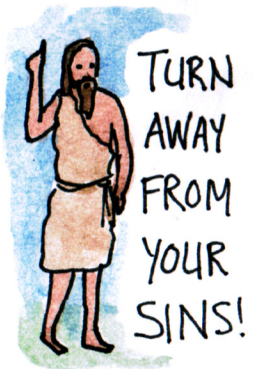


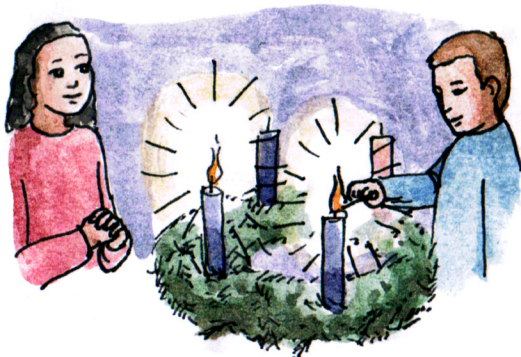
We Joyfully Wait for Jesus



Advent is a time of joy, when we happily look forward to the coming of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading tells about how Saint John the Baptist went around telling everyone to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

An Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of Jesus, our Light, into the world. It has three purple candles and one pink candle. One candle is lit on the first week of Advent, and one more is added every week until Christmas. Every week it gets a bit brighter because we are getting closer to Jesus' coming at Christmas.

The purple candles stand for repentance- being sorry and making up for our sins. The pink candle represents joy. It is lit on the third week of Advent because we rejoice that the waiting is half over.



Answer to Immaculate Conception Word-Find: HAIL MARY

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The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent
December 8th, 2024



Luke 3:1-6

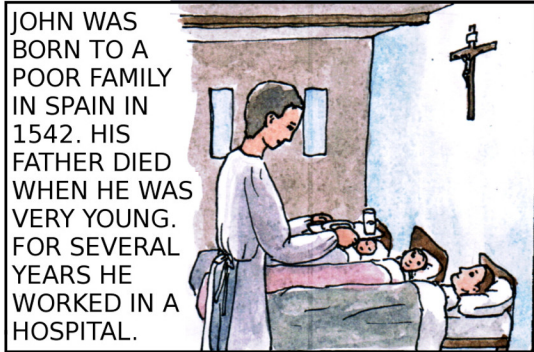
In Advent we hear about Saint John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who prepared the way for Jesus' coming. He preached to the people, telling them to repent, and baptized them.

When Jesus came Saint John told the people to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah.

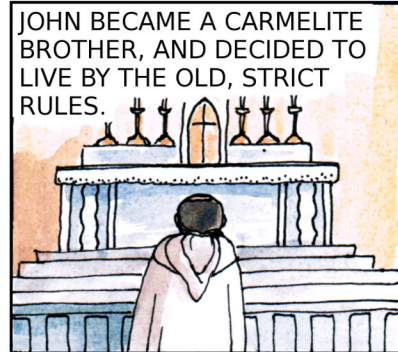
Can you find your way from Saint John to Jesus?

Saint John of the Cross

December 14



JOHN WAS BORN TO A POOR FAMILY IN SPAIN IN 1542. HIS FATHER DIED WHEN HE WAS VERY YOUNG. FOR SEVERAL YEARS HE WORKED IN A HOSPITAL.



JOHN BECAME A CARMELITE BROTHER, AND DECIDED TO LIVE BY THE OLD, STRICT RULES.



HE MET ST. TERESA OF AVILA, WHO WAS A CARMELITE NUN.

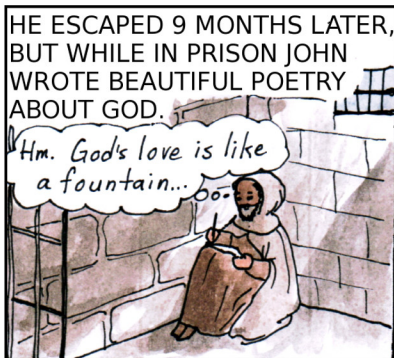


We'd like to join you.

ST. JOHN STARTED A GROUP OF MONKS WHO WOULD LIVE BY THE OLD RULE.



BUT SOME OF THE CARMELITES DISAGREED WITH HIM AND PUT HIM IN PRISON!



HE ESCAPED 9 MONTHS LATER, BUT WHILE IN PRISON JOHN WROTE BEAUTIFUL POETRY ABOUT GOD.

Hm. God's love is like a fountain...

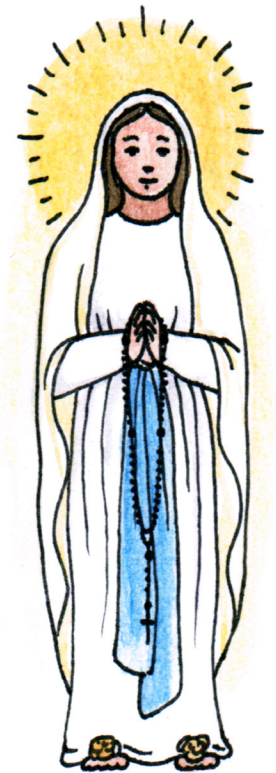


BY THIS TIME, JOHN WAS QUITE SICKLY. HE WAS TREATED BADLY AT FIRST, BUT BY THE TIME HE DIED EVEN HIS ENEMIES REALIZED HIS HOLINESS.

TODAY SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS WRITINGS. HE TAUGHT THAT WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO BE PERFECTLY HAPPY HERE ON EARTH BECAUSE WE ARE MADE FOR GOD IN HEAVEN. NEXT TIME YOU FEEL UNHAPPY, REMEMBER THAT PERFECT HAPPINESS IS WAITING FOR YOU IN HEAVEN!

Immaculate Conception Word-Find

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



See if you can find the words that are written in **CAPITALS**.

The leftover letters spell the name of a special prayer we can say to Mary on her feast day.

This year, December 9th is the feast day of the **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**. That is a name for **MARY** that means that **GOD** made her **WITHOUT SIN** because he had **CHOSEN** her to be the **MOTHER** of **HIS SON**. Her **SOUL** was **FREE** from **ORIGINAL** sin even before she was **BORN**. All her life she **KEPT** her **HEART** **PURE** and without the **STAIN** of sin. Mary **NEVER OFFENDED** God, and with his **GRACE**, she spent her whole life **LOVING JESUS**.