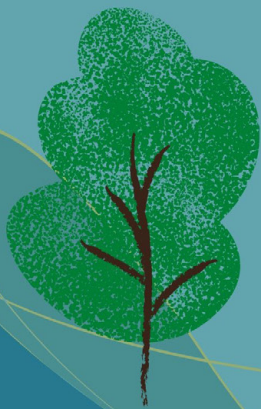


FOLLOW ME!



Journey with Jesus



Your digital passport for a
A FAMILY SUMMER ADVENTURE IN FAITH

Your Passport to Adventure

Welcome!

This is your passport for a summer Journey with Jesus! This family summer adventure in faith will carry you through the Sunday readings from July 12 to August 30. Although the church's liturgical calendar calls those weeks the 15th through 22nd Sundays in Ordinary Time, on this trip you'll find out – thanks to Jesus – that they are anything but “ordinary.”

On this journey, we'll travel through God's Word with the help of songs, video lessons, activities and prayers. You'll discover some of the amazing things Jesus wants us all to know about his love for us.

How it works

This digital passport can be printed, used online or both ways. (There are some coloring pages and puzzles that you'll want to print in order to complete them.)

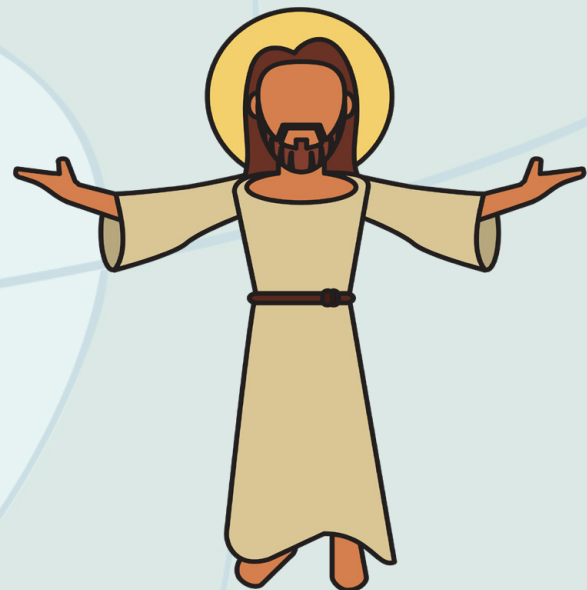
Each weekly adventure starts with the Journey with Jesus theme song, “Journey Off the Map.” The link is built right into the digital booklet as are other links to help travel throughout the weeks to more songs, video stories and fun activities. (Full URLs to links are also referenced at the end of the booklet.)

The way to get the most out of the journey is to do the activities before the upcoming Sunday's readings, that way when you hear God's Word at mass, you'll understand even more about what Jesus wants you to know.

But the best part is that you're welcome to travel on this adventure whatever way it works for your family.

Enjoy the journey and some special time with Jesus this summer.

God bless you!



July 12

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 13:1-9

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."



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**

Everyone loves stories! Jesus did too. He used stories to teach us many important lessons. The stories of Jesus are called parables. A parable is a special kind of a story that has a mystery. See if you can discover the mystery in this parable. It is the story of a farmer who was planting (sowing) his seeds.

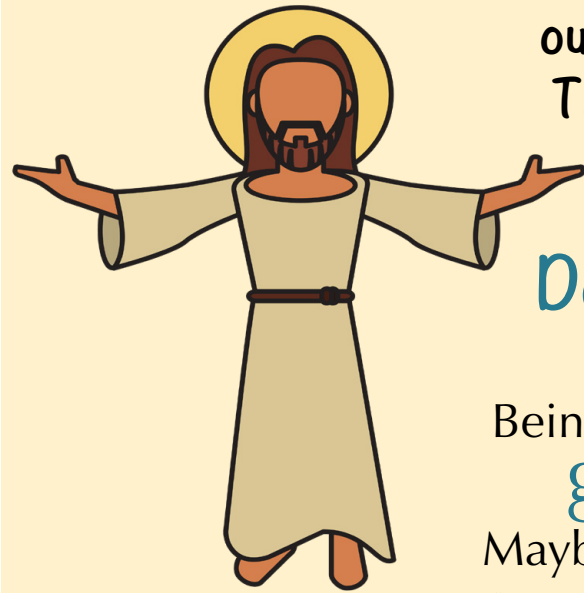
- What was the story about?
- What do you know about seeds?
- Who is the sower?
- What is the seed?
- What could the thorns be?
- What does Jesus want to teach you?
- Did you find the mystery?



What did you learn about yourself and what Jesus wants you to be?

The Sower and the Seed

Here's a song that might help you find out what Jesus wants you to be. The song is, "I Wanna Be Mud"



Do you want to be mud?

Being mud so the **seeds of Faith** can **grow** in **you** is one idea. Maybe you would rather think about the goodness or fruit that could grow from the seed that grows in the mud.

Try it!

Draw a picture of a tree, a shrub, a vine, or a large plant. Instead of coloring it, decorate it with the seeds. Be creative. As you work on your project, think about how seeds grow in rich soil. Think about how **God's love is growing in you** because your heart has rich soil.

You need

- sheet of paper
- pencil
- glue or glue stick
- seeds

(seed can be popcorn, dried beans, peas, lentils, pumpkin seeds, fruit seeds, whatever you can find.)

Let us Pray: The Sower Prayer In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Father, Jesus told his followers a story about the sower. Some of the seed fell on rocky soil, or on the path, or fell among the thorns, and did not grow. But some of the seed fell on rich soil. We want to be like the rich soil. We want your word to grow in us. Help us to be open to your word in our lives. May we open our hearts to hear your word and live it. Amen. *Adapted from Sower Prayer by Patricia Mathson, "Bless This Day"*

July 19

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 13:24-43

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.”’”



 **Sing:** Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**

Parables are stories that compare two things. **What things are being compared in this story?**



They use images from everyday life. **What images do you notice?**

Parables usually end with a surprise, or an unexpected twist. **What is surprising about the way this parable ends?**

Parables reveal some aspect of the Reign of God. **What aspect did you observe?**

WATCH IT!



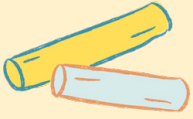
Click the screen for a video story about this parable.

Watch this video and read these other Gospel passages telling the parable of the sower.

- Mark 4:1-9
- Matthew 13: 3-31
- Luke 8:4-8

Does the message change?

The Parable of the Weeds



Try it!

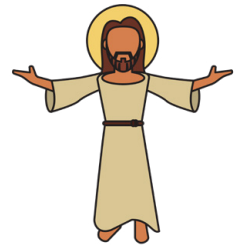
Use sidewalk chalk to retell this parable.
Include all the people and items described.
Take your family on a walk through this
Gospel and tell them what Jesus wants them to know!



Here's a song called
Lovely Noise - it
reminds us how
amazing God is and
how generous he is to
all of us.

Let us Pray: Family prayer is a great way to pray with God's Word.

Leader 1: Loving God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, You have called us to be your own. Through moments in our lives of joy, pain, hope, or disappointment, you walk with us as our brother and Lord each step of the way. Give us confidence that your gift of faith can sustain us through even the greatest obstacles. Even in the most difficult struggles of life, faith renews our spirits. We pray that in our moments of doubt, you will help our unbelief. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Now, let us listen to the Word of God taken from the Gospel of Matthew 13:40-43



Leader 2: (Gospel Reading)...Just as the weeds are gathered up and burned in the fire, so the same thing will happen at the end of the age: the Son of Man will send out his angels to gather up out of his Kingdom all those who cause people to sin and all others who do evil things, and they will throw them into the fiery furnace where they will cry ... then God's people will shine like the sun in their Father's Kingdom. Listen, then, if you have ears! The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader 1: The parable of the weeds helps us understand our responsibility as Christians to listen to what God is saying to us. (For God said, "If you have ears, listen!") Just as Saint Boniface listened to what God was telling him, we also must act on what God asks of us. What do you think God is saying to you? (Moment of silence) If we follow Jesus, we have confidence that we will rest securely with him in the Kingdom of God. (After a few moments of silent reflection) In closing, let us pray the Lord's Prayer together:

All: Our Father...

July 26

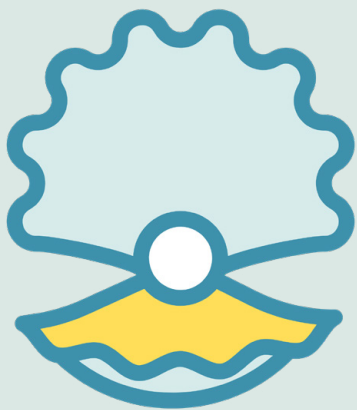
Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 13:44-46
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.”



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**

Are you a treasure hunter?



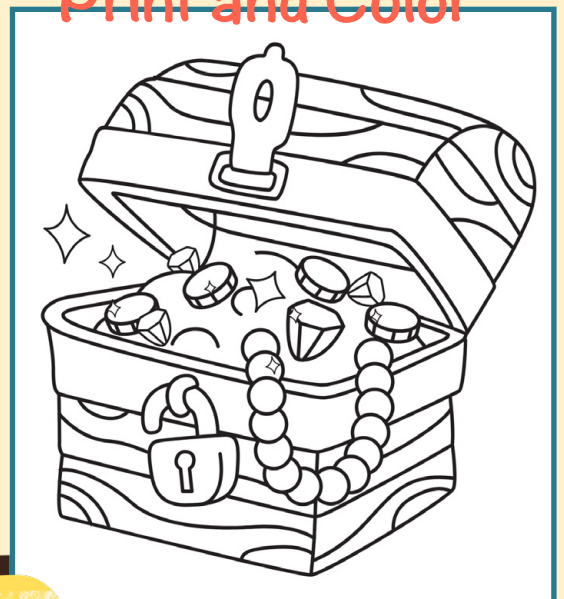
- What do you think Jesus means when he talks about treasure?
- What are the treasures in your church?
- Talk about why you these things are special.
- Name things and people you treasure most.



Enjoy this song,
“I Found a
Treasure.”

**What's the
greatest
treasure?**

Print and Color



The Parable of the Weeds

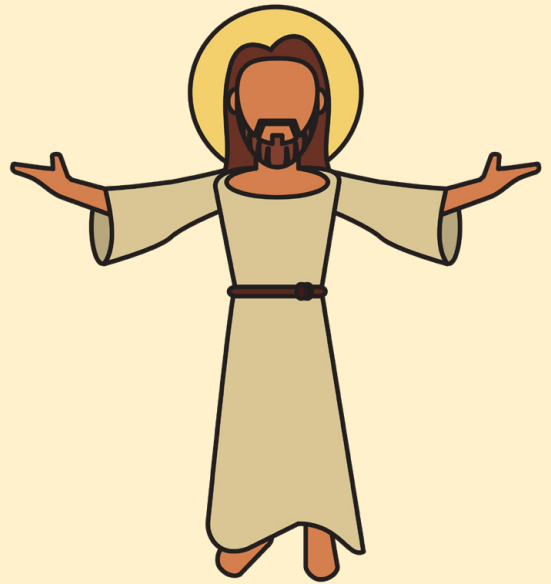
Try it!



My Church's Greatest Treasures Collage

Put together a collage using any of the following:

pictures, decorative items you may have on hand, personal artwork, words, or anything else you can think of to show the treasures in your church. Add a brief description of the finished product with your child's first name and take a picture of it and share it with your parish!



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

Find these words from the Gospel

kingdom

heaven

treasure

buried

field

joy

merchant

fine

pearls

price

buy

Jesus

disciples

Let us Pray: Jesus, you are my greatest treasure. Help me to always love you and follow wherever you lead me. **Amen.**

August 2

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 13:1-9

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowd heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over - twelve baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men not counting women and children."



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things.

Amen



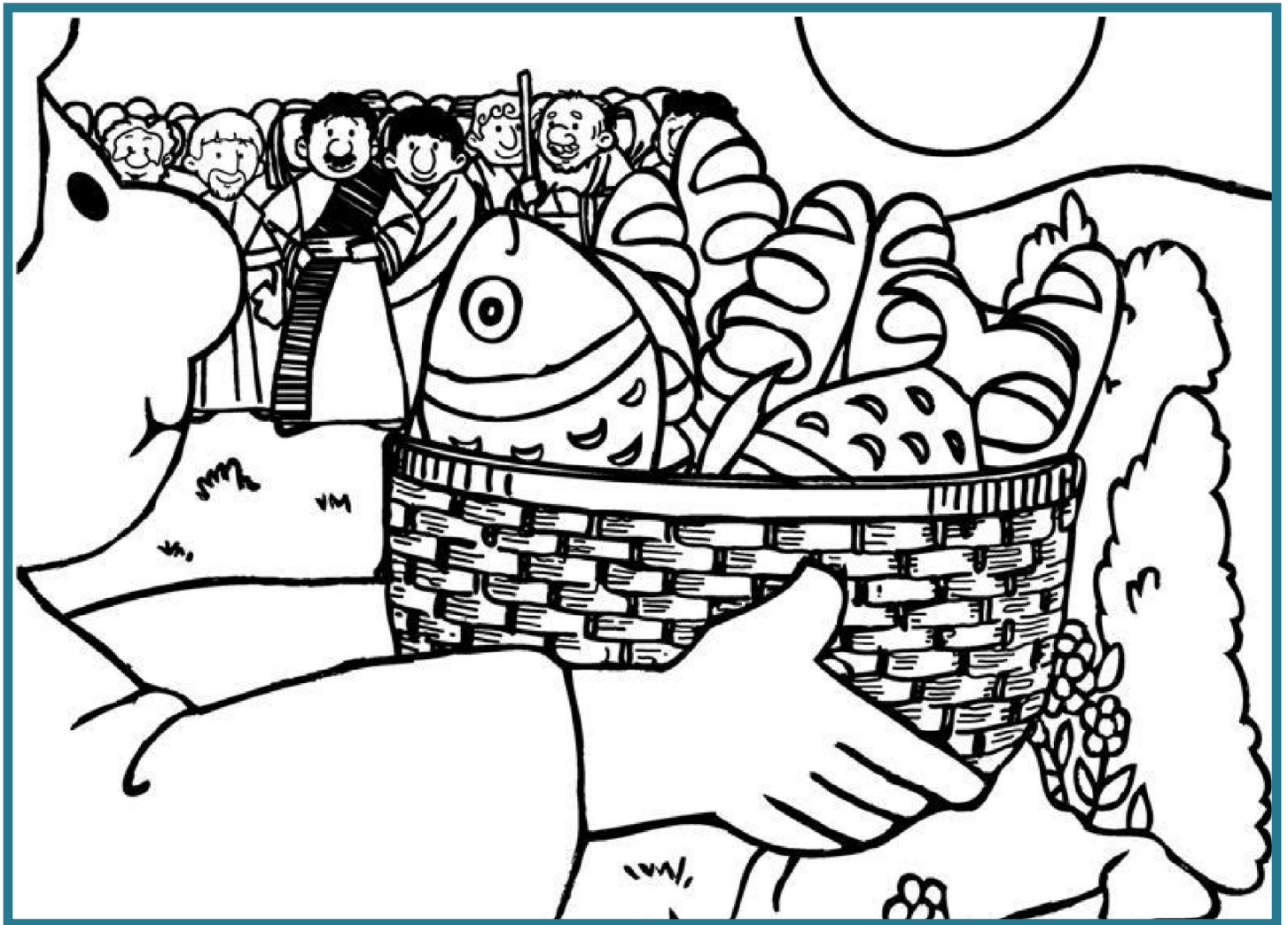
- Why did the crowd gather? How do you think you would feel if you were there with the crowd?
- What miracles does Jesus perform? Are there any ordinary miracles you see Jesus working in your life or the lives of those around you?
- Why did the disciples ask Jesus to dismiss the crowds? What was Jesus' response?
- In what ways does this Gospel story remind you of the Eucharist?
- What do you think the disciples did with the leftover food? How can you share what you have with others? Even though we can't do miracles, how can we help others?
- What is your favorite meal? If you could invite anyone over to share that meal with you, who would it be and why?



Jesus Feeds 5,000



Here's a video that retells the story of this miracle. While you're watching, have a snack of oyster crackers to represent the loaves and Swedish Fish to represent the fishes.



Remember this: "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth in me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

Let us Pray: Thank you Jesus for always being there for me and providing for my needs. May I always remember to count my blessings and share what I have with others. **Amen.**

August 9

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 4:22-33

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."



Sing: Journey Off the Map

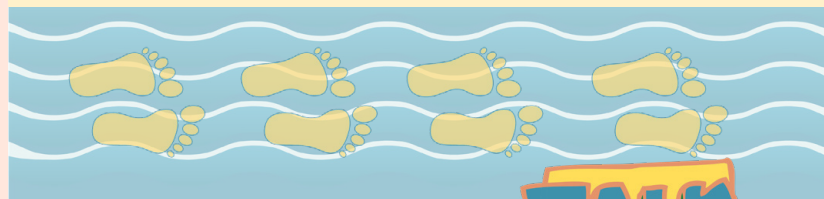


Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**



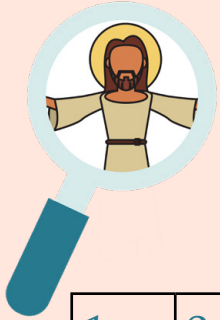
Watch this video lesson and learn more about this Gospel reading and how all the readings at mass are connected.

Read all the readings from today's liturgy here.



- Can you float on water standing up?
- Who in today's Gospel reading walked on water?
- Why do you think Jesus sent his disciples into a storm?
- Can you tell how the readings from today's liturgy are connected?

Jesus Walks on Water



Try it! Decode these words from the Gospel

Decode the secret words found in today's readings with this decoder. Each number represents a letter in the chart below.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
H	V	S	L	F	P	X	Z	A	I	N	W	C

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	D	U	Q	J	M	Y	O	K	G	T	E	B

26-21-9-24	12-10-11-15
12-9-24-25-14	5-9-10-24-1
5-25-9-14	9-5-14-9-10-15
3-10-11-22	12-9-2-25-3
12-9-4-22-10-11-23	4-9-22-25

Word Bank:
FEAR, WATER, AFRAID, FAITH, WAVES
BOAT, LAKE, WIND, WALKING, SINK,

Let us Pray: Savior, I ask you today for greater faith. May I be as bold as St. Peter to follow you into the deep, trusting that you will make sure I am always protected. **Amen.**



Aug 16

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 15:21-28

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.



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**



- How do you ask for things you need?
- Do you always get what you ask for? Tell about a time you really wanted something but you didn't get it.
- What's the difference between wanting and needing things?
- Why did Jesus help the Canaanite woman?
- Have you ever acted like the disciples did?
- Like you don't want to be bothered with something, but it turns out to be important?

WATCH IT!

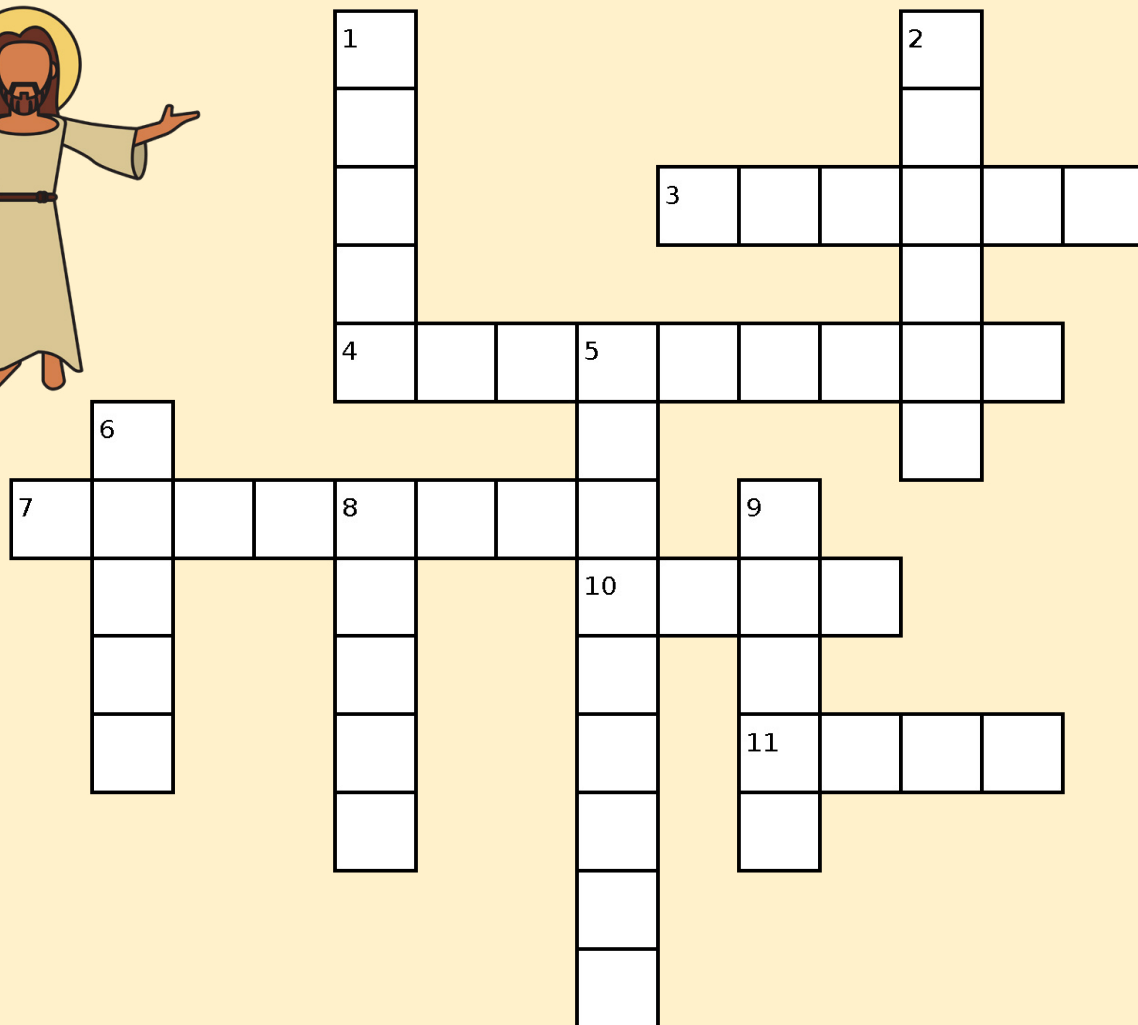
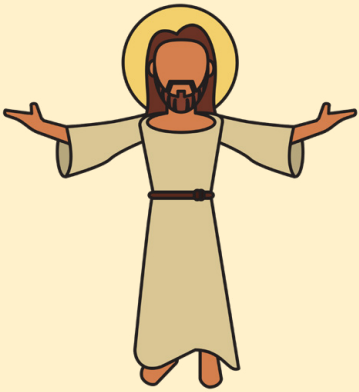


Sing along to this song
"Who You Say I Am."
It reminds us we are all
chosen children of God and
that He is for each and every
one us.

Where is there always a place for you?

Faith and Healing

Try it! Find words from the Gospel



Down

1. Jesus is called Son of this king.
2. Jesus did this for the woman's daughter
5. the _____ woman who approached Jesus
6. the lost
8. was tormenting the woman's daughter
9. great was the woman's this

Across

3. to bow and worship
4. followers of Jesus
7. should you take food from these for the dogs
10. the disciples told Jesus to send the woman
11. Jesus withdrew to this region and Sidon

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, thank you for the gift of faith and your nourishment through the Eucharist. I love you and I know you love me. Help me be a bold _____ disciple and always trust in you. **Amen**



Aug 23

Pick up your Bible



Read Matt 16:11-20

Jesus said to his disciples:
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.



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**

*The Gospel reading today reveals Jesus' identity. When Simon Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, says Jesus is the **CHRIST**, Son of the living **God**.*



- Who is Jesus to you?
- How many names or titles can you and your family come up with for Jesus?
- The title Christ comes from the Greek word *chrīstós*, meaning **anointed one**. Which Sacraments have anointing as part of them?
- How did Simon Peter figure out who Jesus was?
- Who did he get help from?
- Who do you turn to when you need help?
- How can you turn to Jesus?

Who is Jesus?

Jesus was completely human, but **ALSO** completely God! That means He was perfect, and never did anything wrong. He ate and slept and had friends just like you and me, but he could also do incredible things that only God can do. Watch this video that tells about Jesus.



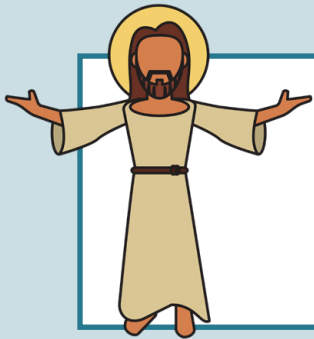
Try it!

You'll need a coin (a quarter is best) for this game.

Players will take turns flipping the coin and letting it land on the floor or table. If the coin lands **heads** the player has to name a way Jesus suffered during his passion. If the coin lands **tails** the player has to tell about one miracle Jesus did during his life. Have adults join in on the fun.



Other ways to play - if it lands on heads, say one of the many names of Jesus. (Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Bread of Life, Holy One...). If it lands on tails, say a name for his mother Mary. (Blessed Mother, Queen of All Saints, Queen of Martyrs, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Our Lady of Hope ...) Do an Internet search to find out the many names of our Lord and his most cherished mother.



Write it! What are some of the things you named?

Let us Pray: Jesus, we confess that you are Christ, the Son of the living God. The one in whose name we pray. **Amen.**



August 30

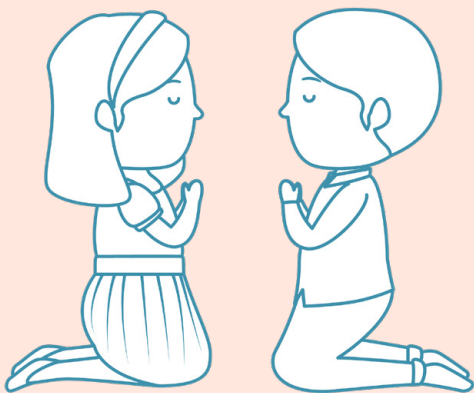
Pick up your Bible



Read Romans 12:1-2

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.



Prayer is one way we offer our bodies in worship to God. What are your favorite ways to pray to and be with God? Print and color yourself praying.



Sing: Journey Off the Map



Pray: Jesus, be with us always, wherever we are. Help us to know you and to see you in all things. **Amen**

This week, we'll look at the second reading in the Liturgy. St. Paul encourages the Romans to learn about and follow the teachings of Jesus instead of following the crowd.



Watch this video about following God - instead of the crowd.

- How can you follow God and be transformed?
- What is a sacrifice? What sacrifices do you make for your family?
- Have you ever seen an ice cube melt? What happens to it?
- What else have you seen transform?
- What was St. Paul trying to tell the people about how worshiping God changes us?
- What do you think Jesus would like to teach you?



Be Transformed

Try it!

1. Gather your supplies.
2. Start by coloring a coffee filter with markers.
3. Spray the coffee filter with water so colors start blend together.
4. Let it dry completely.
5. Make the caterpillar with colored pompoms, glued onto the clothespin. Glue some googly eyes (or draw) on the end pompom closest to the opening of the clothespin.
6. While it's drying, decorate the outside of the toilet tissue roll.
7. Once the caterpillar and the colored coffee filter are dry, place to coffee filter into the clothespin clip. Fold the wings around the caterpillar and gently push it into the toilet paper roll.
8. Talk about the butterfly transforms from a caterpillar into a chrysalis and then comes out as a butterfly!



to

You need

- Coffee filter
- Washable Markers
- Spray bottle with water
- Clothes Pin
- Green Pom Poms
- Googly Eyes
- Glue
- Toilet Paper Roll

[Click here for photos of this tranforming craft.](#)



Let us Pray: (A bedtime prayer for children Heavenly Father, Bless and keep (name) in your love. Grant (name) a good rest tonight, and send your angels for protection. [Trace the sign of the cross on forehead.] In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



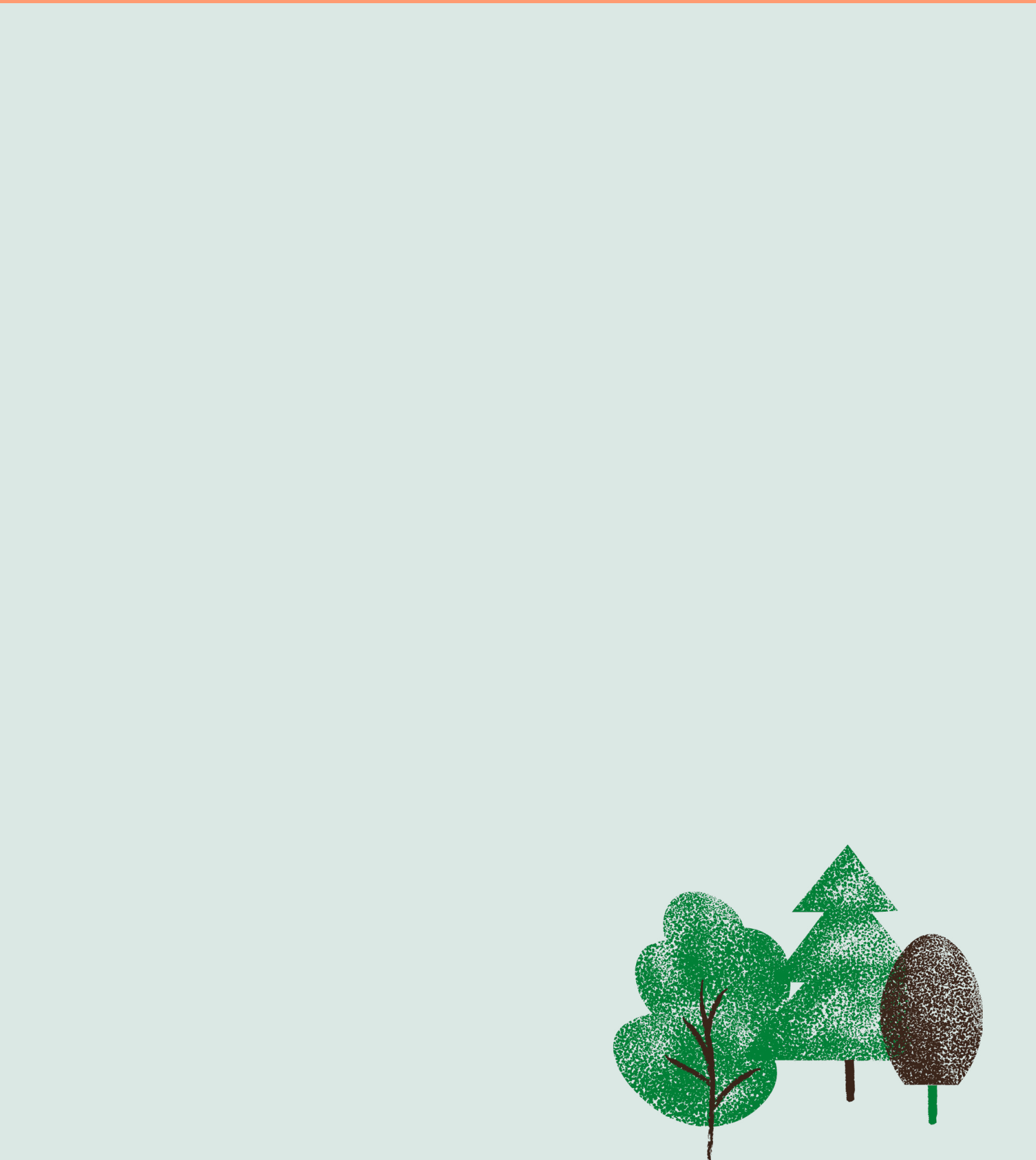


Acknowledgments

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July 12	Mary Fortunate (St. Veronica – St. Basil) and Amy Sledz (St. Margaret of Scotland)
July 19	Sue Gudenau (Our Lady of Hope)
July 26	Judith Jones (St. Paul on the Lake)
August 2	Kelly Woolums (St. Ambrose)
August 9	Greg Crachiolo (St. Isaac Jogues)
August 16	Kristine Hass (St. Joan of Arc)
August 23	Karen Schroder (St. Lucy)
August 30	Judy Zedan (Our Lady Star of the Sea)

Grateful acknowledgment to Kristine Hass for her artistic format, design and compilation, and to Patricia Chase, AOD advisor.



References and Links



Theme song for each week: "Journey Off the Map" <https://youtu.be/CQWJ76-VBTA>

July 12

Kidz Church, "The Parable of the Sower." <https://youtu.be/W6LwEW8jX9A>
"I Wanna be Mud!" (Parable of the sower song) <https://youtu.be/DagSb21nd1g>

July 19

The Parable of the Sower <https://youtu.be/wnJaT0bWNP8>
"Lovely Noise" <https://youtu.be/XMqXLMC1hX8>

July 26

I Found A Treasure | Austin Stone Worship: Kids <https://youtu.be/lbARUaX4frc>

August 2

Jesus Feeds 5000 | Sharefaithkids.com <https://youtu.be/uupg0V-17NU>

August 9

Mr. Crachiolo's 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Video
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cDeU6N3vCn0bCfTzmf7MwdwdZIVxrGYn/view>

August 16

"Who You Say I Am" <https://youtu.be/https://youtu.be/-gY8lzEVsxc>

August 23

God's Story | Jesus <https://youtu.be/8u-ICIHAMKk>

August 30

Follow God | A Sunday School lesson about not following the crowd
<https://youtu.be/Hc8MK49clFo>

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