

The logo for 'Kids' LITURGY' is centered in a white rectangular box. The word 'Kids' is in a playful, rounded font where the 'i' is red with a white heart inside. 'K' is blue, 'd' is yellow, and 's' is purple. Below it, the word 'LITURGY' is in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The entire graphic is set against a yellow background with a blue wavy border and vertical blue lines.

Kids' LITURGY

Dear Parents,

Here are weekly activities, centered around the Sunday liturgy, that children can engage in during our time of remote services. Just click on this page and scroll down to the current Sunday.

May God continue to guide and bless us.

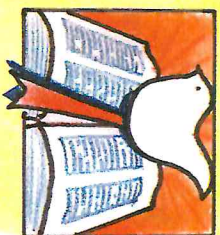
You can reach the Office of Faith Formation at 805/969-4868.

- To keep this special time from turning into “just another religion lesson,” have a simple family celebration afterwards, maybe cookies and milk, or popcorn and a fruit drink.



Written by Prandine O'Connor, Art by Chris Sharp. © 2021 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63051-9999. Impaginator: Most Rev. Robert J. Henman, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Printed in USA. All rights reserved. It is a violation of copyright law to reproduce all or part of this material without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications, Liguori.org

Answer to "Good News Rebus": C + GOATS - CAT + PEN - N + LACE - ACE = GOSPEL
 Answer to "Good News Mystery Message": WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME I WILL DO.

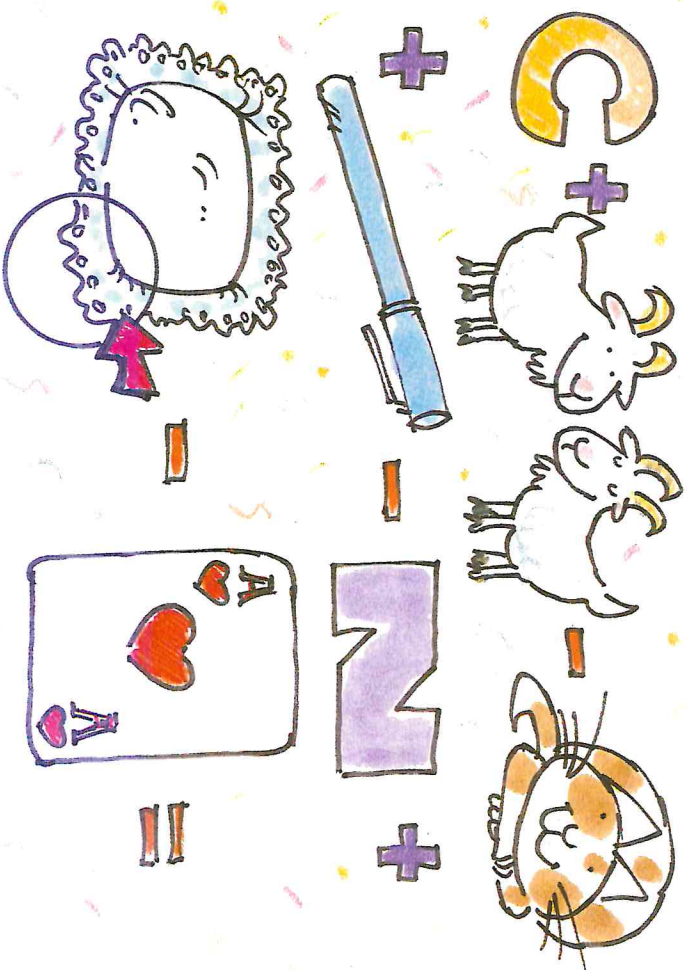


explaining GOD'S
WORD

First Sunday of Lent (B) • Mark 1:12-15 • February 21, 2021

GOOD NEWS REBUS

Jesus has Good News to share. Solve the rebus to discover where you can find this Good News.



BURSTING

WITH

GOOD NEWS

Don't you just love good news? You feel like you will just burst if you don't go right out and tell someone else. It's a bubbly, happy, party kind of feeling.

Like when you get 100 on your spelling test. Your teacher smiles and says you're real smart. And you can't wait to get home to tell your mother the GOOD NEWS!

Or when you hit a home run. The team dances around you and cheers. And you're so proud you'd like to tell the whole world the GOOD NEWS!



In this week's gospel story, Jesus goes out to the desert to pray. Then he goes to Galilee and tells the people the GOOD NEWS of the Kingdom of God.

Good News Mystery Message

Using the key below, can you decode the following Good News from Jesus?

16 4 1 13 3 15 3 11

1 12 6

17 10 14

9 1 8 3

8 17

2 10

5 9

16 5 7 7

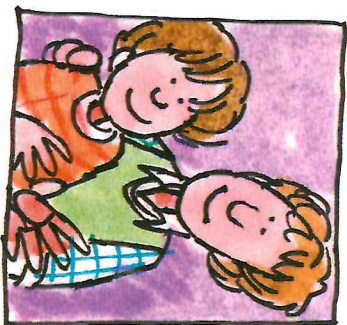
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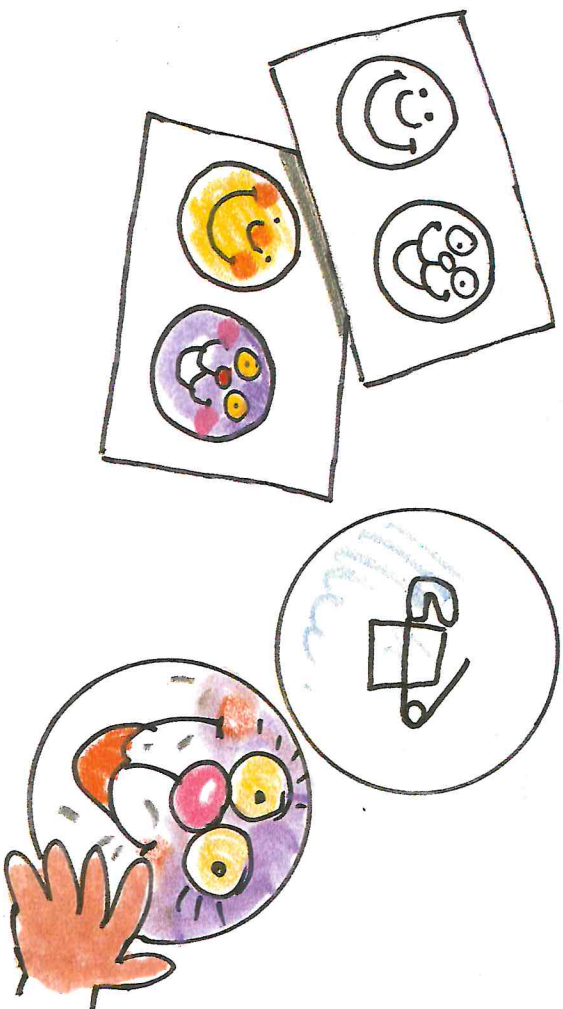
1 = A, 2 = D, 3 = E, 4 = H, 5 = I, 6 = K, 7 = L, 8 = M, 9 = N, 10 = O, 11 = R, 12 = S, 13 = T, 14 = U, 15 = V, 16 = W, 17 = Y.

Family Face

Try to think of some ways to change yourself and those around you. Each time you find a new way to show Jesus' love to someone this week, give the person a "happy button." You will bring smiles to many faces, and you will find yourself smiling as well!



- 1** Draw some happy faces on cardboard or heavy paper.
- 2** Decorate your happy faces with bright colors and cut them out.
- 3** On the back of each happy face, tape a small safety pin.
- 4** Now see how many of these buttons you can pass along.



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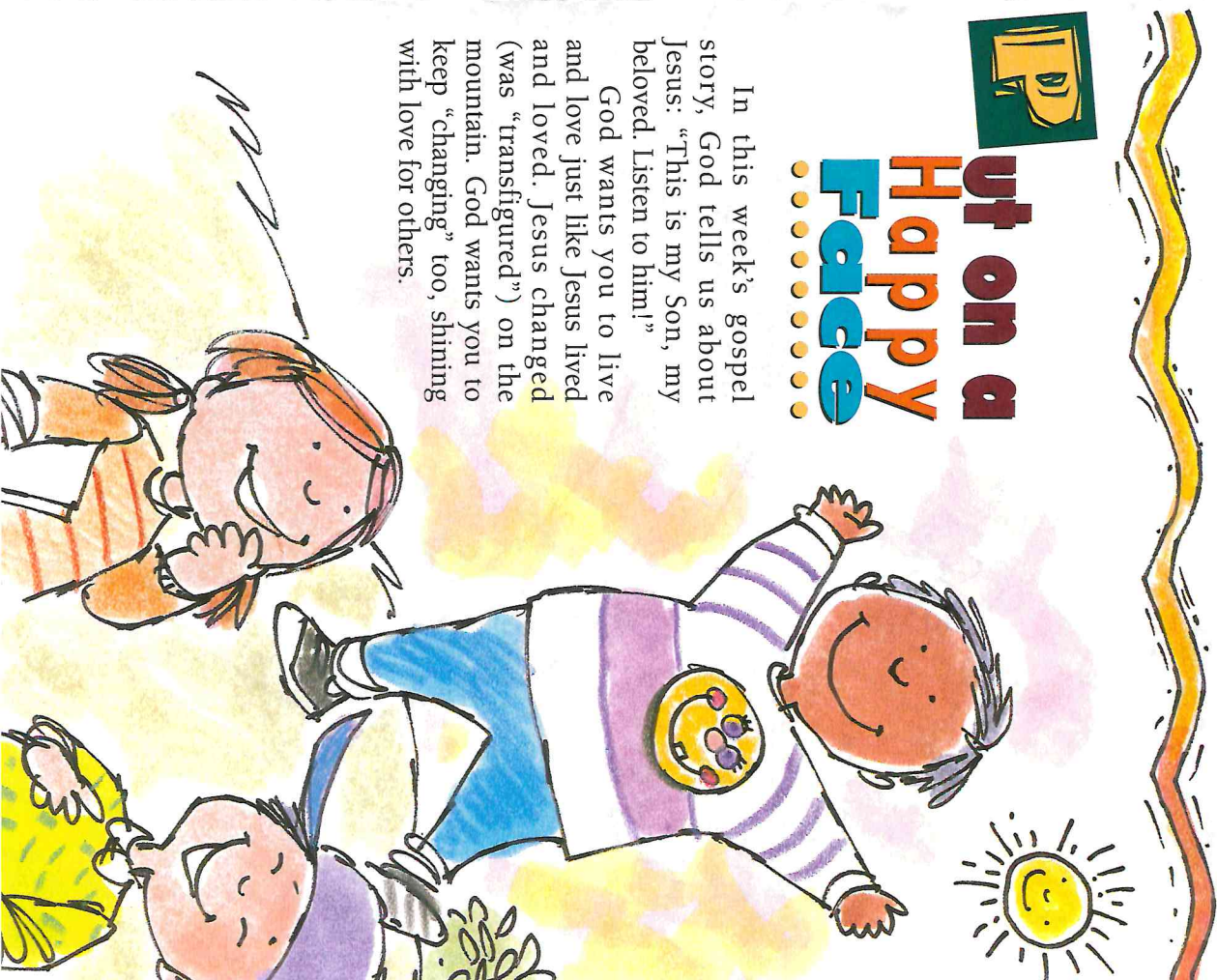
explaining GOD'S WORD

Second Sunday of Lent (B) • Mark 9:2-10 • February 28, 2021

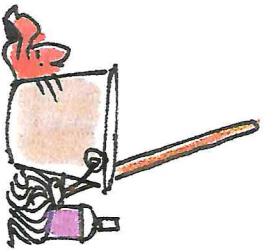
Put on a Happy Face

In this week's gospel story, God tells us about Jesus: "This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him!"

God wants you to live and love just like Jesus lived and loved. Jesus changed (was "transfigured") on the mountain. God wants you to keep "changing" too, shining with love for others.

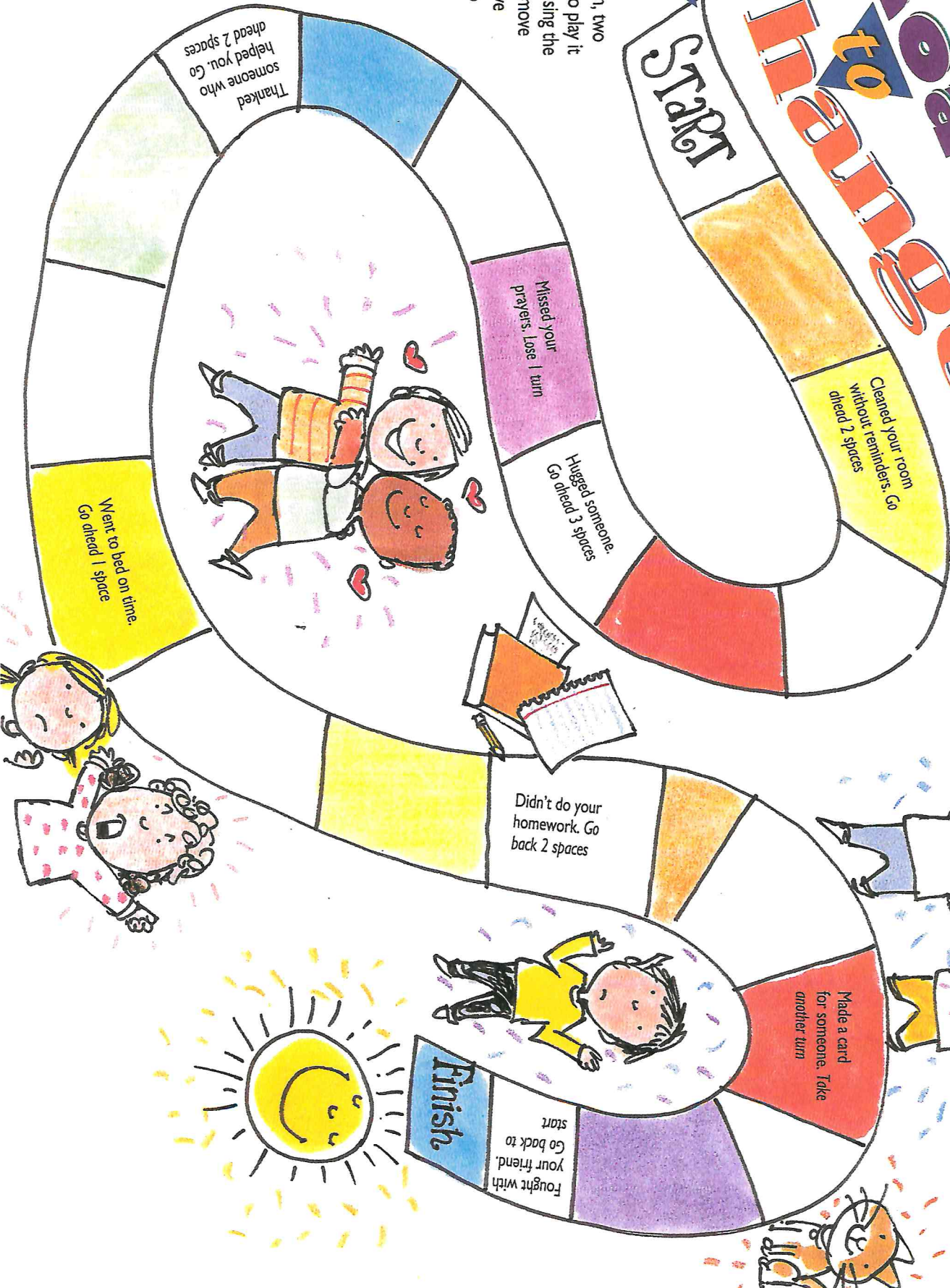


On the Road to CHITTY CHITTY BOO

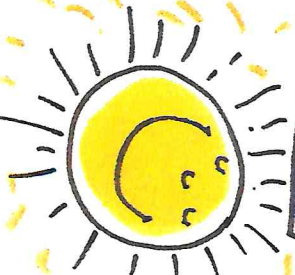


Start

Here is a game you can play. You will need a coin, two buttons, and someone to play it with you. Take turns tossing the coin. Heads means you move one space, tails you move two. See who can get to the "happy face" first.

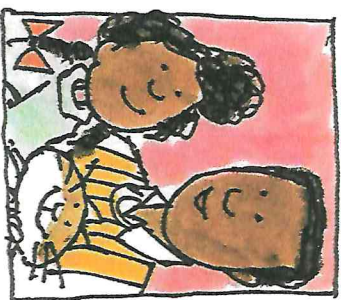


Thank-you.



Family Egg

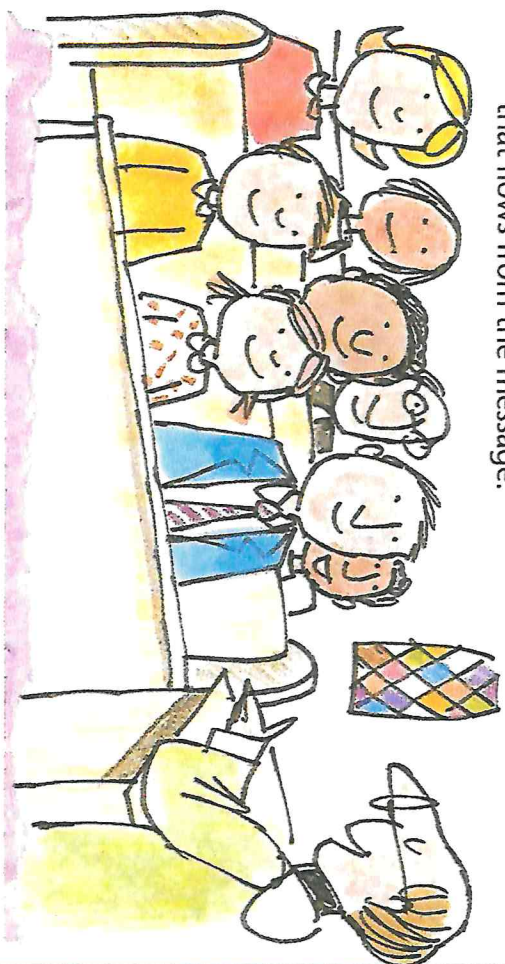
Jesus made it quite clear to the money changers and sellers in the Temple that his Father's house is a house of prayer. It should be like "coming home to God" every time you enter the church. Here are some suggestions for making Mass more meaningful for the whole family.



1 Buy a children's Mass book. Show the little ones pictures of what they will see at Mass. Let them take the book to church with them.

2 Get to Mass early and sit where the children can see everything that is going on. It is difficult to maintain interest when you can see nothing but the backs of people's heads.

3 Later in the day (or week), discuss the gospel message again, fitting this message into your lives. Perhaps you can decide on a "gospel response" each week, a family activity that flows from the message.



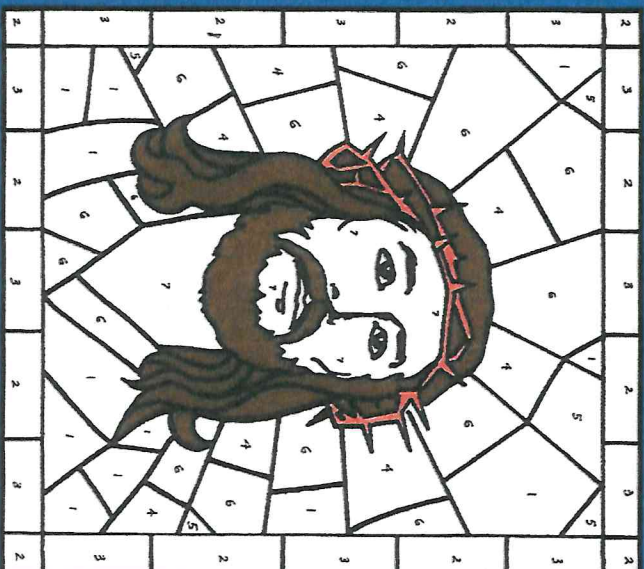
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explaining GOD'S WORD

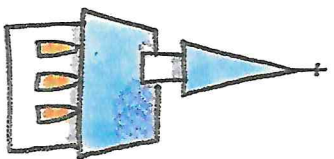
Third Sunday of Lent (B) • John 2:13-25 • March 7, 2021

Make a Stained-glass Window



Many churches have beautiful stained-glass windows. Using the color key below, you can make this window as bright and beautiful as the windows in the church.

COLOR KEY: 1=Red, 2=Blue, 3=Green, 4=Yellow, 5=Purple, 6=Orange, 7=Pink



GOD'S HOUSE

One day, Jesus went to Jerusalem for a special holiday called Passover. People came from miles around to celebrate this feast and praise their wonderful God in the Temple in Jerusalem.

But Jesus noticed that some people were not there to worship God. They were charging unfair prices so they could make more money.

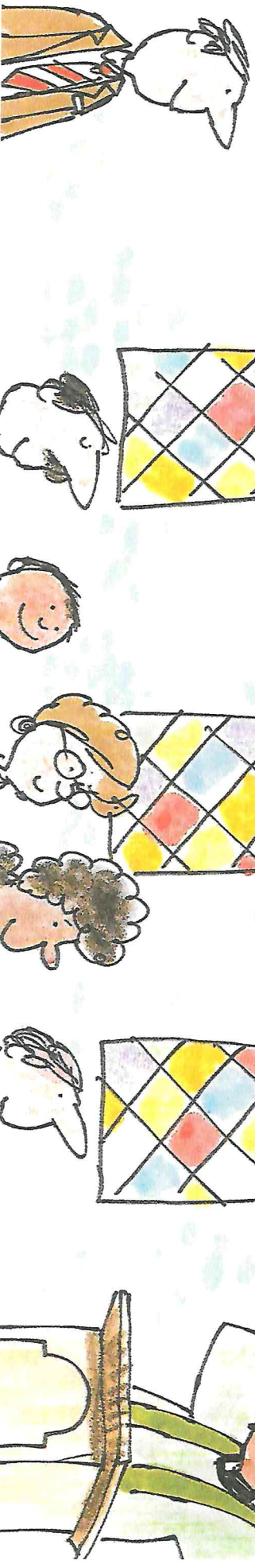
THIS made Jesus angry! He wanted the people to respect the Temple because it was

God's house — a place for celebration and for prayer, a place to “come home” to God.

YOUR church, like the Temple of long ago, is God's house too. At Mass you come together with your whole parish family to celebrate and to pray — to be with God.

You can thank God for loving you. You can tell God about your friends and what makes you happy. You can ask God for help if you have a problem.

The church is God's house — a perfectly wonderful place!



Family Egg

The butterfly is a traditional Easter symbol. The caterpillar, to all outward appearances, is dead as it lies within the cocoon it has spun around itself. Then one day it emerges as a beautiful butterfly.

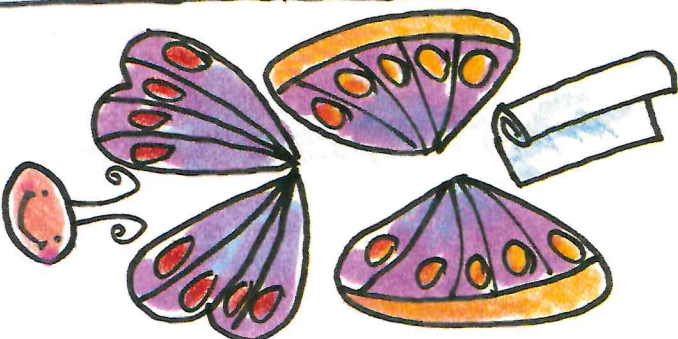
This butterfly is the caterpillar in a new form. So Jesus, emerging from the tomb, is the same person — but glorified!

Begin this project by choosing a large piece of poster paper or burlap. Attach a bare branch and the words *Iife through death*.

On squares of paper (like those pictured here), write down some things you can do to be more loving. Cut the squares out and roll them up like a cocoon. As you finish each loving act, the cocoon can become the body of a butterfly. Just use the patterns you see here to add the wings and head. Attach your butterflies to the branch as signs that you are rising to new life with Jesus.



Give money to the poor.
Pick up my dirty clothes.
Play without fighting.
Tell my family I love them.



Join hands and pray this prayer together:

Jesus, your death made it possible for us to live as your brothers and sisters in the family of God. Help us to die to selfish attitudes that cause us to be locked up within ourselves as the butterfly is locked within the cocoon. With your help and our efforts, we free ourselves to love others as you yourself love them.

Amen



explaining GOD'S WORD

Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) • John 3:14-21 • March 14, 2021



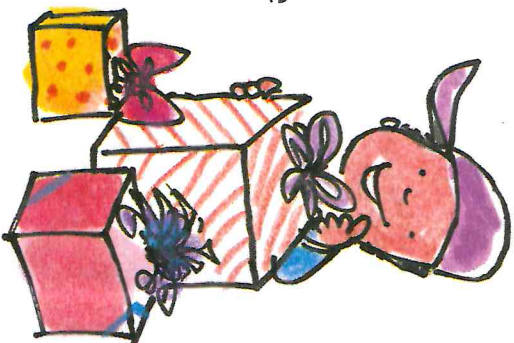
LIFE through DEATH

a picture to color

The Best Gifts of All



Do you like to get gifts? What kind of gifts do you like to get? Do you like to GIVE gifts? What kind of gifts do you like to give? What is the most wonderful gift that you have ever received? Giving and receiving gifts is one way people say "I love you."



God said "I love you" to us in the most wonderful way of all. God gave Jesus to us so we could share his life and love now and be with God forever in heaven.



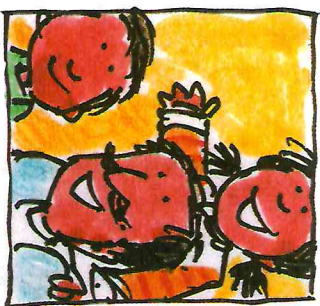
Jesus gave gifts of love too. He healed the people, helped them to know about God, told them stories about heaven, and taught them how to love one another. Then he gave the greatest gift of all! He suffered and died on the cross, just to say "I love you!"

God said "I love you" by giving us Jesus. Jesus said "I love you" by giving his life. How will you say "I love you" this week?



Family Page

In many parts of the country, new spring growth is just beginning. Point out how the flowers and leaves and bushes all seem to die in the winter — only to burst into life again in the spring. To emphasize the “new life” message of Jesus this week, the family can work together on a GARDEN OF LOVE poster.



- 1 A piece of poster board is ideal for this project, but a large piece of paper or even a grocery bag will do.
- 2 Write across the top of your poster: GARDEN OF LOVE.
- 3 Cut out pictures of different kinds of flowers from magazines, or draw, color, and cut out your own flower designs.
- 4 Each time someone in the family does a kind deed for someone else, paste a flower onto the poster.
- 5 Keep adding to your poster for the next two weeks. This way it should be filled and lovely for Easter.



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explaining GOD'S WORD

Fifth Sunday of Lent (B) • John 12:20-33 • March 21, 2021



What will grow here?

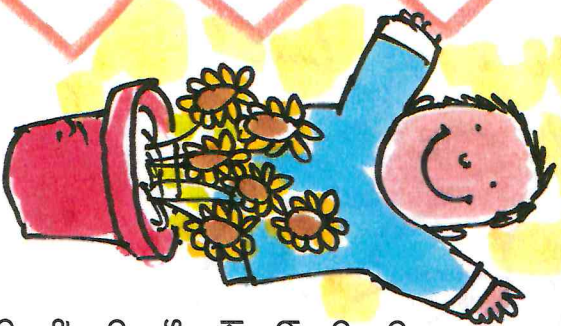
Find the seeds scattered on this page. Using a yellow crayon, fill in every space where there is a seed. You will discover a hidden surprise.

Garden of Love

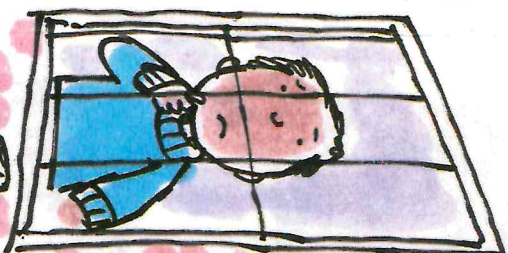


Tony lived in the city. He had never seen a country garden or walked in a field of golden wheat. But outside Tony's window grew a lovely yellow wild flower. Just seeing this flower every morning made Tony feel happy all day.

When winter came, the flower died. This made Tony very sad. Tony's mother shook the tiny seeds from the blossom into her hands. "Plant them," she said to her son. Tony put the seeds into a pot and covered them with dirt.

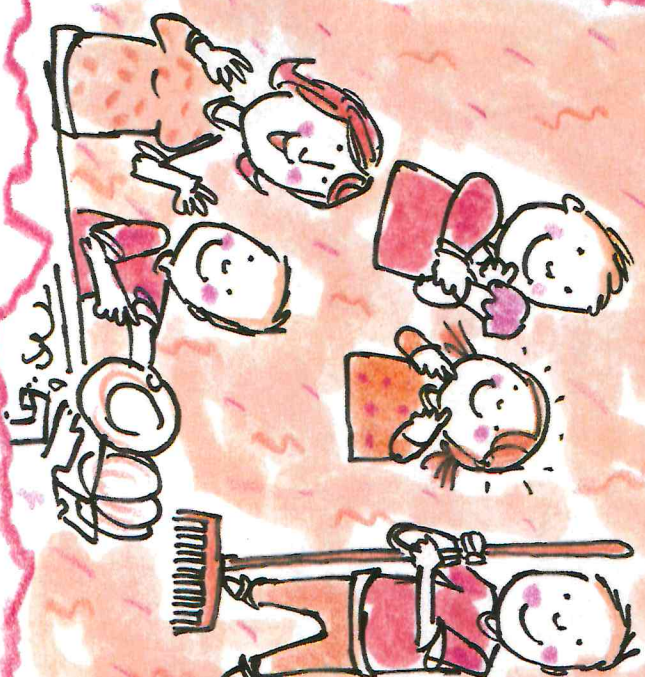


Every day Tony checked his flowerpot; day after day nothing happened. "My flower is dead," Tony thought. "Nothing can ever bring it back." Still, all through the long winter, Tony kept the dirt moist. Finally, one day in early spring, tiny green sprouts pushed through the dirt. Then tiny buds appeared on the sprouts and soon became bright yellow blossoms. Six of them! More beautiful than before.



In this week's gospel story, Jesus says, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." He meant that just as a seed will fall and then grow again in the spring, so he would have to die to the world to live a new and beautiful kind of life in the hearts of his people forever.

You too can live a new life, become a brand new YOU, by turning away from selfish things and doing kind things for others.



Family Egg



We are now in the last week of waiting for Easter. There are new life signs all around to remind us of the new life we hope to experience with Jesus someday. The anticipation will be easier to handle if we begin planning and preparing now. Some of the children can make place mats or name cards for the table. Decorate them with special symbols of the Resurrection. Others can decorate a candle to represent Jesus.

In planning your meal, remember that some of the food can be symbolic. Easter eggs represent the darkness of the tomb before the Resurrection; they can be decorated with religious symbols. A lamb cake reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God. Here is a recipe for a simple (and fun) Easter salad. The children can make these shortly before Easter dinner next week.



Bunny Salad

For each serving, place a crisp lettuce leaf on a plate. On top of the lettuce, place a chilled pear half, upside down. For the bunny's face, use the narrow end of the pear. The eyes are raisins, the nose is a maraschino cherry, the ears are two blanched almonds, and the tail is a cottage cheese ball.



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explaining GOD'S WORD

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B) • Mark 14—15:47 or 15:1-39 • March 28, 2021

GOSPEL SCRAMBLE

WIRET A ELTETR

APLY A AGEM

MSLIE

EHLPA RFIEDN

AMKE A ACDR



When the people complained to Jesus that the woman was wasting perfume, Jesus told them, "She has performed a good service for me." Can you think of anything that you can do for others this week? Unscramble the words on this page for a few starting ideas.

A Kind and Beautiful Service

This week's gospel is the long story of all the sad things that happened just before Jesus died. But in the very beginning of the story, one woman does a kind thing for Jesus. She puts some expensive perfume on Jesus' hair to show him how much she loves him.

"How foolish," some people tell her. "You should sell the perfume and give the money to the poor." But Jesus tells them, "She has performed a good service for me. Wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her." With all the sadness that was to come, Jesus was very pleased with this woman, for she didn't put off being kind. In a little while he would leave, and the time for her to love him would not come again.

Do you ever put off doing kind things for the people you love the most? Maybe you really mean to write Grandma or you mean to tell Mom you love her or you mean to tell your best friend what fun it is when you play together. But you just never get

around to it. There's always tomorrow, you say. Remember what the gospel story teaches: The time to love others is now!

Is there someone you want to love? Don't put it off — DO IT NOW!

