

The logo for 'Kids' LITURGY' is centered in a white rectangular box. The word 'Kids' is in a large, colorful font where each letter is a different color: 'K' is blue, 'i' is red with a small heart above it, 'd' is yellow, and 's' is purple. Below 'Kids' is the word 'LITURGY' in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

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.

Family Page

To celebrate the feast of the Holy Family in conjunction with Christmas, plan a small family party when you can all work together on thank-you notes to relatives and friends. Someone in the family can bake a cake or cookies and make hot cocoa.

Open your celebration with a prayer of appreciation to the Holy Family. Thank God for giving you Mary and Joseph to guide you as a family.

Now you are ready to begin work on your thank-you notes. You will need old Christmas cards, construction paper, scissors, paste, and colored pens.

You can decorate your cards with the old Christmas cards or, if you prefer, you can make construction paper cutouts of different colors and shapes.

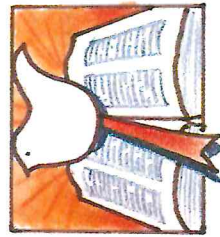
On each card, write a brief note saying how much the person's gift was appreciated. Parents will have to write this note for small children, but the wording and card design should come from the child.

When all the notes are finished, celebrate your family as you share your special dessert.



Written by Franche H. O'Connor.
 Art by Chris Sharp. © 2021 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 65057.
 9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, 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 CRYPTO message:
 BECAUSE JESUS IS GOD'S SON



explaining GOD'S WORD

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (C) • Luke 2:41-52 • December 26, 2021



Color this picture.

Mary and Joseph and Jesus were a loving family. They are called the Holy Family. Color this picture of the Holy Family in the Temple at Jerusalem. Then read today's story about what happened to them on their way home from their trip.

The Holy Family

In this week's gospel story, the Holy Family went to Jerusalem with their relatives and friends. It was quite a long trip. They walked and walked for days. On the way home, Mary thought Jesus was with Joseph, and Joseph thought Jesus was with Mary. When they discovered that he was not with either of them, they became very worried. They asked everyone, but no one had seen Jesus since they left Jerusalem.

Mary and Joseph went back to the city, searching everywhere for Jesus. After three days, they found him. He was in the Temple, talking with the teachers. Mary scolded Jesus for worrying them. Then Jesus said, "Didn't you know that I'd be in my Father's house?" Jesus didn't mean to worry Mary. He thought she would know where he would be. But Mary and Joseph were afraid that something had happened to him.

Have you ever come home late from school or gone somewhere without permission? Were your parents upset when you got home? Of course they were! That's because they love you — just like Mary and Joseph loved Jesus. This week, think extra hard about Joseph and Mary's love for Jesus and your parents' love for you.

Crypto message

Mary found Jesus in the Temple where the people went to worship God. Why did Jesus tell Mary that he was in his "Father's house"? Decode the message below to get the answer.

Y V X Z F H V O V H F H
R H T L W H H L M

Code key:

F = U
H = S
L = O
M = N

Q = J
R = I
T = G
V = E

W = D
X = C
Y = B
Z = A



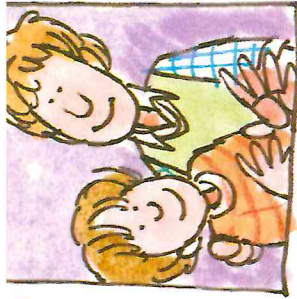
Family Page

We have talked about how the Wise Men followed their star to find the infant Jesus in Bethlehem. Those who help to lead us to hear God's call can be thought of as our own personal stars. While the children are small, parents must be their main stars, their primary guides to their future vocations.

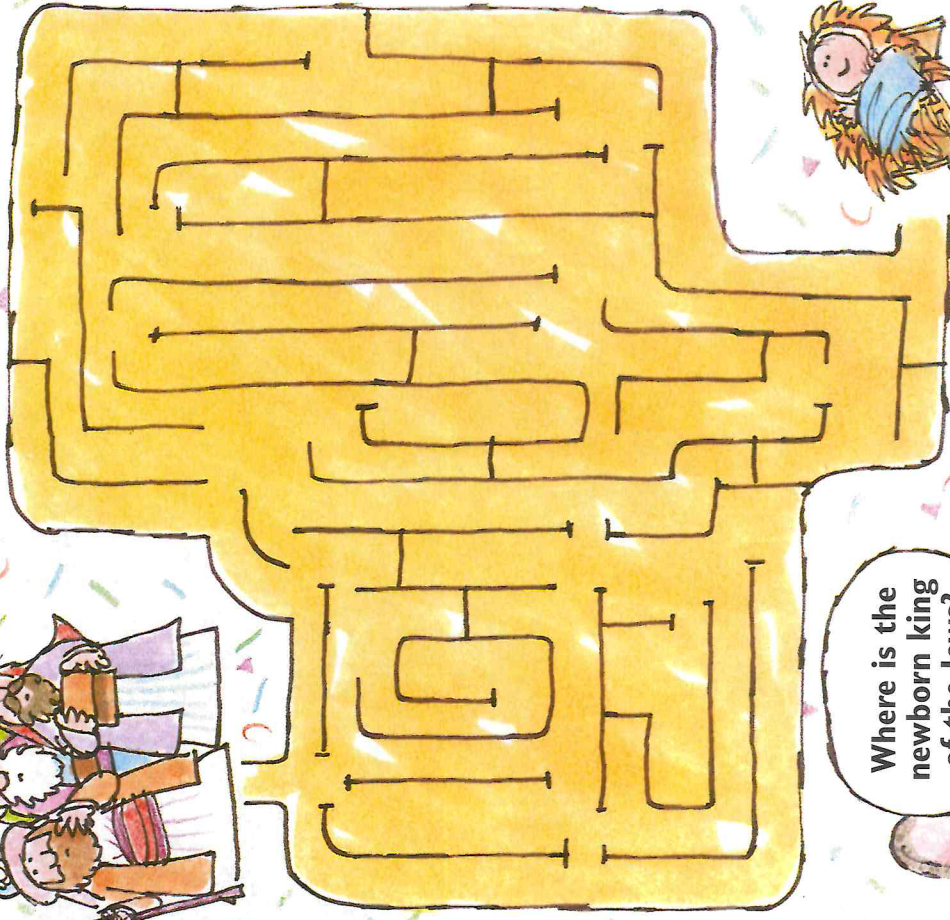
Have a family meeting to talk about this idea. Ask the children to tell you who they think have been their stars so far.

Discuss your own choice of a vocation with the children, why you chose marriage and family and who inspired you in your decision.

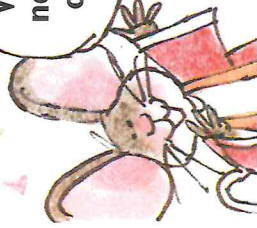
Talk about how each of you can be stars for others, helping to lead them to faith by telling them about Jesus and the Christian way.



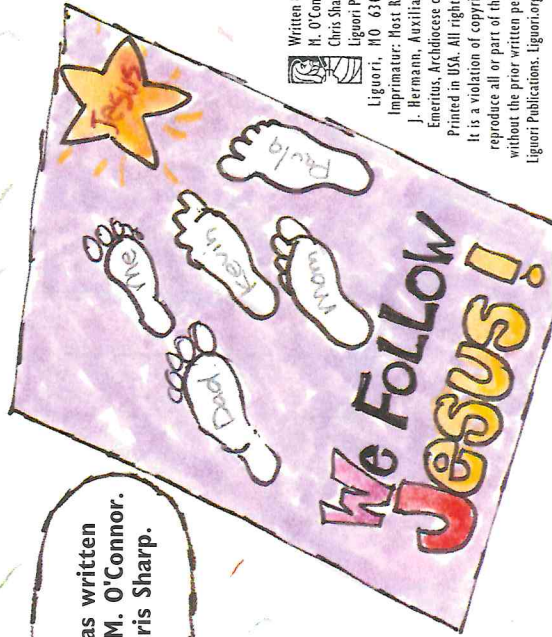
Epiphany of the Lord (C) • Matthew 2:1-12 • January 2, 2022



Where is the newborn king of the Jews?



The Wise Men are following the star in answer to God's call. Can you help them find Jesus?



All this was written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp.



Written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, 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

Follow Your Star

In today's gospel story, the Wise Men saw Jesus' star. They were very important and busy men. But they left everything behind them and started on their travels to find Jesus. God had called them.

Are you ready to follow God's call? Right now God calls you to service through your family, friends, and teachers. Some day God will call you in a different way. Some of you will be called to get married and raise children. Some of you will be called to be priests or nuns or Brothers. Some, like the Wise Men, will be called to leave home and serve God in faraway mission lands.

You will have many stars to follow. Your stars are all those people and all those happenings that help you to know what God wants from you: parents, teachers, priests, friends, Mass, schools, and books. As you grow up, watch for your star and follow it to Jesus.



Gospel Crossword

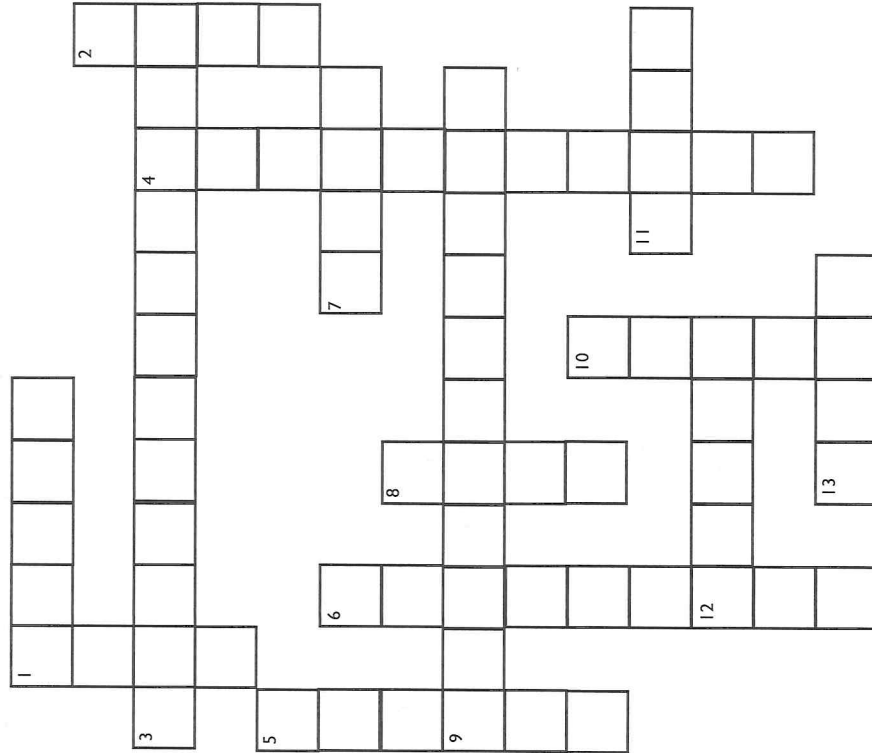
Here are some words from today's gospel. Fill in the blanks of the crossword according to the numbers.

ACROSS:

1. MYRRH
3. FRANKINCENSE
7. BABY
9. ASTROLOGERS
11. GIFT
12. HEROD
13. STAR

DOWN:

1. MARY
2. JEWS
4. NEWBORN KING
5. HOMAGE
6. BETHLEHEM
8. GOLD
10. JUDEA



Family Page

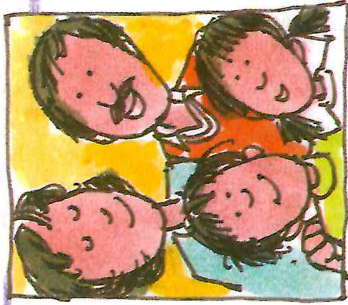
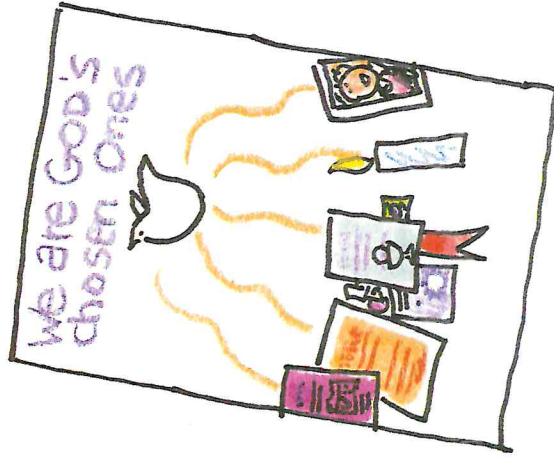
Jesus' baptism was God the Father's way of announcing the entry of his Son's saving work in the world. Our own baptisms immerse each of us in this same saving work. Help the children to understand what their baptisms mean and to recognize the importance of that day to their Christian lives.

1 Make a collage of the children's spiritual and physical progress beginning on the day of their baptisms, using available photographs, documents, cards, or any other remembrances you have. Important days to recall could be the first day of school, first Communion day, special school projects the children were involved in, Christmas celebrations, birthdays, and so forth.

2 You will need a poster board and magic markers or crayons. Across the top of the poster write the words, "WE ARE GOD'S CHOSEN ONES." Paste a cutout picture or a drawing of a dove below the letters with streamers coming down to each of the items on the board.

3 Attach all the items to the board according to date, and write a caption to explain the significance to each child's growth.

4 Discuss with the children how much they have grown in their love for God since the day of their baptisms.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Baptism of the Lord (C) • Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 • January 9, 2022



John Baptizes Jesus

Before Jesus began his saving work in our world, he went to John the Baptist to be baptized in the Jordan.



Written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, 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

Answers to "Scripture Crossword":
Down: 1. JESUS 2. DOME Across: 1. JOHN 3. CLOUDS 4. WATER

YOU BEGIN A SPECIAL WORK

This week's gospel story tells the beautiful story of how Jesus came to be baptized by John the Baptist.

Suddenly the Holy Spirit appeared and God spoke to the people: "This is my beloved Son." Jesus was ready for the special work the Father had sent him to do. He would teach the people about God's love. He would heal their hurts and forgive them for their sins. And he would enable his apostles to do this work when he was gone.

A long time ago, you were baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Just like Jesus, you are chosen for special work. Just like Jesus, the Holy Spirit will guide you in everything you choose to do.

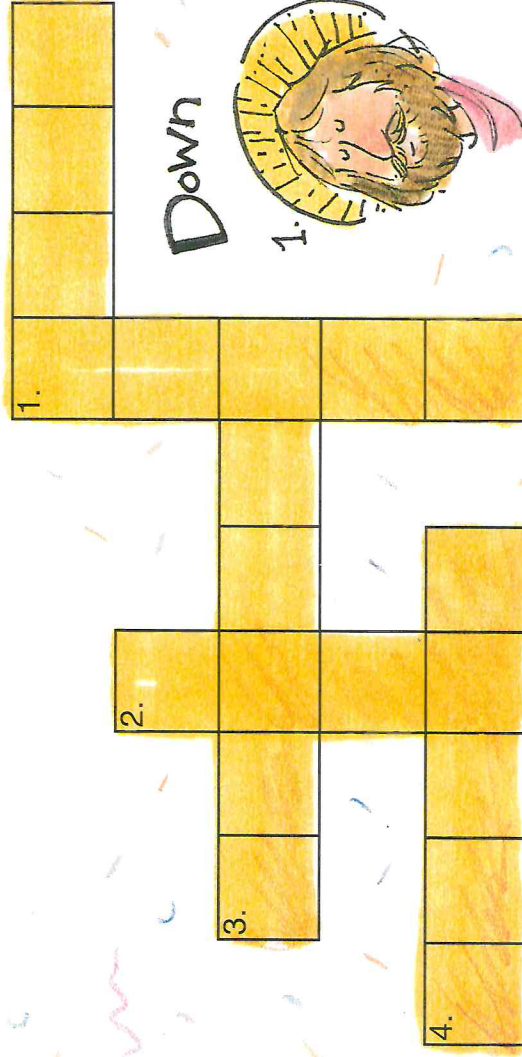
What will that special work be? Maybe you will get married and raise children who love God. Maybe you will become a priest or nun and teach others about Jesus. Maybe you will heal the hurts and comfort the sorrows of others.

Getting ready for this special work began on your baptism day. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will help you along the way as you grow in prayer and love.

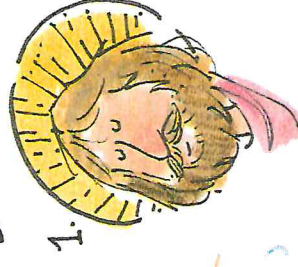


Scripture Crossword

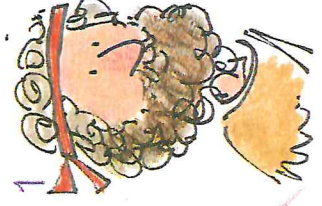
Fill in the blanks in the crossword puzzle with the names of the people or things pictured.

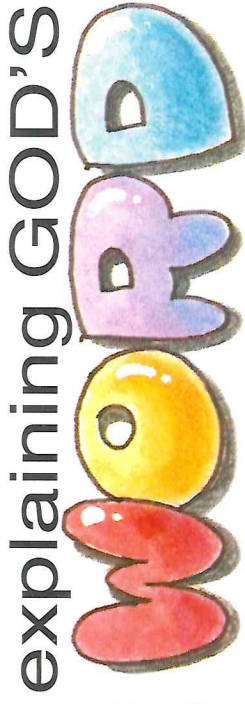


Down



Across





Color this picture of Jesus and Mary at the wedding of Cana.



world because of the love of their grandparents. It will also give them a good indication of their place in the extended family.

The children will learn through this project that every wedding is the beginning of a miracle that continues for generations to come.

Written by Francine N. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2022 Liquori Publications, Liquori, MO 63057-9999, Impaginator: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, 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 Liquori Publications.

Liquori.org

Answers to Rebus: BRIDE + E = BEE +
FINGER + E = FIRE + ER = DEER = RING



**Your family tree
shows all those who
have come into God's
world through your
grandparents' love.**

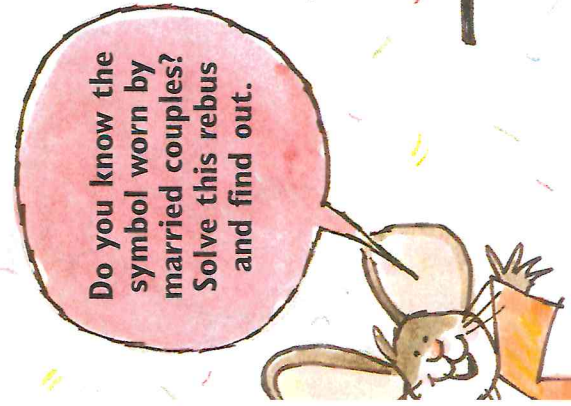
Jesus Goes to a Village Wedding

Have you ever been to a wedding? Isn't it wonderful? The bride and groom look like a prince and princess. Their parents feel proud and happy, and everyone has a good time. A wedding is a happy occasion for all.

Jesus chose just such a happy time, a time of love and caring, to perform his very first miracle. Pretend you are there at Cana. The hall is crowded. The people are having a good time. But something has happened! The bride and groom are out of wine! How embarrassed they feel. What will they do?

Mary talks to Jesus. Jesus says to fill the jars with water. Then, with just a prayer and a touch, Jesus turns the water into wine. What a surprise for the whole crowd. What a wonderful thing to happen on the young couple's wedding day.

Weddings are very special to Jesus. Marriage is about a wonderful love when two people want to be together, to have children of their own, to pray together, work together, grow old together. Marriage turns couples into families and houses into homes. No wonder Jesus chose this happy time to perform his very first miracle.



Do you know the symbol worn by married couples? Solve this rebus and find out.

