

Friends of Jesus and Mary
Amigos de Jesús y María



July 2017

Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sister:

July & August are the summer vacation. Teach the children the importance to enjoy the family. And don't forget the regular prayers. Have a nice summer

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

July	03	Saint Thomas
July	04	Independence Day-USA
July	14	St Katerina Tekakwitha
July	16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
July	26	St. Joachim & Anne

Enclosed material and activities:

- 1) Calendar & Meditations on the Sunday Gospel
- 2) Activities for July & August
- 3) The Visitation

Suggest Videos:

- 1 Creations
2. Prayer
3. The Good Samaritan

May God bless you,
Friends of Jesus and Mary



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Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

July 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 FIRST SATURDAY Gn 18, 1-15 Int/Lc Mt 8, 5-17
2 13 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2 Re 4, 8-11.14-16 Psalm 88 Ro 6, 3-4. 8-11 Mt 10, 37-42	3 ST THOMAS APOSTLE Eph 2, 19-22 Psalm 116 John 20, 24-29	4 Gn 19, 15-29 Psalm 25 Mt 8, 23-27	5 Gn 21, 5. 8-20 Psalm 33 Mt 8, 28-34	6 ST MARIA GORETTI Gn 22, 1-19 Psalm 114 Mt 9, 1-8	7 FIRST FRIDAY Gn 23, 1-4.19;24, 1-8 Psalm 105 Mt 9, 9-13	8 Gn 27, 1-5. 15-29 Psalm 134 Mt 9, 14-17
9 14 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Zec 9, 9-10 Psalm 144 Ro 8, 9. 11-13 Mt 11, 25-30	10 Gn 28, 10-22 Psalm 90 Mt 9, 18-26	11 Gn 32, 22-32 Psalm 16 Mt 9, 32-38	12 Gn 41, 55-57; 42, 5-7 Psalm 32 Mt 10, 1-7	13 Gn 44, 18-21. 23b-29; 45 Psalm 104 Mt 10, 7-15	14 Gn 46, 1-7. 28-30 Psalm 36 Mt 10, 16-23	15 Gn 49, 29-32; 50,15-26 Psalm 104 Mt 10, 24-33
16 15 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Isaiah 55, 10-11 Psalm 64 Ro 8, 18-23 Mt 13, 1-23	17 Ex 1, 8-14. 22 Psalm 123 Mt 10, 34-11.1	18 Ex 2, 1-15 Psalm 68 Mt 11, 20-24	19 Ex 3, 1-6. 9-12 Psalm 102 Mt 11, 25-27	20 Ex 3, 13-20 Psalm 104 Mt 11, 28-30	21 Ex 11, 10-12, 14 Psalm 115 Mt 12, 1-8	22 Ct 3, 1-4 Psalm 62, 2-6 John 20, 1. 11-18
23 16 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sab 12, 13. 16-19 Psalm 85 Ro 8, 26-27 Mt 13, 24-43	24 ST VERONICA Mt 12, 38-42	25 ST JAMES APOSTLE Acts 4, 33; 5, 12 Psalm 125 2Cor 4, 7-15 Mt 20, 20-28	26 ST JOAQUIN & ANNE Ecl 1, 10-15 Psalm 131 Mt 13, 16-17	27 Ex 19, 1-2. 9-11 Int/Dn 3, 52-56 Mt 13, 10-17	28 Ex 20, 1-17 Psalm 18 Mt 13, 18-23	29 ST MARTHA 1 Jn 4, 7-16 Psalm 33 John 11, 19-27
30 17 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1 Kings 3, 5-13 Psalm 118 Ro 8, 28-30 Mt 13, 44-52	31 ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA Mt 13, 31-35					

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Friends of Jesus and Mary
XIII Sunday of Ordinary Time - July 2, 2017

Readings: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Psalm 89: 2-3,16-17; Romans 6, 3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10, 37-42

Jesus said to his apostles: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple -amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." (Matthew 10, 37-42)

Reflection

Share with the children about the visits they receive. What special arrangements you make? Do you like to receive visitors in your home? How do they greet in your school or neighborhood when someone new arrives? How do you think they would like to be received? Have you ever been rejected by someone? Share.

Activity

Bring blank paper to the group. Ask the children to draw a house or the house where they would like to live. On the door ask them to write:

JESUS, MY HOUSE IS YOUR HOUSE

Make a commitment to invite someone to their house in the name of Jesus. Invite someone that is not welcomed by others. Write the name on the piece of paper. Share.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to my house and to my heart. Help me to be kind and nice to everyone that comes to my house, as you have taught us. Teach me to be happy and courteous with all and seeing in them your example and image. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary

XIV Sunday of Ordinary Time - July 9, 2017

Readings: Zechariah 9: 9-10; Psalm 145; Romans 8: 8, 11-13; Matthew 11: 25-30

Jesus offers us rest

At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." (Matthew 11: 25-30)

Reflection

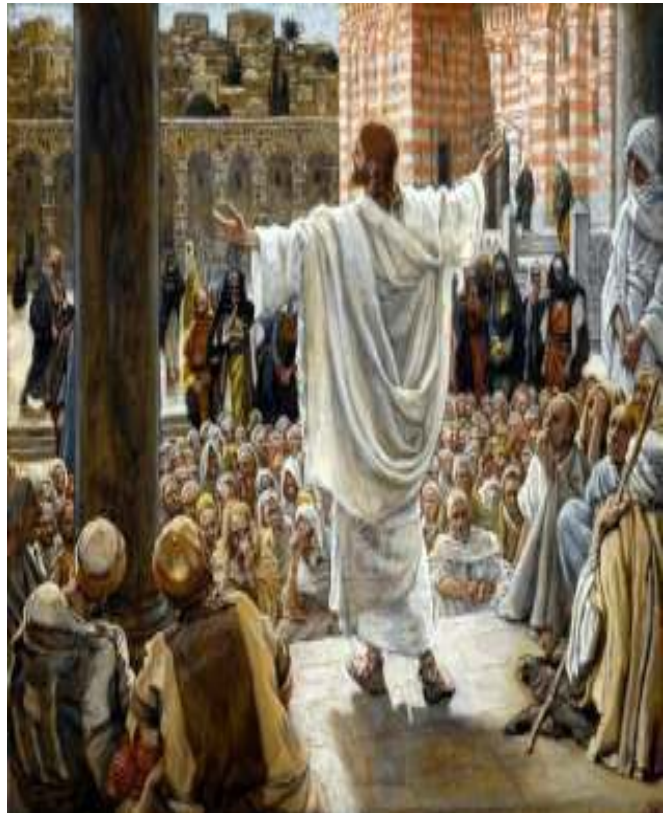
Jesus is always right there to help us when we need him. Do you talk to Jesus about what makes you tired or worried? What problem do you have? Trust in Jesus, He will help, you. Share.

Activity

Bring blank cards to the group. Ask them to write what they would like to do for their mother, father, teachers and for the rest of the adult people in their family, so they can rest. Share whatever each one has written. Place the cards on the altar of the group as a symbol of their commitment.

Prayer

Lord you offer us rest. You are kind, patient and always loving. You are good with all and take care of all creation. Make us rest, may our bonds be like yours; gentle and kind. May we find rest in you and in one another. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary
XV Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 16, 2017

Readings: Isaiah 55: 10-11; Psalm 65; Romans 8: 18-23; Matthew 13: 1-9 or Matthew 13: 1-23

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear." (Matthew 13: 1-9)

Reflection

The word of God, is like the rain that makes the earth fruitful, has the power to change our lives. Good soil is that which produces fruit. The ones who, listening to God, serve and treat others more lovingly. What kind of soil are we? What distracts us and takes us away from God? What good deeds have we performed? Are you good soil for God? Share.

Activity

Draw some seeds of different kinds on the lower part of a piece of paper. Draw from each seed branches and flowers. Write in each flower and branch an action that will make it grow. Example: prayer, taking a friend to mass, helping at home, etc.

Prayer

Lord, open our ears to listen to one another, as well as to hear what you want of us. Make us "good soil" that welcomes your seeds and produces the works of compassion, love, service and justice. I want to be good soil, Jesus. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary

XVI Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 23, 2017

Readings: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Psalm 86; Romans 8, 26-27; Matthew 13, 24-43 or Matthew 13, 24-30

The truth will come out in the end

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.'" (Matthew 13, 24-30)

Reflection

What things around you could destroy your goodness? What values does this society transmit to you? Who are the "good" plants and weeds around you? How do you know the difference? Share.

Activity

Bring to the group newspapers and magazines with the latest news. Form two groups. One group will look for the bad news and the other the good news. Cut them and paste them in a board. Each group share what they find.

Prayer

Lord, help us to trust that goodness will triumph. Teach us to be patient as you are patient with us. Teach us to do well and trust in your Word. You always forgive us, Your love is always there for us. Hear me Lord, listen to my prayer. Help me be good. Amen.





Friends of Jesus and Mary
XVII Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 30, 2017

Readings: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Psalm 119; Romans 8: 28-30; Matthew 13: 44-52 or Matthew 13: 44-46

Seek God, the true treasure

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus, it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." (Matthew 13: 44-52)

Reflection

What things around you could hide good things? What are the values that the society transmits to the community? Who could be a good or a bad influence around you? How do you decide? How do you know the difference? Share.

Activity

Dramatize the gospel as it appears in the Bible. Then dramatize it adapted to our times.

Prayer

Lord, how difficult it is to trust that goodness will triumph. Teach us to be patient, because you are patient. Teach us to do good and to trust in your word. You always forgive us and your love is always there for those who come to you. Hear us oh Lord. Amen.



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Amigos de Jesús y María



August 2017

Miami, Florida

Dear Brothers and Sister:

July & August are the summer vacation. Teach the children the importance to enjoy the family. And don't forget the regular prayers. Have a nice summer

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

August	03	Saint John Vianney
August	06	Transfiguration
August	12	St Claire
August	15	The Assumption
August	23	St. Rose of Lima
August	27	St Monica
August	28	St Augustine

Enclosed material and activities:

- 1) Calendar & Meditations on the Sunday Gospel
- 2) Activities for July & August
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Suggest Videos:

1. Creations
2. Prayer
3. The Good Samaritan

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Transfiguration of the Lord/ August 6, 2017

Readings: DANIEL 7:9-10, 13-14; PSALM 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 PETER 1:16-19; MATHEW 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. "When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."(Mathew 17 ,17-9)

Reflection

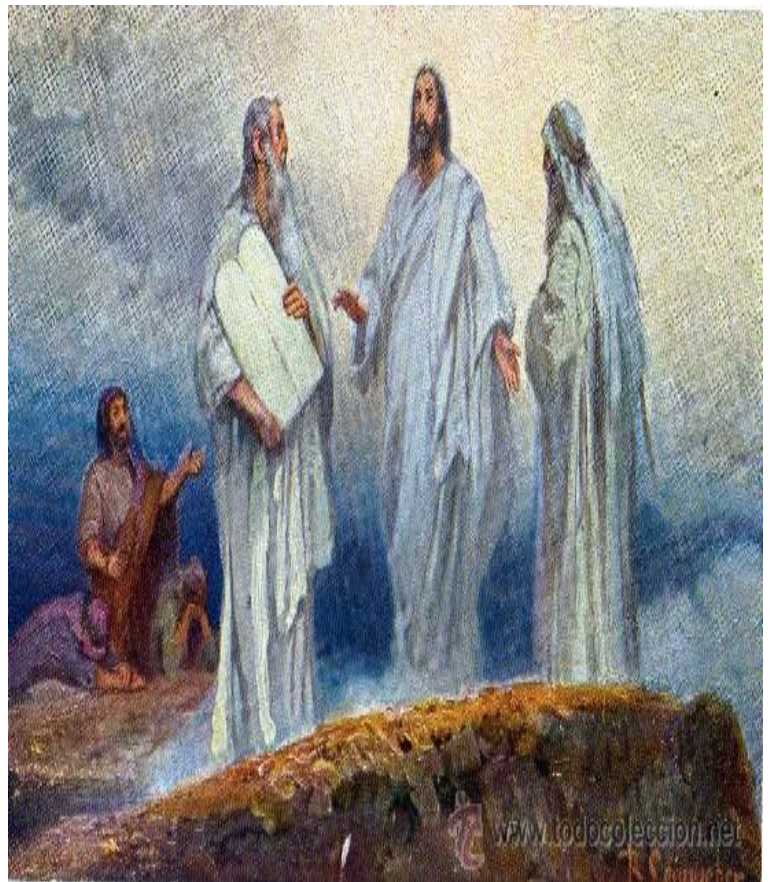
In the transfiguration, Jesus shows himself as He is to his best friends. Jesus is radiant with light to show that he really is the Son of God. This is a call to listen to Jesus as a priority. The Transfiguration gives us a taste of the triumph of Jesus and our reasons to trust in God, always. What obstacles do they find in their own homes and communities? Have they ever been so happy in one place that they didn't want to leave? Why did they have to leave? To whom do they willingly listen to? What are the most difficult tasks or things they have to do? Share.

Activity

Dramatize the gospel story of this week. Explain to them that Moses and Elijah are a sign of the Law and the Prophets, the two pillars of the Judaism. Jesus is the par excellence prophet, who brings to fulfillment the laws of the Old Testament, eliminates the obligations of it and teach us the law of love to God.

Prayer

Lord, you give us light and we trust in you to continue walking with us when things are difficult. You show your splendor in the kindness, the smiles, the generosity, and affection of each member of our group and family. Thank you for making us your beloved children. Amen.



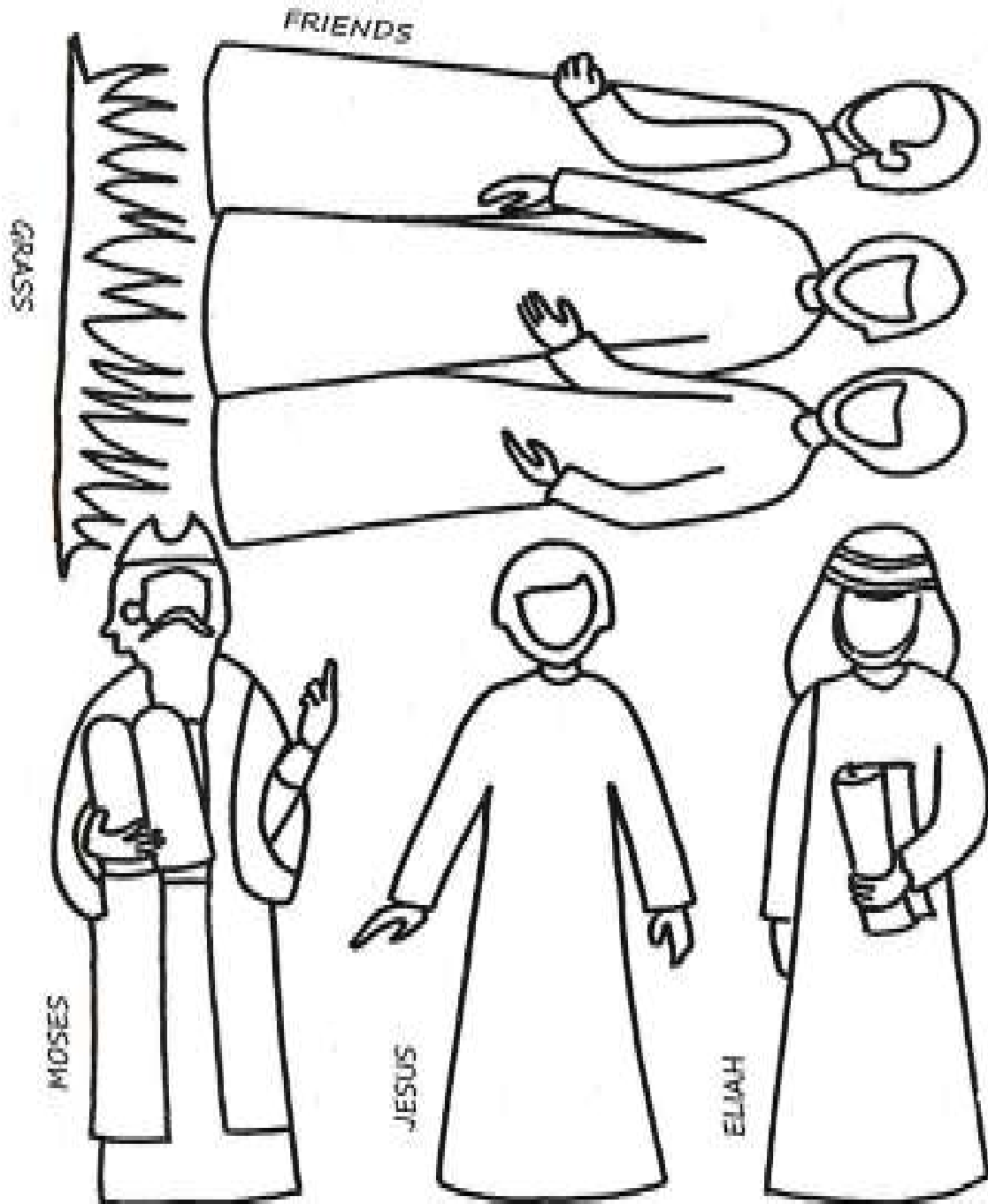


The Transfiguration, Book II-A, Unit 4
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Friends of Jesus and Mary

XIX Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 13, 2017

READINGS: 1 KINGS 19:9A, 11-13A; PSALM 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 PETER 1:16-19; MATHEW 17:1-9

Jesus walks on the water

After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them walking on the sea. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear. At once Jesus spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God." (Mathew 17:1-9)

Reflection

We often say we believe and trust God, but when there is a terrible storm in our lives-like the death of a loved one, sickness, etc.it appears as if God we're sleeping and not hearing our prayers. It is in these times that we need a greater trust in the power of God. Faith in God give us the strength to go forward. Share

Activity

Ask the children which are the things they are afraid?
What are the things that make them feel good?
In a piece of paper draw a happy face and a mad face.
Write under each one a happy or sad action. Share.

Prayer

Lord help us not to be afraid and to trust in You.
Specially help us when problems come. Give us
compassion and tenderness to support all those
who feel overwhelmed by life. Amen





Friends of Jesus and Mary

Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary August 15, 2017

Readings: Revelations 11:19; 12: 3-6a, 10a; Psalm 44; 1Corinthians 15, 20-27a; Luke 1, 39-56

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said,

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, and has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever."

Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home. (Luke 1,39-56)

Reflection

Jesus love so much her mother that He took her in body and soul to Heaven. From Heaven, she cares and intercedes for all of us. When Jesus die in the cross, gave her as our mother to love and venerate her. Share

Activity and Commitment for the week

This week I will try to increase my love and respect to the Virgin Mary. She is with Jesus in Heaven and intercedes for us. Let's talk about the Virgin Mary to someone that does not know her.

Prayer

Thank you Jesus for Mary your mother. By her example, may we be obedient to your divine will and believe in your promises. May she always be our example to follow. Amen





Friends of Jesus and Mary

XX Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 20, 2017

Readings: Isaiah 56, 1.6-7; Psalm 66; Romans 11, 13-15.29-32; Matthew 15, 21-28

A Canaanite woman's faith

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." "He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. (Matthew 15,21-28)

Reflection

Do I have the tendency to give up in my desires and petitions to God if I feel they are not fulfilled immediately and in the way, I would like? What do I usually pray for? Imagine you are the woman. Do you stop insisting because Jesus does not want to listen to you? What do you say to convince him? Jesus is moved by the insistence and strong faith of the woman. What convinces you that you must help others? Do you reject some children because they are not like you? Share

Activity

Dramatize the scene as it appears on this Sunday gospel. Then dramatize it adapted to today's world.

Prayer

**Lord, sometimes we don't pray well because we pray selfishly. Other times we are discouraged because it is not answer immediately. Give us a strong and generous faith, determined to follow you always.
Amen**

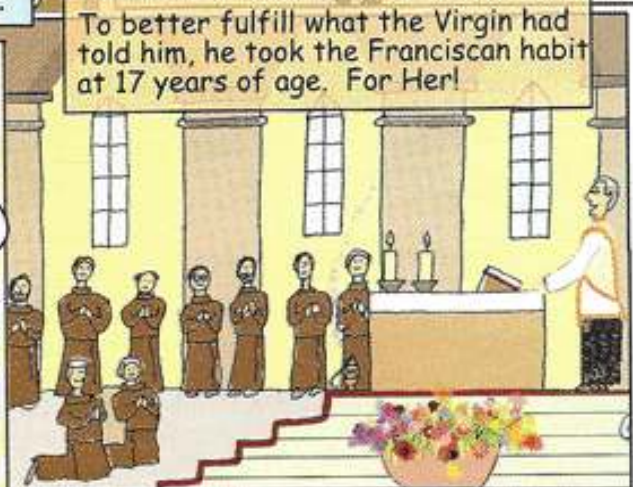




St. Maximilian Kolbe



AND ONE DAY AS HE PRAYED...

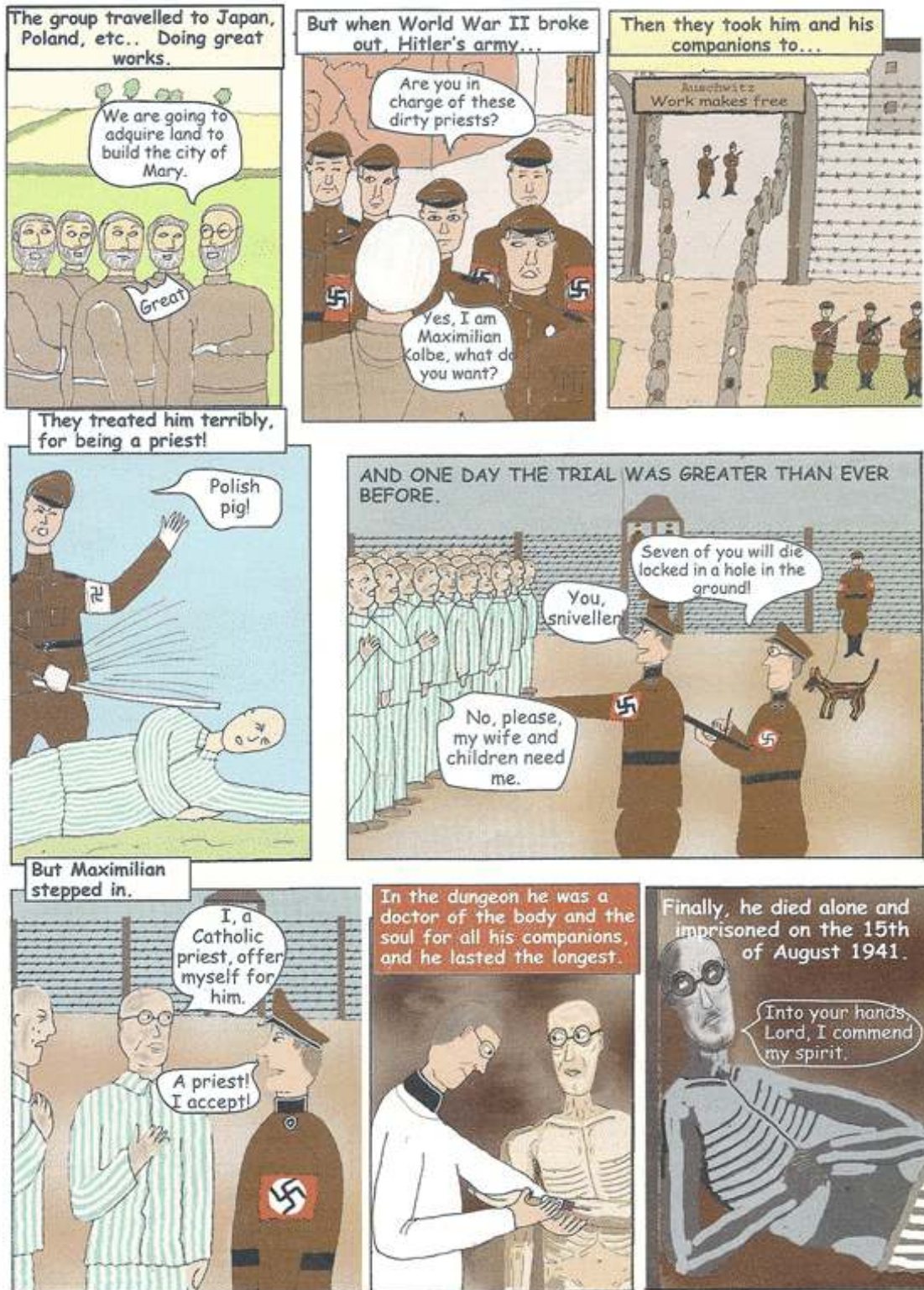


Then he founded the "Militia of the Immaculata", which began with seven members.



AT 25 YEARS OF AGE, MAXIMILIAN WAS ORDAINED AS A PRIEST AND CELEBRATED HIS FIRST MASS.





7 H.M. for Children

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Florida Center for Peace

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XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 27, 2017

Readings: Isaiah 22, 19-23; Psalm 137; Romans 11, 33-36; Matthew 16, 13-20

Peter's Confession about Jesus

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so, I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ. (*Matthew 16, 13-20*)

Reflection

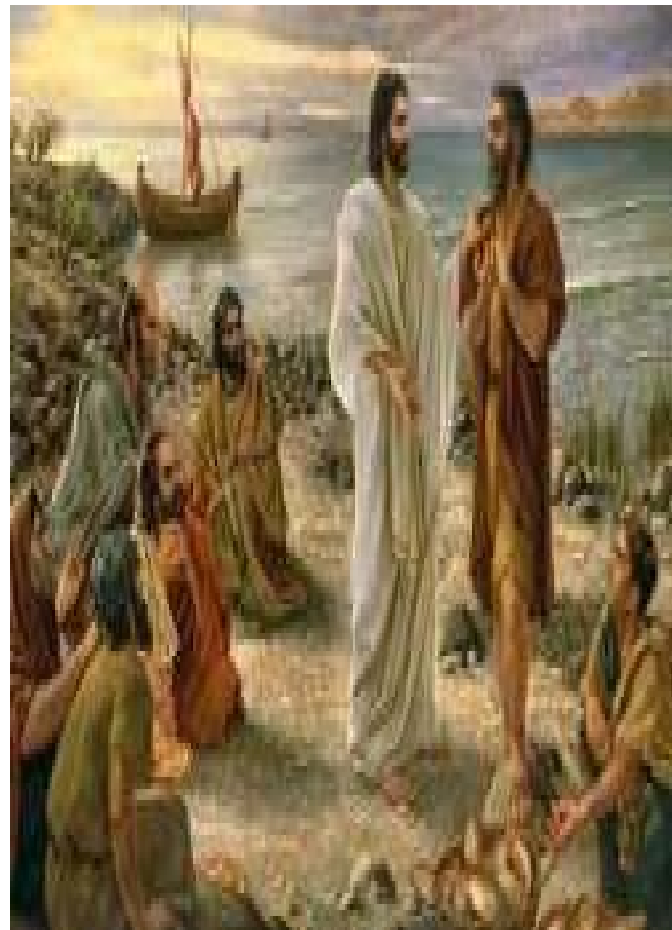
All of us will like to know what others think about us. In this Sunday gospel Jesus wants to know the same. Are you surprised about what Peter answers Jesus? If you are Peter, what do you tell Jesus about leading His church? If you are one of the other disciples, what would you think of Peter? He is a simple fisherman, and receiving such great job. Who do you say Jesus is? Share

Activity

Tell the children about the Pope, bishops, and the structure of the Catholic Church. The Pope as the successor of Peter, the bishops as successors of the apostles. Tell them the name of the local bishop and Pastor.

Prayer

Lord, you have given us everything, and everything comes from you. Thanks for choosing Peter as our leader. Thanks for our bishops, our pastor and priests. Amen



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