




It's a girl!

I baptize you in the name of the Father...

Praised be the Lord!

Marie Bernadette Soubirous was born on January 7th, 1844, at 2:00 pm in the Boly Mill, in the village of Lourdes, France.



I'm sorry I don't have any money to pay you right now.

I promise I will find work today.

Please do, the children are so hungry.

Debts accumulate and they can't pay the bills. They have to move from the mill to a state of utter poverty.

Don't worry about it! Pay us back when you can. God Bless.

At work, Bernadette's parents were very generous.

On January 9th, 1844, at St. Peter's church in Lourdes, Bernadette received the sacrament of Baptism.



Bernadette, when you've finished washing the clothes, help your little brother.

Yes, Mama.

Bernadette helps her mother at home.

On Thursday February 11th, 1858, in Massabielle. Bernadettes sees Our Lady for the first time. The Virgin doesn't reveal who She is.



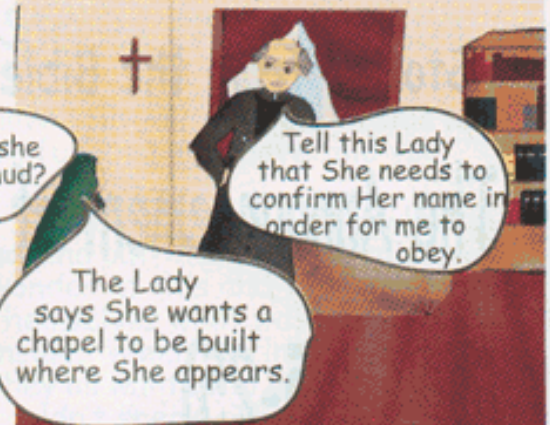
I'll never see the beautiful lady again.

A lot of people come to see her, but many do not believe her and she is forbidden to go to the grotto.

On February 18th, she has another apparition. Our Lady tells her to wash herself in the spring that beforehand had not existed. Bernadette obediently washes herself in the dirt from which some time later water would miraculously spring forth.



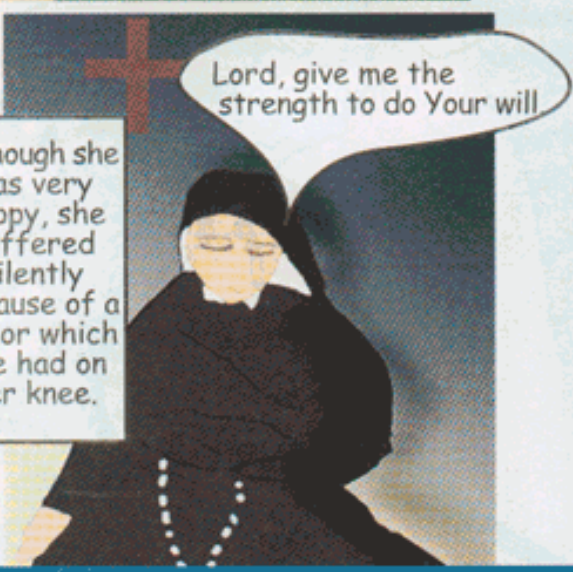
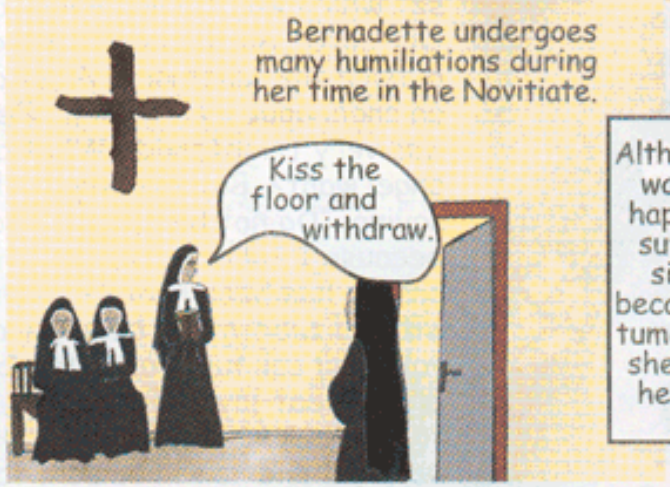
At the parish priest's office....



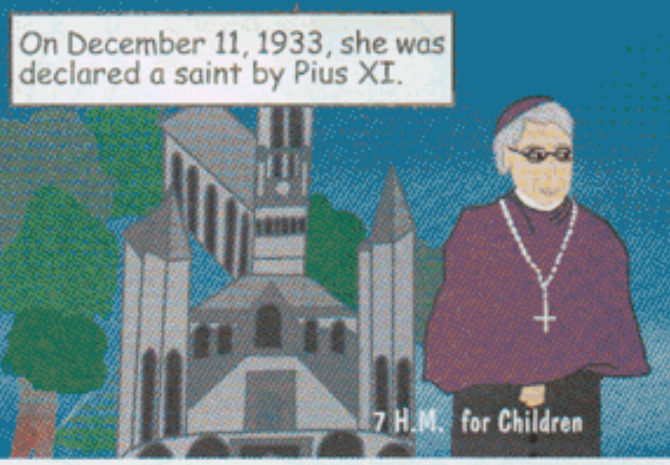
On March 25th, 1858, the Lady reveals Her name.



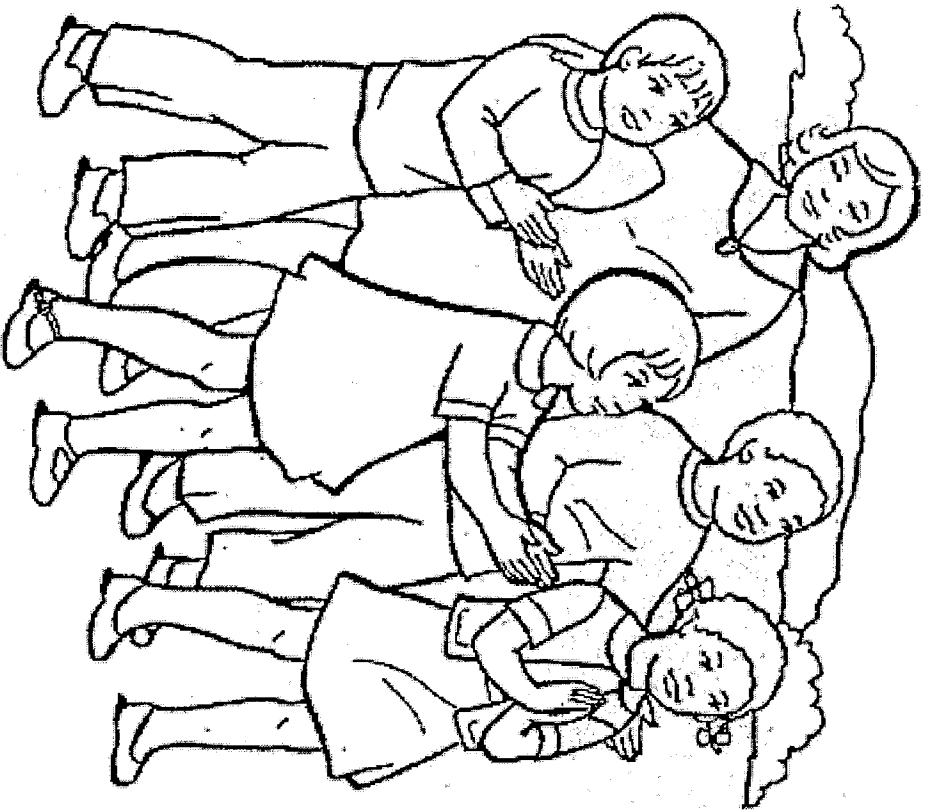
Bernadette, now 22 years old, leaves for Nevers to enter in the convent of the Sisters of Charity and Christian Instruction.



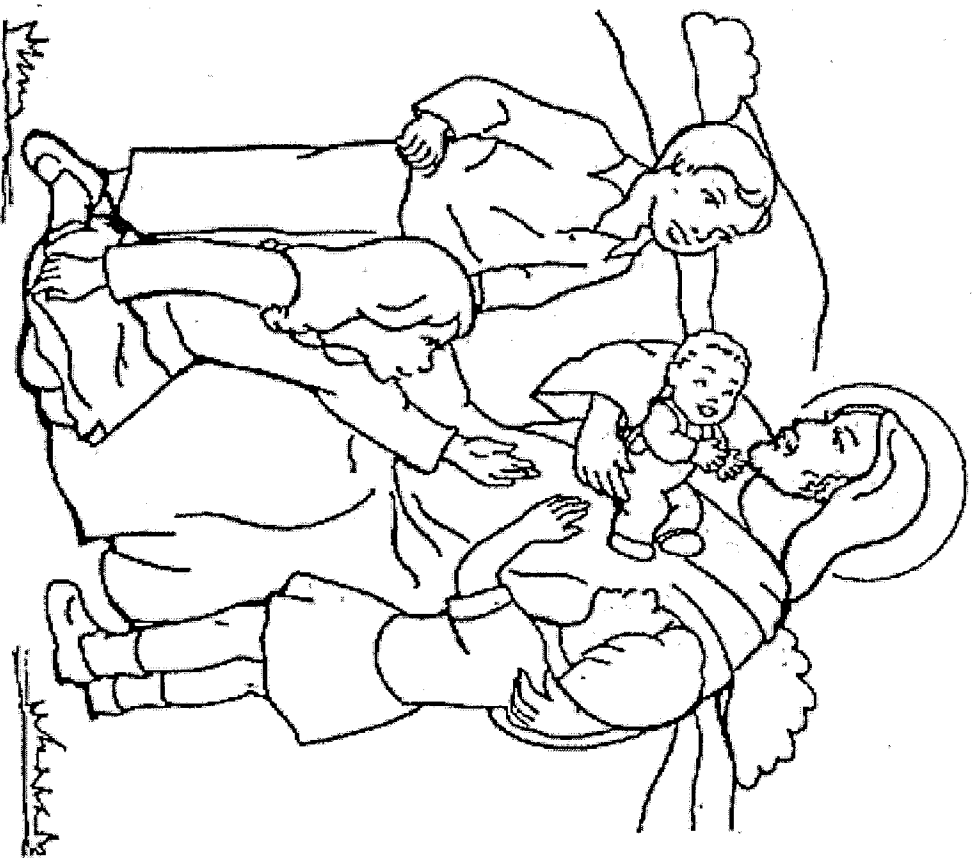
On April 16th, 1879, her soul was taken to Heaven after suffering from tuberculosis.



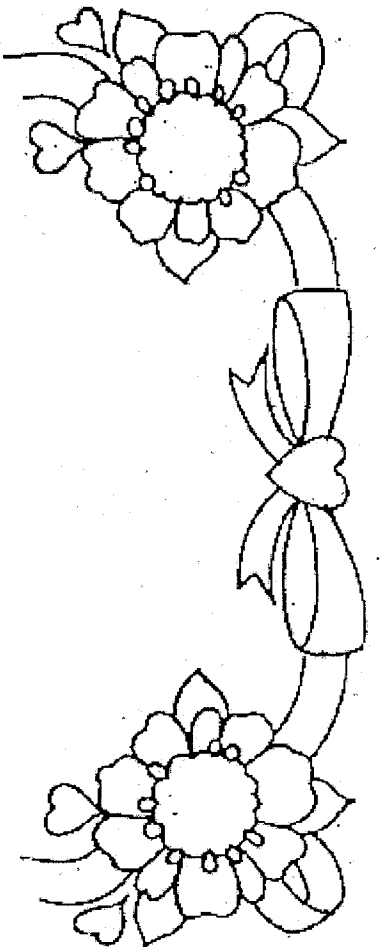
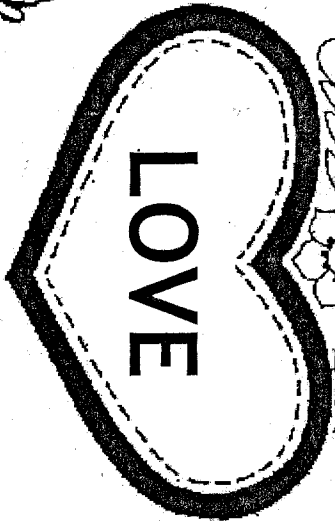
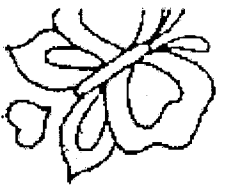
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



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



Jesus loves little children and gives them
His blessings.

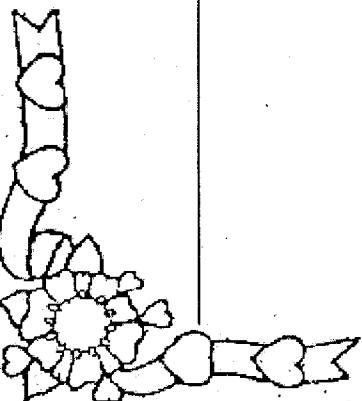
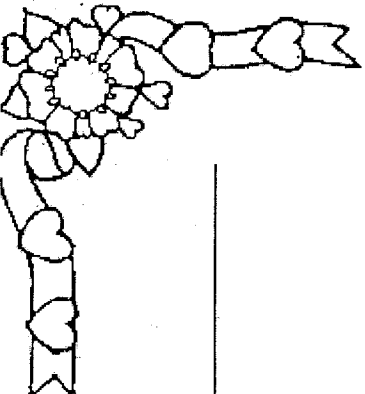
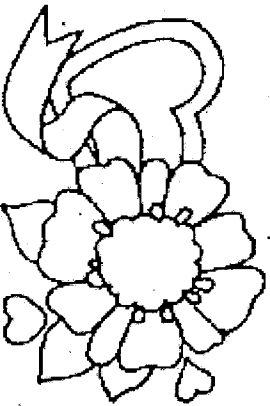
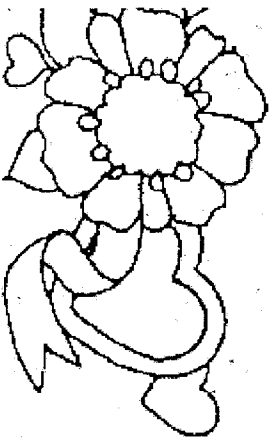


*"Dear Friends,
If this is how God loved us,
then we should love one another*

1 John 4:11

**Friends love one another
Happy Valentine's Day
to my friend**

From,





Friends of Jesus and Mary

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 16 2014

Readings: Sirach 15, 15-20; Psalm 118; 1Corinthians 2, 6-10; Matthew 5, 17-37

Teaching about the law

“Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I have not come to do away with them, but to make their teachings come true. Remember that as long as heaven and earth last, not the least point nor the smallest detail of the law will be done away with, not until the end of all things. So then, whoever disobeys even the least important of the commandments and teaches others to do the same, will be least in the kingdom of heaven. On the other hand, whoever obeys the law and teaches others to do the same, will be great in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, then, that you will be able to enter the kingdom of heaven only if you are more faithful than the teachers of the law and the Pharisees in doing what God requires. You have heard that people were told in the past, ‘Do not commit murder; anyone who does will be brought to trial.’ But now I tell you: if you are angry with your brother you will be brought to trial, if you call your brother you- good for nothing! You will be brought before the Council, and if you call your brother a worthless fool you will be in danger of going to the fire of hell. So if you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with your brother, and then come back and offer your gift to God. If someone brings a lawsuit against you and takes you to court, settle the dispute while there is time before you get to court. Once you are there, you will be turned over to the judge, who will hand you over to the police, and you will be put in jail. There you will stay, I tell you, until you pay the last penny of your fine. You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But now I tell you: anyone who looks at a woman and wants to possess her is guilty of committing adultery with her in his heart. So if your right eye causes you to sin, take it out and throw it away! It is much better for you to lose a part of your body than to have your whole body thrown into hell. If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away! It is much better for you to lose one of your limbs than to have your whole body go off to hell. It was also said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a written notice of divorce.’ But now I tell you; if a man divorces his wife for any cause other than her unfaithfulness, then he is guilty of making her commit adultery if she marries again; and the man who marries her commits adultery also. You have also heard that people were told in the past, ‘Do not break your promise, but do what you have vowed to the Lord to do.’ But now I tell you: do not use any vow when you make a promise. Do not swear by heaven, for it is God’s throne; nor by earth, for it is the resting place for his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not even swear by your head, because you cannot make a single hair white or black. Just say yes or no, anything else you say comes from the Evil One.” (Matthew 5, 17-37)

Reflection

In the bible readings for this week Jesus comes to offer us a better way than just the mere law. He invites us to love God and others, which is what pleases God. Jesus asks that his friends go beyond what they are supposed to do. They love him so much that they really want to do things as He asks of them. Is it easy for you to ask forgiveness from someone who is angry at you? Is it hard for you to let go of your anger when someone has hurt you? Ask Jesus for help to forgive. Tell him what you want to do.

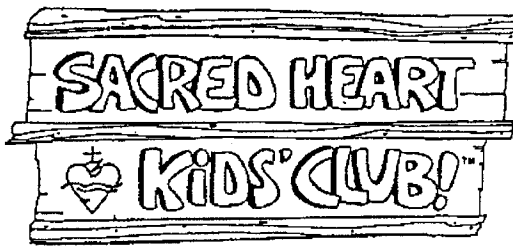
Activity

Bring to the group flash cards. Ask the children to write on the back of the card the name of a person with whom they have fought and now would like to make up. Ask them to think for a moment about how they are going to approach that person. Direct them to Jesus for help to do it. Bring them to the altar of the group and pray together “I want to be with you, Jesus.”

Prayer

Lord teach us to do everything out of love. Teach us to increase that love each day so that we may fulfill a higher law - what pleases you most. Amen.





Sacredness—Respectful Love

"You Are Precious" Gift Heart

You are precious and so are those whom you love. Plan to give this Heart to someone special. Color it. Write the person's name on the line. Cut out the heart. Punch a hole at the top. Pull string or yarn through the hole.





Friends of Jesus and Mary
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 23, 2014
Readings: Leviticus 19, 1-2.17-18; Psalm 102; 1Corinthians 3, 16-23; Mathew 5, 38-48

Teaching about Revenge

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ But now I tell you: do not take revenge on someone who wrongs you. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, let him slap your left cheek too. And if someone takes you to court to sue you for your shirt, let him have your coat as well. And if one of the occupation troops forces you to carry his pack one mile, carry it two miles. When someone asks you for something, give it to him; when someone wants to borrow something, lend it to him. You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your friends, hate your enemies.’ But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may become the children of your Father in heaven. For He makes His sun to shine on bad and good people alike and gives rain to those who do good and those who do evil. Why should God reward you if you love only the people who love you? Even the tax collectors do that! And if you speak only to your friends, have you done anything out of the ordinary? Even the pagans do that! You must be perfect just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5, 38-48)

Reflection

The readings for this week tells us that Christians are called to make a difference in the world, loving even one’s enemies and praying for them as the Father who is holy does. Do the words of Jesus seem harsh to you? Speak about how moms and dads never want their children to quarrel and they insist that the children reconcile when they have fought. God’s love is similar, but even bigger and God does not want his children to be fighting. Jesus says that all human beings, since they are the children of God, are the temples of God and deserve respect. How do you deal with those who treat you poorly? Do you want to take revenge? Share.

Activity

Bring newspapers to the group with news about how some actions are taken out of a desire of revenge. Cut out those clippings and make a collage. Ask them to write a prayer of healing for each situation. Read all the prayers and make together a healing prayer.

Prayer

Lord forgiving is not easy. Give us your mercy and gentleness to learn how to forgive and start over. Give us strength to recognize when we are wrong and ask for forgiveness and to offer restitution. Amen.



BOOKMARKERS – TO MARK GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU!

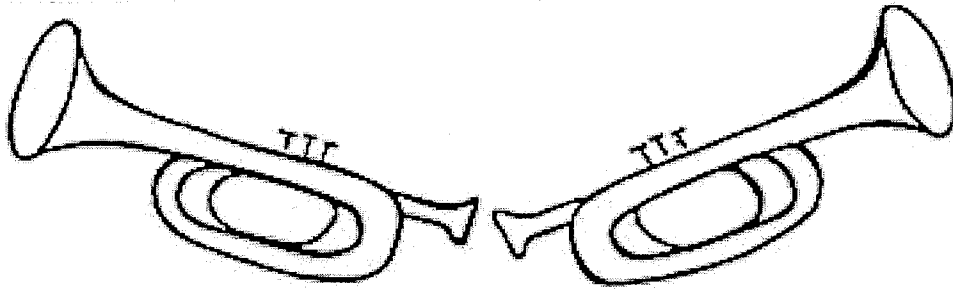
The works and pictures will help you to recall what Sister Jane said about God in the video. Color each picture. Cut out all 3 bookmarks. Glue each one on a harder paper to make it stronger. Keep the bookmarks in your books. When you look at them, thank God in your heart for loving you, forgiving you and trusting you. You can give a bookmark as a present, too!



SONG OF PRAISE: 23

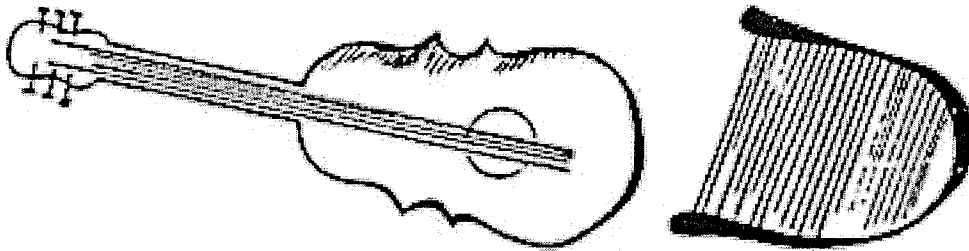
PSALM 150

By _____

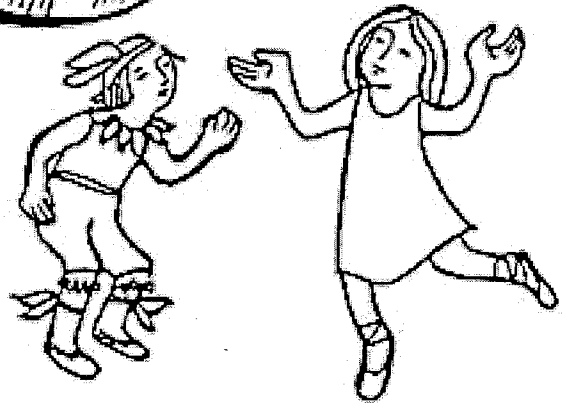
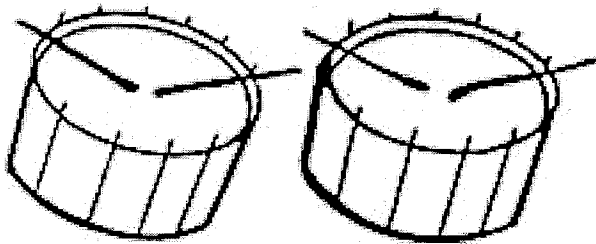


Praise God with the sound of _____

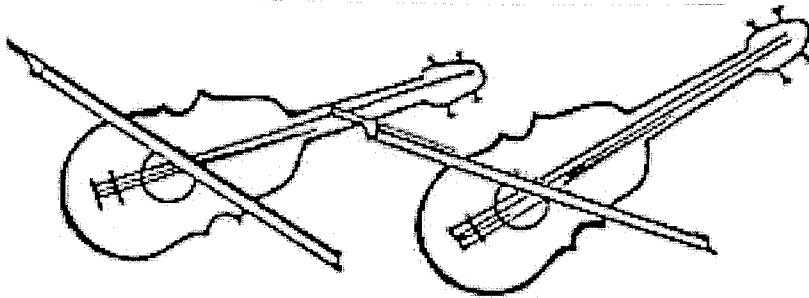
The Bible has 150 psalms. The last psalm invites people to use musical instruments and dancing to show how great God is, Use the picture clues and fill in the missing words. Color the pictures. Pray the psalm.



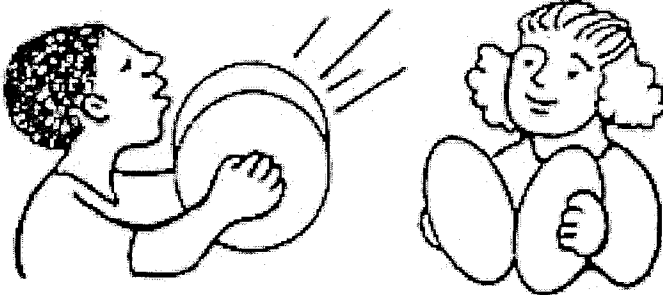
Praise God with _____ and harp.



Praise God with _____ and dancing.



Praise God with _____ and reeds.



Praise God with clanging _____

PRAISE GOD

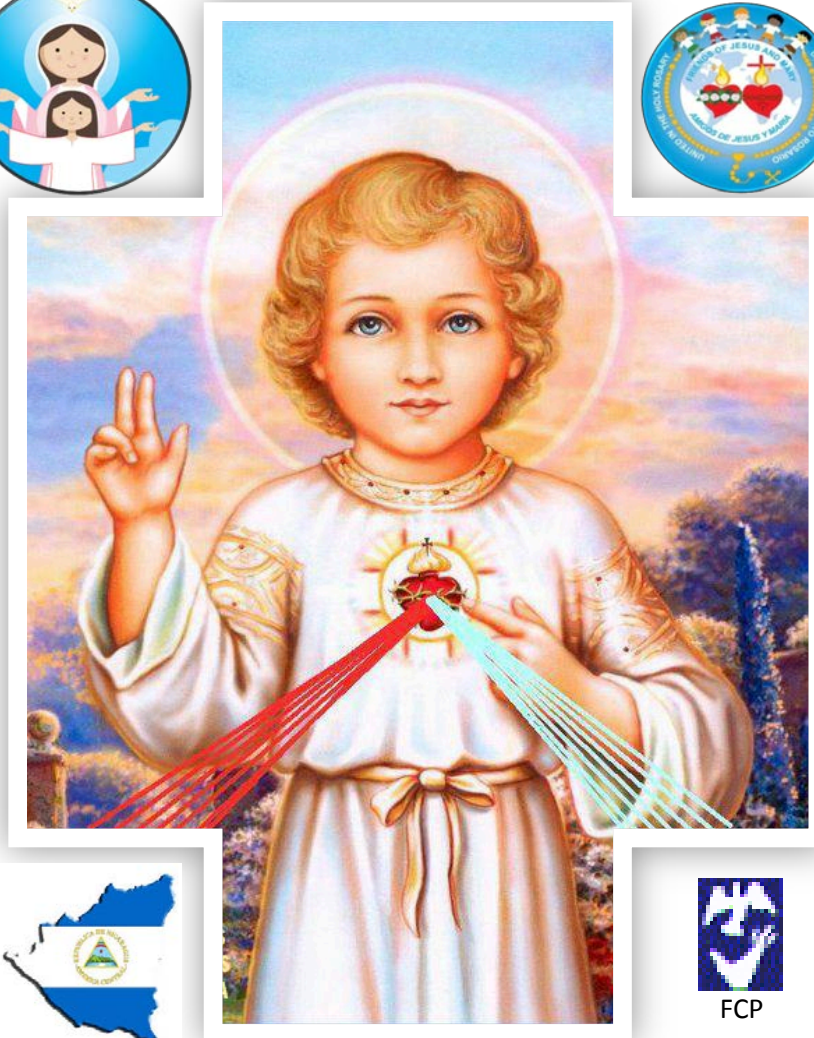
Let all that breathes praise God.

Amigos de Jesús y María

www.happysaints.com



Jesús les dijo:
«Dejad que los niños vengan a mí, y no se lo impidáis porque de los que son como éstos es el Reino de los Cielos.» Mateo 19:13-15



Para todos los llamados a servir a la niñez enseñándoles a orar en familia y en los grupos de oración.



FCP

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Managua, Nicaragua

Del 19 al 22 de Junio 2014

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