

# *Virtues in Practice*



*Charity*

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN



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## *Charity*

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF ST. CECILIA CONGREGATION  
Nashville, Tennessee

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## *What is Virtue?*

A virtue is a good habit.

If we listen to Jesus, He will help us to make good choices. If we listen to Him over and over, we get used to making good choices. Then being good is easy, which makes us happy!

## *Who are the Saints?*

A saint is a person who is in heaven.

All the people in heaven are called saints. If we listen to Jesus and make good choices to follow Him, someday we will be happy with Him forever! The saints in this book are people we know for sure are in heaven.

YR./MO.	VIRTUE (Theme: Service)	DEFINITION	GR. PK-2 SAINT	GR. 3-5 SAINT	GR. 6-8 SAINT
<b>FAITH</b>					
SEP.	<b>FAITH</b>	Believing in God and all He has revealed	St. Martha	St. Jerome	St. Augustine
OCT.	<b>REVERENCE</b>	Showing your deepest respect for things of God	St. Hyacinth	St. Tarcisius	St. Margaret Clithrow
NOV.	<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>	Returning to God the first fruits of your time, talent, and treasure	St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Bl. Fra Angelico	St. Joseph Moscati
DEC.	<b>GENEROSITY</b>	Giving without counting the cost	St. Nicholas	St. Mary Magdalene	St. Maximilian Kolbe
JAN.	<b>GRATITUDE</b>	Seeing everything as a gift and being thankful	St. Francis of Assisi	St. Julie Billiard	St. Josemaria Escriva
FEB.	<b>HONESTY</b>	Being trustworthy and true	Bls. Jacinta & Francesco Marto	St. Kateri Tekakwitha	St. Athanasius
MAR.	<b>MERCY</b>	Caring for those who suffer	St. John Vianney	St. Faustina	Bl. Teresa of Calcutta
APRIL	<b>JUSTICE</b>	Being fair and giving each his due	St. Anthony of Padua	St. Katharine Drexel	St. Thomas More
MAY	<b>ZEAL</b>	Being driven by an intense love for God	St. Paul	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
<b>HOPE</b>	(Theme: Study)				
SEP.	<b>HOPE</b>	Trusting in God's loving plan	St. Joseph	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Bls. Louis & Zelig Martin
OCT.	<b>STUDIOUSNESS</b>	Seeking knowledge to grow closer to Truth	St. Albert the Great	St. Thomas Aquinas	St. Edith Stein
NOV.	<b>HUMILITY</b>	Accepting your limitations and God-given talents	St. John the Baptist	St. Pio of Pietrelcina	St. Therese of Lisieux
DEC.	<b>PATIENCE</b>	Waiting or enduring without complaint	St. Monica	St. Isaac Jogues	St. Rita of Cascia
JAN.	<b>FIDELITY</b>	Being faithful to promises and commitments	St. Cecilia	Bls. Luigi & Maria Beltrame Quattrocchi	St. Gianna Molla
FEB.	<b>CHEERFULNESS</b>	Looking on the bright side	St. John Bosco	St. Philip Neri	Bl. Miguel Pro
MAR.	<b>TEMPERANCE</b>	Enjoying things in a proper, balanced way	St. Teresa of Avila	St. Camillus de Lellis	Ven. Matt Talbot
APRIL	<b>OBEDIENCE</b>	Saying "yes" to the loving will of God and those He has set over us	Our Lady	St. Juan Diego	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
MAY	<b>DILIGENCE</b>	Doing your best and working hard until you're finished	St. Andre Bessette	St. Francis de Sales	St. Catherine of Siena
<b>CHARITY</b>	(Theme: Community)				
SEP.	<b>CHARITY</b>	Loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength, and your neighbor as yourself	St. Gertrude	St. Vincent de Paul	Ven. Laura Vicuna
OCT.	<b>FRIENDSHIP</b>	Sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other	Sts. Benedict & Scholastica	Sts. Basil & Gregory	Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati
NOV.	<b>COURTESY</b>	Being thoughtful of others	St. Martin de Porres	Ven. Solanus Casey	Ven. Pierre Toussaint
DEC.	<b>PURITY</b>	Keeping your soul free of sin	St. Dominic Savio	St. Agnes	St. Maria Goretti
JAN.	<b>FORTITUDE</b>	Being brave and strong in the face of trials	St. Bernadette	St. Joan of Arc	Sts. Paul Miki & Companions
FEB.	<b>PRUDENCE</b>	Making good decisions in specific circumstances	Bl. Junipero Serra	St. John Neumann	St. John XXIII
MAR.	<b>RESPECT</b>	Recognizing the dignity of all people	St. Jeanne Jugan	St. Damien of Molokai	St. John Paul II
APRIL	<b>FORGIVENESS</b>	Pardoning those who offend you	St. Patrick	Bl. Margaret of Castello	St. Josephine Bakhita
MAY	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	Being reliable in your duties and accountable for your actions	St. Peter	St. Henry II	Bl. Bartolo Longo

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# September

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity* (see back cover)

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Charity*: loving God and your neighbor

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Gertrude*

(1256-1301, Germany)

Feast: November 16

Jesus appeared to Saint Gertrude. She asked Him, "Give me a heart like Yours!" She wanted to show love to everyone, just like Jesus.



*Saint Gertrude the Great*  
by Tracy L. Christianson

## DISCUSSION:

How do we show that we love God?

How do we show that we love others?

**CHARITY** : loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself

HOME PROJECT: Due September \_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Luke 10:25-37.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

Practice charity. Take turns acting out what to do:

- Your friend says, "Let's play *this* game instead."
- Mom says, "It is time for church!"
- A classmate is playing alone.
- It is time for bed. Say your prayers!
- Someone falls down and gets hurt.

When you see this symbol,  
remember to invoke your guardian angel!



CHARITY : loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself

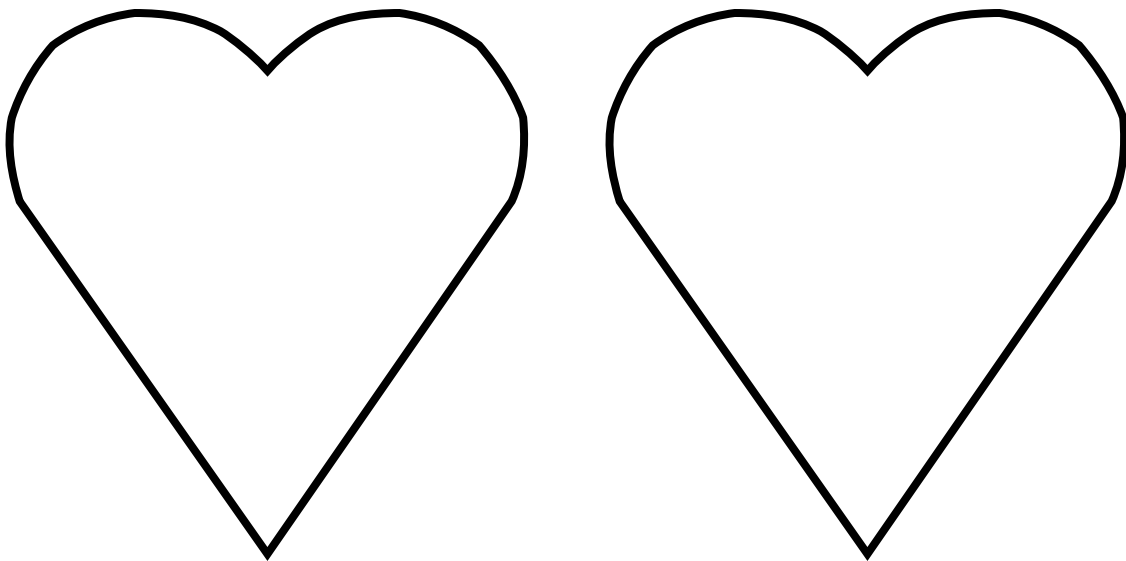
**PRAYER:**

Saint Gertrude, you loved God above all things and gave His love to others. Help us to love like Jesus and to grow closer to Him. Amen. Saint Gertrude, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Draw Jesus in your heart.

Draw yourself in Jesus' heart.



**I am in Jesus' Heart, and He is in my heart!**

**CHARITY** : loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, you gave your heart totally to God.  
Show us how to love Him more and more each  
day. (Pray 3 Hail Marys.)

**REVIEW:**

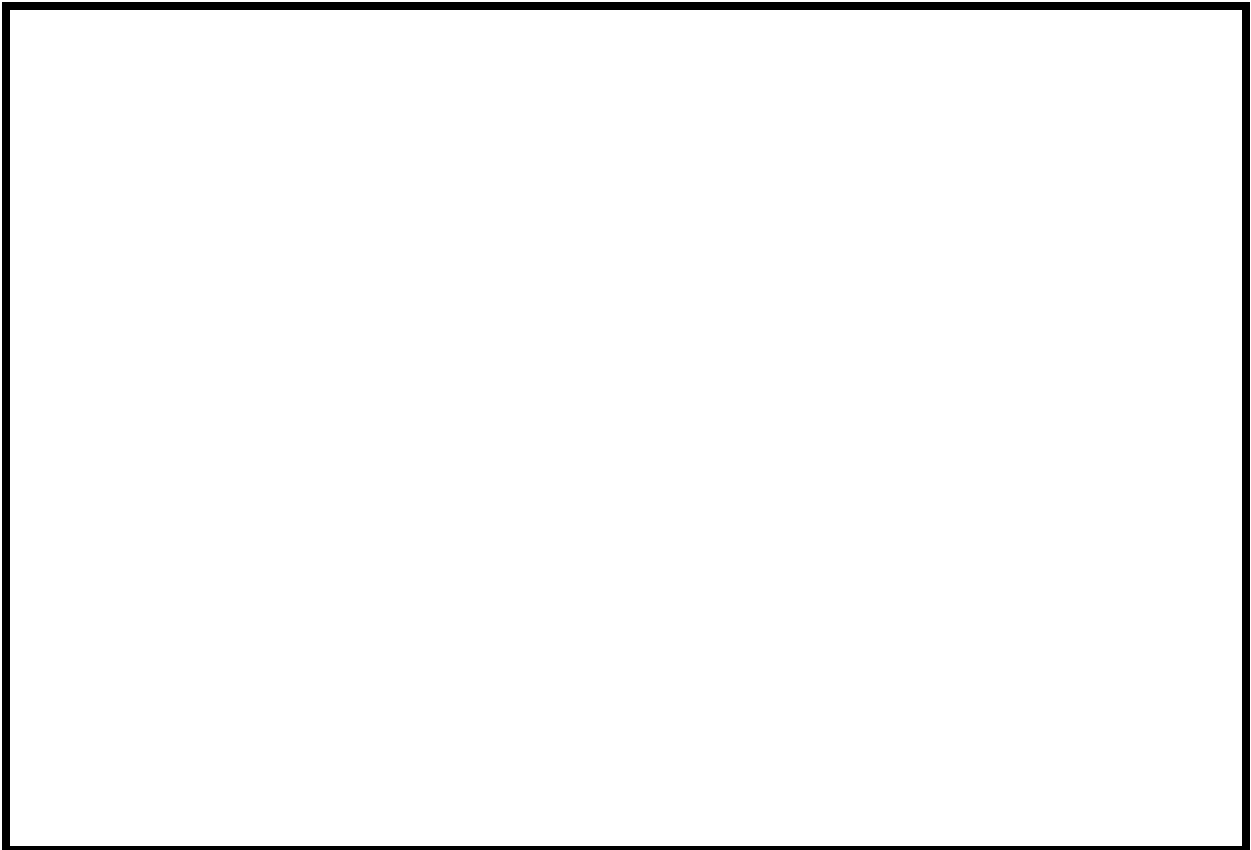
What is charity?

Who is Saint Gertrude?

**GROWTH IN CHARITY:**

What did you do this month to grow in charity?

Draw a picture.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

CHARITY : loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself

# October

## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Friendship*: helping the people you like to be good

## SAINTS OF THE MONTH:

*Sts. Benedict and Scholastica*  
(480-547, Italy)

Feasts: July 11, February 10

Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica were twins! They loved each other very much and helped each other to be good and to follow God. Once, Saint Benedict came to visit his sister Scholastica. She did not want her brother to leave, so she prayed that he could stay longer. God sent a storm that was so bad he could not leave!



*Sts. Benedict and Scholastica*  
by Sr. Mary Charles McGough, O.S.B.

**FRIENDSHIP**: sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other



**DISCUSSION:**

How do you help your friends to be good?

**HOME PROJECT:** Due October \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Sirach 6:14-17.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

List things you want your friends to do.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List things you do not want your friends to do.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Practice* being a good friend. Take turns acting out the top list.



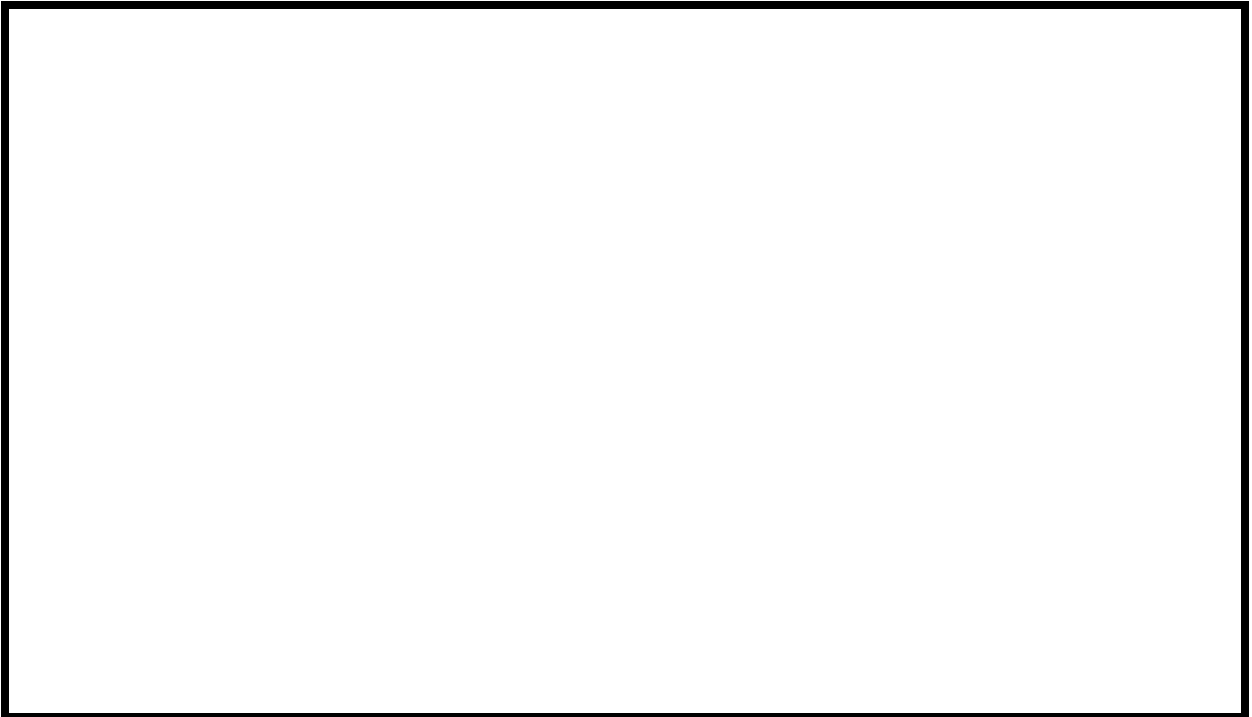
**FRIENDSHIP:** sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other

**PRAYER:**

Saints Benedict and Scholastica, help us to find good friends and to be good friends, especially with the members of our family. Help us to lead those we love toward God. Amen. Saints Benedict and Scholastica, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saints Benedict and Scholastica were twin brother and sister and best friends! Draw a picture of yourself with someone in your family who is a good friend.



**FRIENDSHIP:** sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, you prayed with the Apostles and brought them closer to Jesus. Help us to bring those we love to Jesus too. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

**REVIEW:**

What is friendship?

Who are Saints Benedict and Scholastica?



**GROWTH IN FRIENDSHIP:**

What you did you do this month to grow in friendship? Draw a picture.

**FRIENDSHIP:** sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other

# November

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Courtesy: being thoughtful of others*

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Martin de Porres*

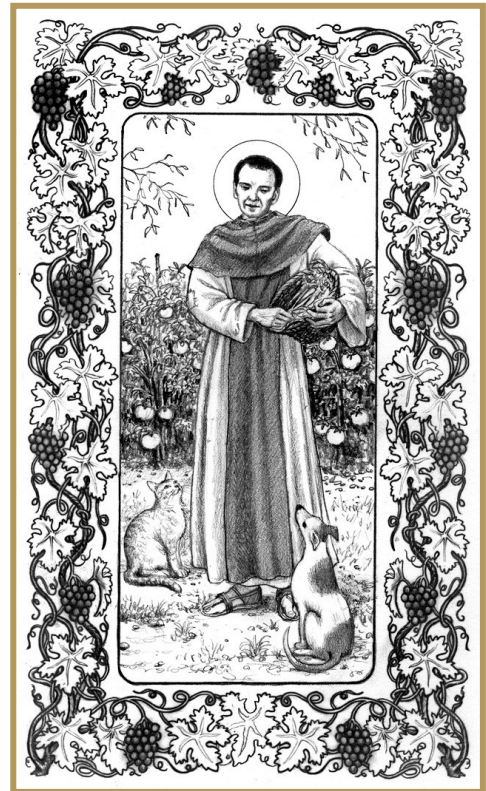
(1579-1639, Peru)

Feast: November 3

Saint Martin de Porres was a Dominican friar who was very thoughtful of people who were sick. Sometimes, he brought them home and put them to sleep in his own bed!

## DISCUSSION:

Why do you think Martin gave away his bed?



*Saint Martin de Porres*  
by Ruth Sanderson

COURTESY: being thoughtful of others

## HOME PROJECT: Due November \_\_\_\_

### PRAYER:

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Romans 12:9-10.)

### VIRTUE ACTIVITY:

Practice courtesy:

- Listen to a classmate describe his or her bedroom. Look the person in the eye while they speak. Ask questions. When time is up, try to describe their room.
- Take out your crayons. Practice taking turns asking a classmate to borrow different colors. Say, "may I please" when you ask, and "thank you" when they hand it to you.
- Talk about something you share in the classroom. When you are finished using it, what is the courteous way to make sure it is ready for the next person?



**PRAYER:**

Saint Martin de Porres, help us to treat all people with thoughtfulness. Help us to listen to others, take turns, and share. Saint Martin, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saint Martin de Porres was good at taking care of people who were sick, but he also took care of animals who were hurt. Once, there were many mice living in the house of the Dominican friars. Martin talked to the mice and asked them to leave the house. He promised to feed them if they moved to the garden. They listened to him and moved!

Color the mice. Add grass, flowers, and food.



COURTESY: being thoughtful of others

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, you were always thoughtful of others. Help us to be courteous like you! (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

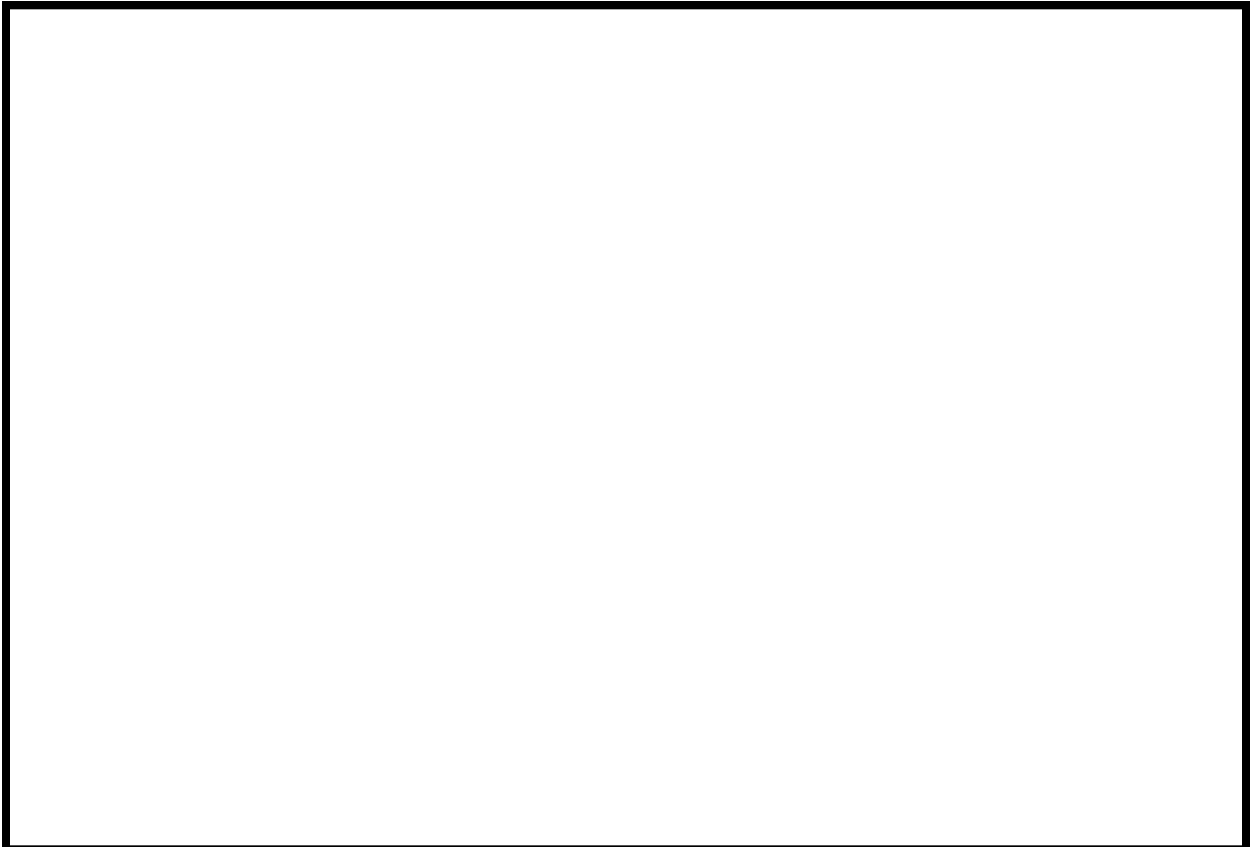
**REVIEW:**

What is courtesy?

Who is Saint Martin de Porres?

**GROWTH IN COURTESY:**

How did your parents help you to grow in courtesy this month? Draw a picture.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a student to draw a picture related to their growth in courtesy.

COURTESY: being thoughtful of others

# December

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Purity: keeping your soul free of sin*

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Dominic Savio*

(1842-1857, Italy)

Feast: March 9

Saint Dominic Savio was a young boy who loved God so much that he would give up anything to stay close to Him.



*Saint Dominic Savio*

## DISCUSSION:

How can you stay close to God?

HOME PROJECT: Due December \_\_\_\_

PURITY: keeping your soul free of sin



## PRAYER:

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss John 15:1-10.)

## VIRTUE ACTIVITY:

Circle and color the pictures of the children that are making good choices. Then put an X on the pictures where children are not making good choices.



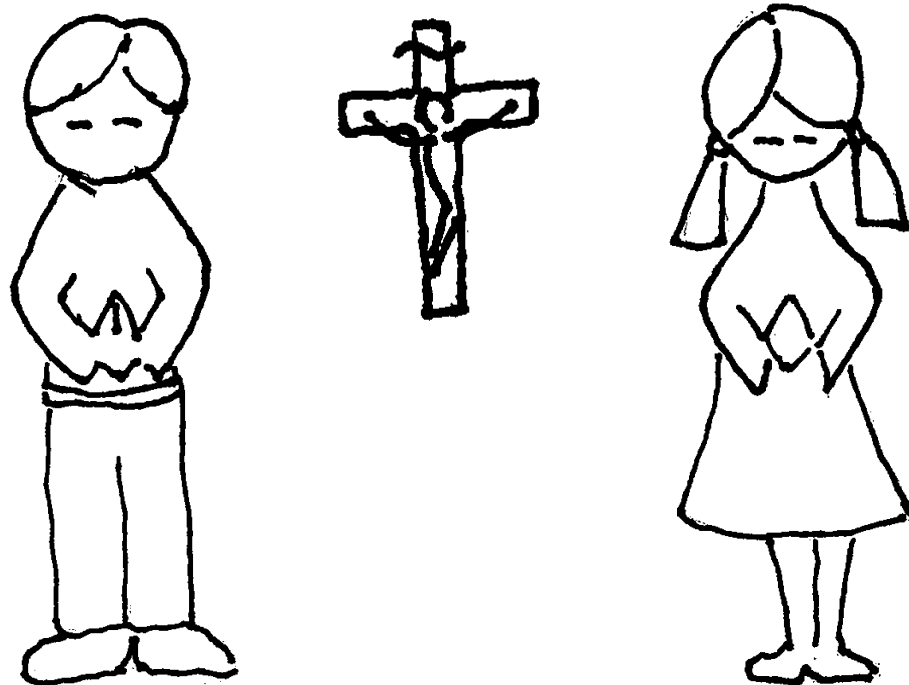
PURITY: keeping your soul free of sin

**PRAYER:**

Saint Dominic Savio, you told God that you would rather die than sin against Him. Help us to stay away from sin. When we do sin, help us to always turn back to God. Amen. Saint Dominic Savio, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saint Dominic Savio loved God very much and always wanted to stay close to Him. Color the picture of the little boy or girl praying and ask God to help you always to stay close to Him, just like Saint Dominic Savio.



**PURITY:** keeping your soul free of sin

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, you never had any sin at all. You are "full of grace". Help me to love God with a pure heart, just like you. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

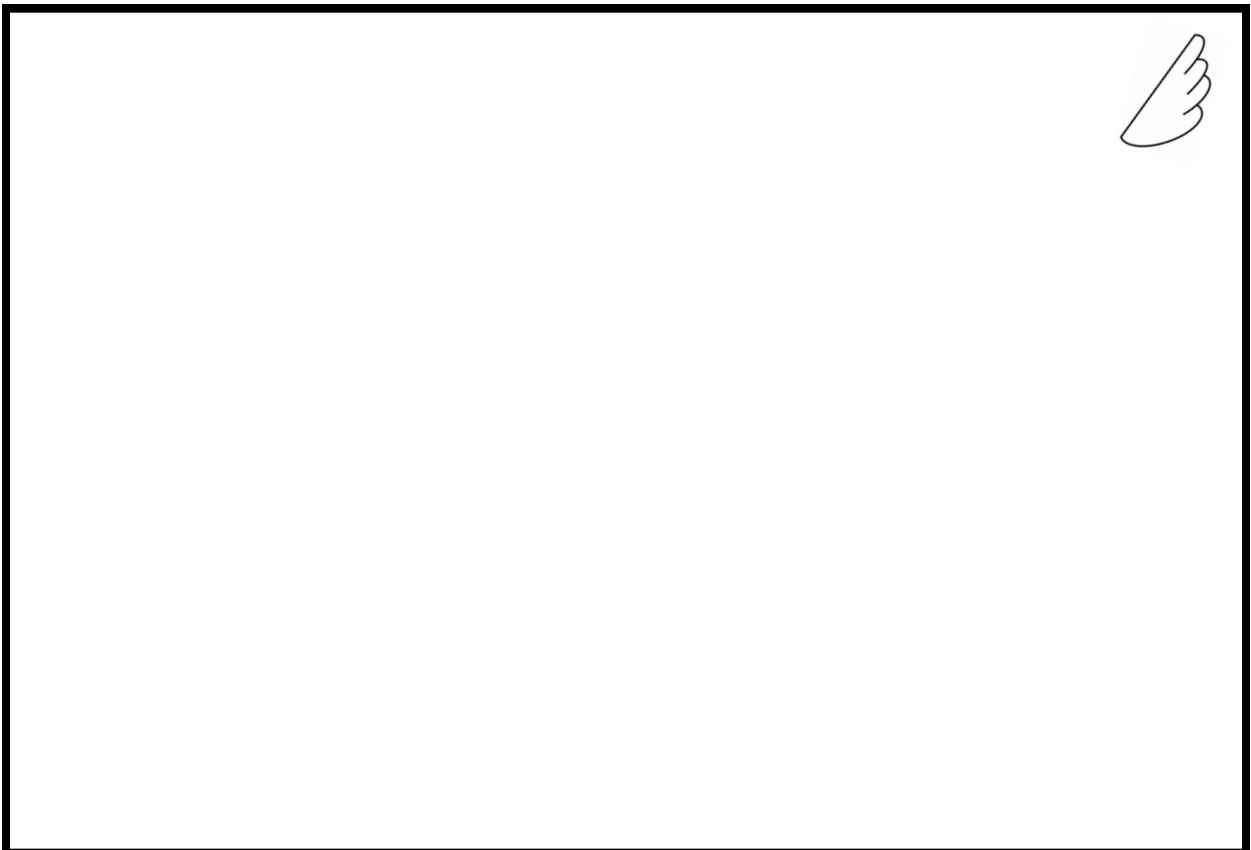
**REVIEW:**

What is purity?

Who is Saint Dominic Savio?

**GROWTH IN PURITY:**

Draw a picture of a choice you made this month that kept you close to God.

A large empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing. In the top right corner of the box, there is a small, simple line drawing of a hand with the index finger pointing towards the top right corner.

PURITY: keeping your soul free of sin

# January

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Fortitude: being brave*

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Bernadette*

(1844-1879, France)

Feast: April 16

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Saint Bernadette, but no one believed her. Many people made fun of Bernadette and said they would get her in trouble, but she was strong and did not let them scare her away from the truth. Today, millions of people visit Lourdes every year and many miracles of healing happen there.



*Saint Bernadette*

FORTITUDE: being brave and strong in the face of trials

**DISCUSSION:**

Why was Saint Bernadette able to be brave?

**HOME PROJECT:** Due January \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Psalm 27: 1-3.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

What are some things that make you scared? As a class, discuss ways to be brave. Role play a few.

One way to be brave is to stand up for others. If we see someone getting hurt, charity says we should help. Sometimes this takes being brave.

Role play a game at recess with one student getting picked on or being left out. Try saying these three things to be brave and help.



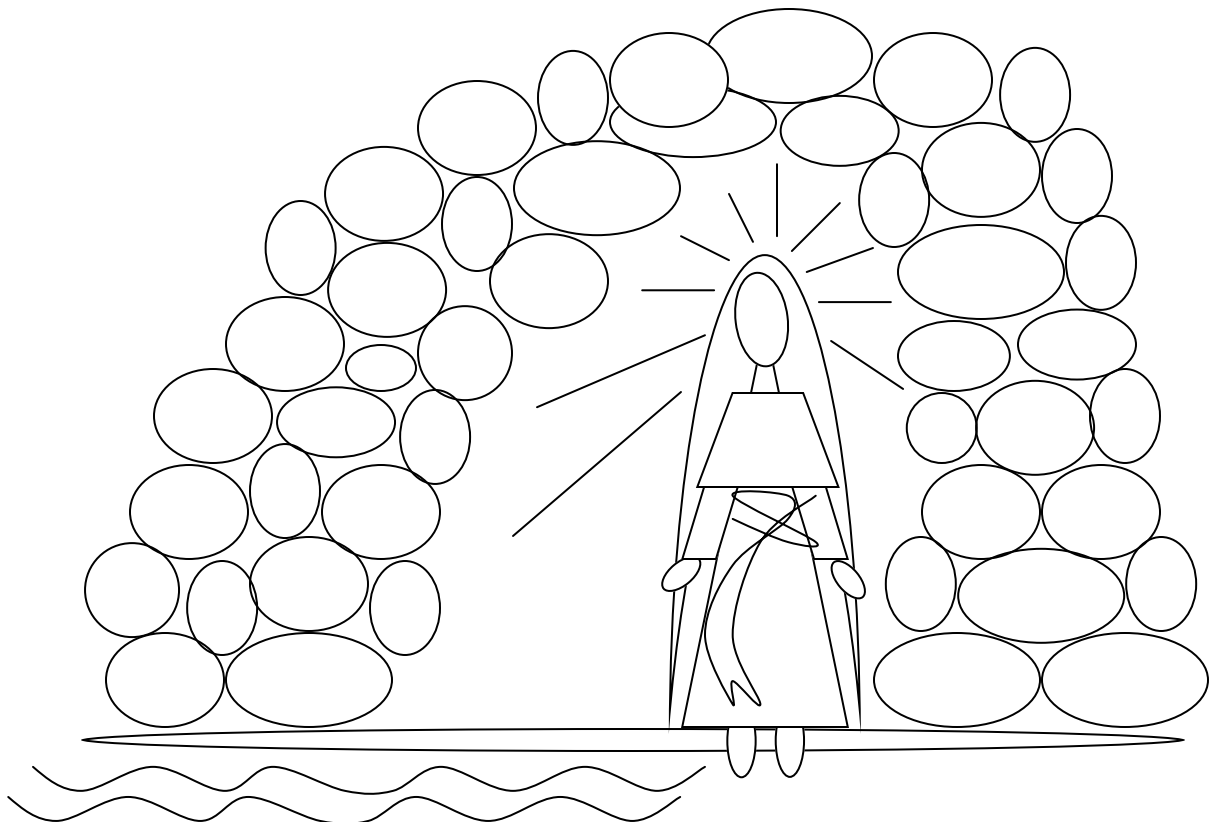
1. "Why are you doing that?"
2. "Do not worry, I will be your friend."
3. "Let's play something different."

**PRAYER:**

Saint Bernadette, please help me to be brave like you. Help me to love Our Lady as much as you do. Help me to stay close to her and to be strong in Jesus. Amen. Saint Bernadette, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saint Bernadette saw Mary inside a little cave called a "grotto" in Lourdes, France. Many people tried to keep her away, but she was strong and kept going back. Color Mary's belt blue. Add yellow roses on her feet.



**FORTITUDE:** being brave and strong in the face of trials

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, even when there were dangerous soldiers around, you followed Jesus to the cross. Help me to be strong and brave enough to do what is right. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

**REVIEW:**

What is fortitude?

Who is Saint Bernadette?

**GROWTH IN FORTITUDE:**

What you did you do this month to grow in fortitude? Draw a picture.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

FORTITUDE: being brave and strong in the face of trials

# February

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

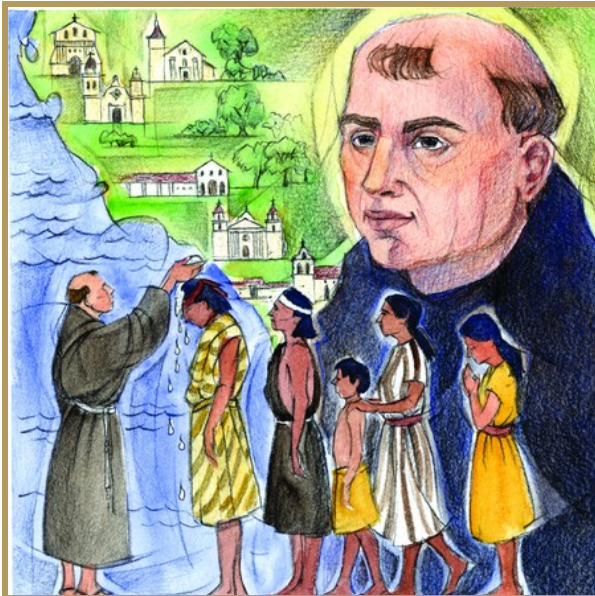
## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Prudence: thinking about what is best to do*

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Blessed Junipero Serra*  
(1713-1784, Spain/U.S.)

Feast: July 1



*Blessed Junipero Serra © Saint Mary's Press*

Blessed Junipero Serra was a Franciscan priest. He wanted to be kind to the Native Americans. He travelled all along California to build towns called missions where the people could work together in peace and learn about God.

**PRUDENCE:** making good decisions in specific circumstances



**DISCUSSION:**

Find California on a map. Why did Blessed Junipero Serra start missions there?

**HOME PROJECT:** Due February \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss 1 Kings 3: 5-14.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

The virtue of prudence helps us to choose the best way to solve problems. Practice using I-messages to talk about these problems:

1. Another student called you a mean name.
2. Someone keeps taking your ball at recess.
3. Someone laughed at your drawing.

**I-messages:**

"I felt \_\_\_\_ when you \_\_\_\_; please \_\_\_\_."

**Example:**

"I felt sad when you took my crayon;  
please do not touch my things."

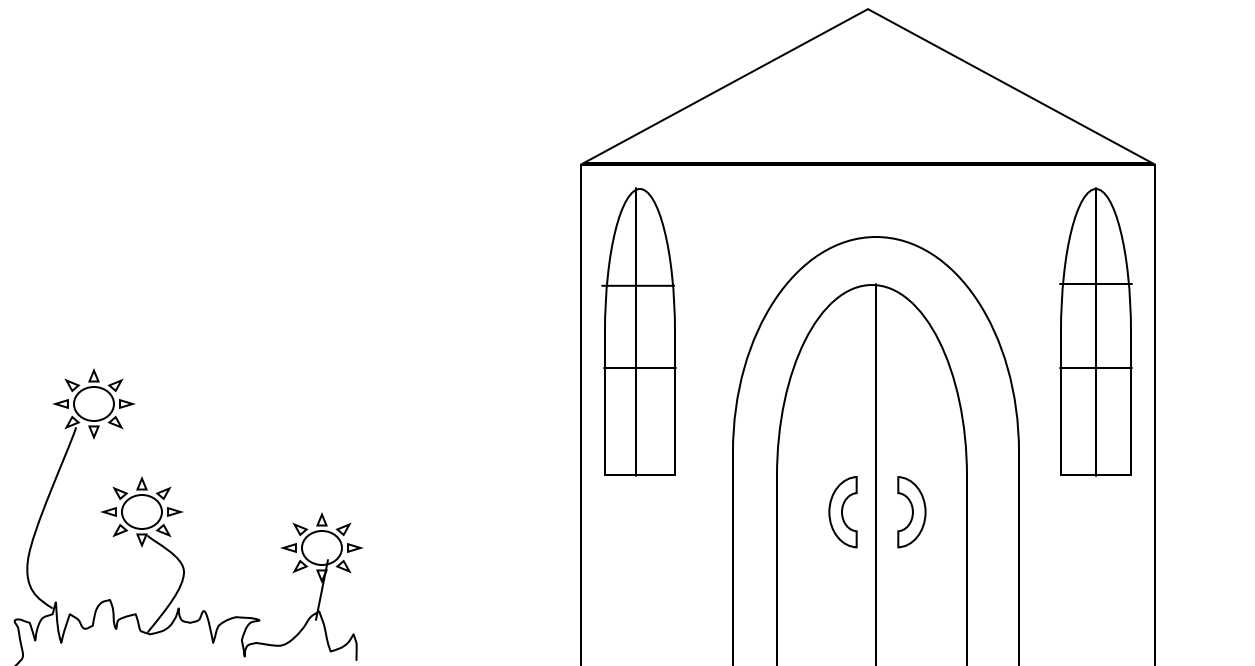
**PRAYER:**

Blessed Junipero Serra, you loved the Native Americans and were wise about how to help them. Help us to know what is best in each situation. Amen. Blessed Junipero Serra, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Finish this picture of a mission.

1. Draw a cross on the top of the church.
2. Draw people working in the garden.
3. Color the picture.



**PRUDENCE:** making good decisions in specific circumstances

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, at Cana you knew what the people needed and asked Jesus to help them. You know what I need too! Ask Jesus to grant me what I need to be more like Him. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

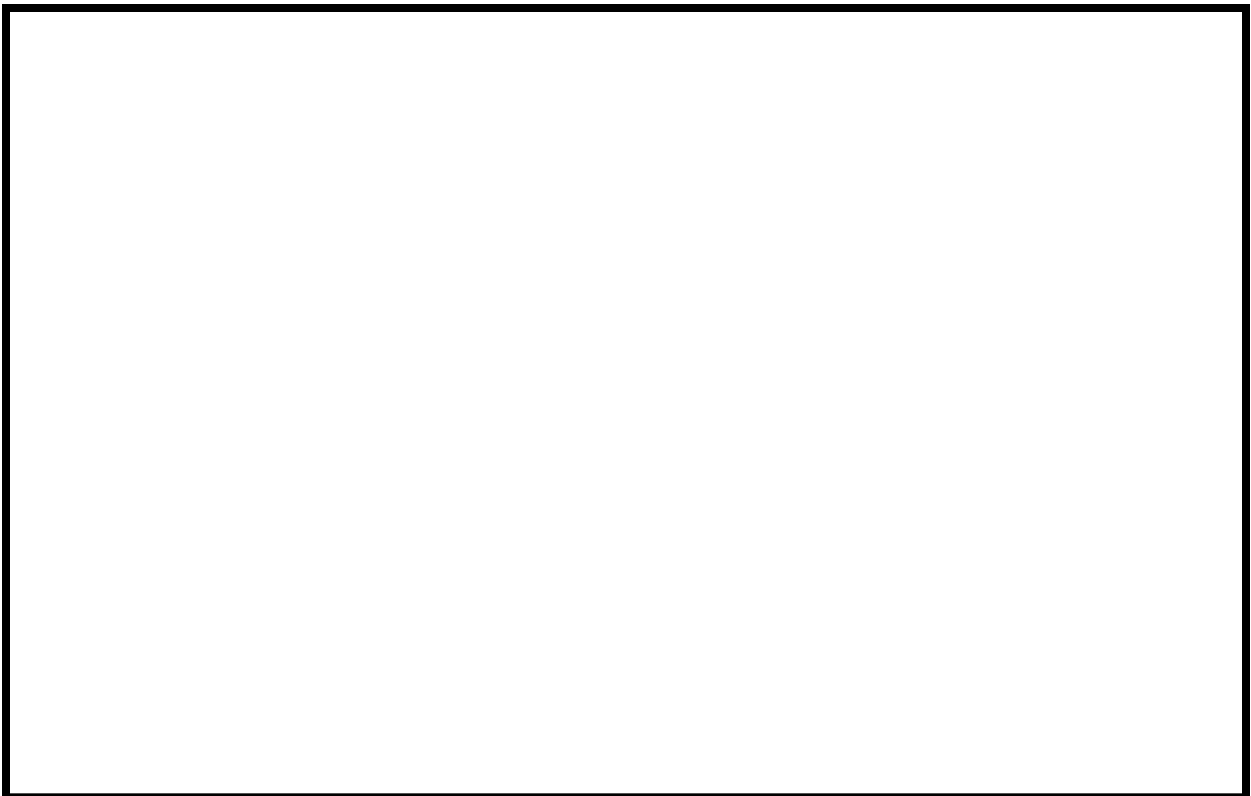
**REVIEW:**

What is prudence?

Who is Blessed Junipero Serra?

**GROWTH IN PRUDENCE:**

Draw something you did this month to solve a problem.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

PRUDENCE: making good decisions in specific circumstances

# March

## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Respect*: recognizing the dignity of all people

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Jeanne Jugan*

(1792-1879, France)

Feast: August 30



*Saint Jeanne Jugan*  
by George and Sergio Pinecross

In 1837, Saint Jeanne and two other women decided to live together and dedicate their lives to God. One day Jeanne found a homeless widow who was elderly and blind. Jeanne brought her home and gave her own bed to the widow. This act of charity grew into the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor, who now care for poor elderly people all around the world.

## DISCUSSION:

What did Saint Jeanne Jugan do to show charity and respect for the sick, poor, and elderly?

RESPECT: recognizing the dignity of all people

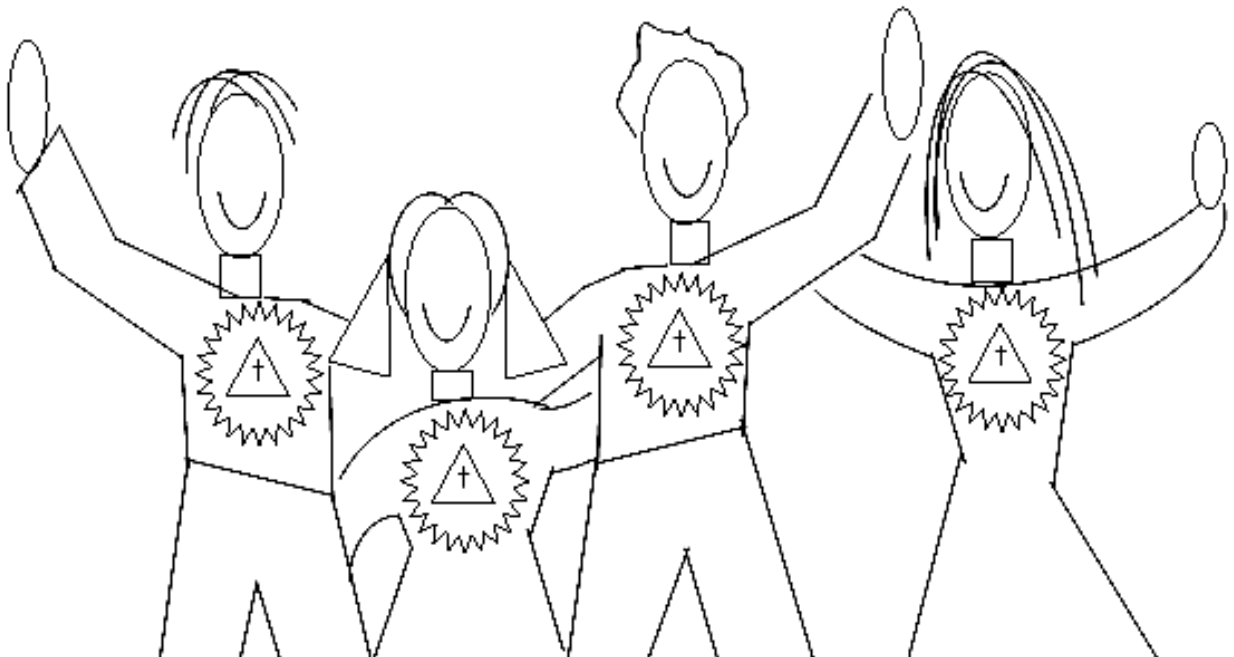
**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Genesis 1:26, 31.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

God makes every human being in His image, giving each person a soul that can love and live forever in heaven. This gives each person **dignity**, which means they are worth very much. Our soul makes us like God, and at baptism God Himself comes to live inside us!

In this picture, color the triangles bright yellow to show that the soul is like the light of God shining in each person. Then color the rest of the picture.



**RESPECT:** recognizing the dignity of all people

**PRAYER:**

Dear Saint Jeanne Jugan, help us to see all people as children of God. Help us always to respect each person's dignity. Help us to show special respect to the elderly, and to care for them as you did. Amen. Saint Jeanne Jugan, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Discuss ways you could show respect for the elderly in each of the situations below. Then act out your answers. Make sure that you help in a way that is very respectful!

1. Your great-grandmother has trouble keeping her balance, and she is walking down the bumpy path to your house. What can you do to show respect?
2. Your grandpa has trouble hearing when the family is telling stories. What can you do?
3. One of the older ladies at church is talking about what happened to her yesterday, but no one is listening to her. What can you do?
4. Your grandparents come to pick you up from school on a day that your friend made you mad. You do not feel like talking. What can you do to show respect?

RESPECT: recognizing the dignity of all people

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, you respected the shepherds as much as the kings who came to see Jesus. Help us to respect everyone. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

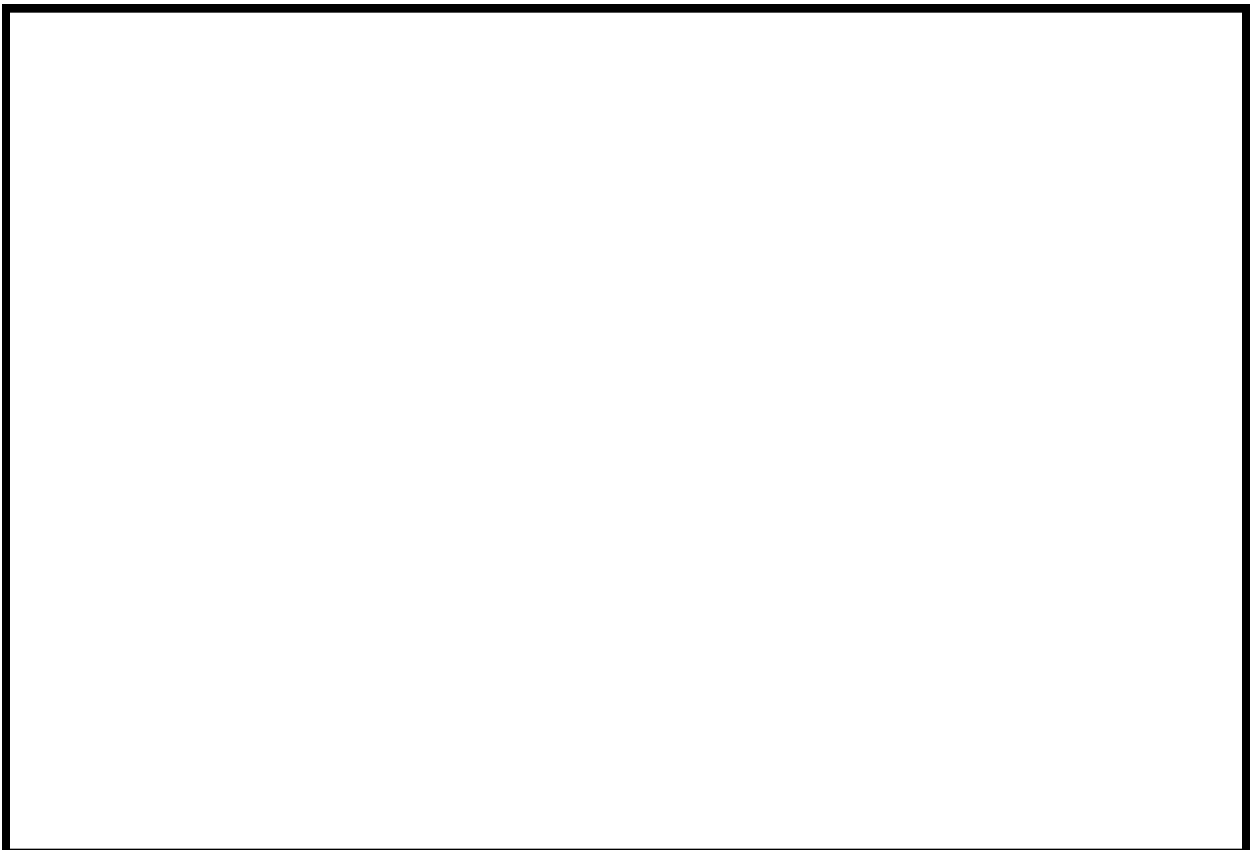
**REVIEW:**

What is respect?

Who is Saint Jeanne Jugan?

**GROWTH IN RESPECT:**

Draw a picture about what you did this month to grow in respect.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing about growing in respect.

RESPECT: recognizing the dignity of all people

# April

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

*Forgiveness: pardoning those who offend you*

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Patrick*

(387-461, Ireland)

Feast: March 17

When Saint Patrick was a boy, he was taken to Ireland and made a slave! After six years he escaped. Saint Patrick forgave the people of Ireland and went back to teach them about God. He helped them to know and love the Holy Trinity.



*Saint Patrick by Anne Murphy*

**FORGIVENESS:** pardoning those who offend you



**DISCUSSION:**

Why did Saint Patrick need to forgive?

**HOME PROJECT:** Due April \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Luke 18:21-33.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

Practice saying "I forgive you" when people have hurt you.

1. Your friend broke your toy on accident and is crying.
2. Your cookie is gone. You know your little brother ate it, but he says he didn't.
3. As you walk down the street, a stranger passes by, knocks your toy out of your hands, and walks away.



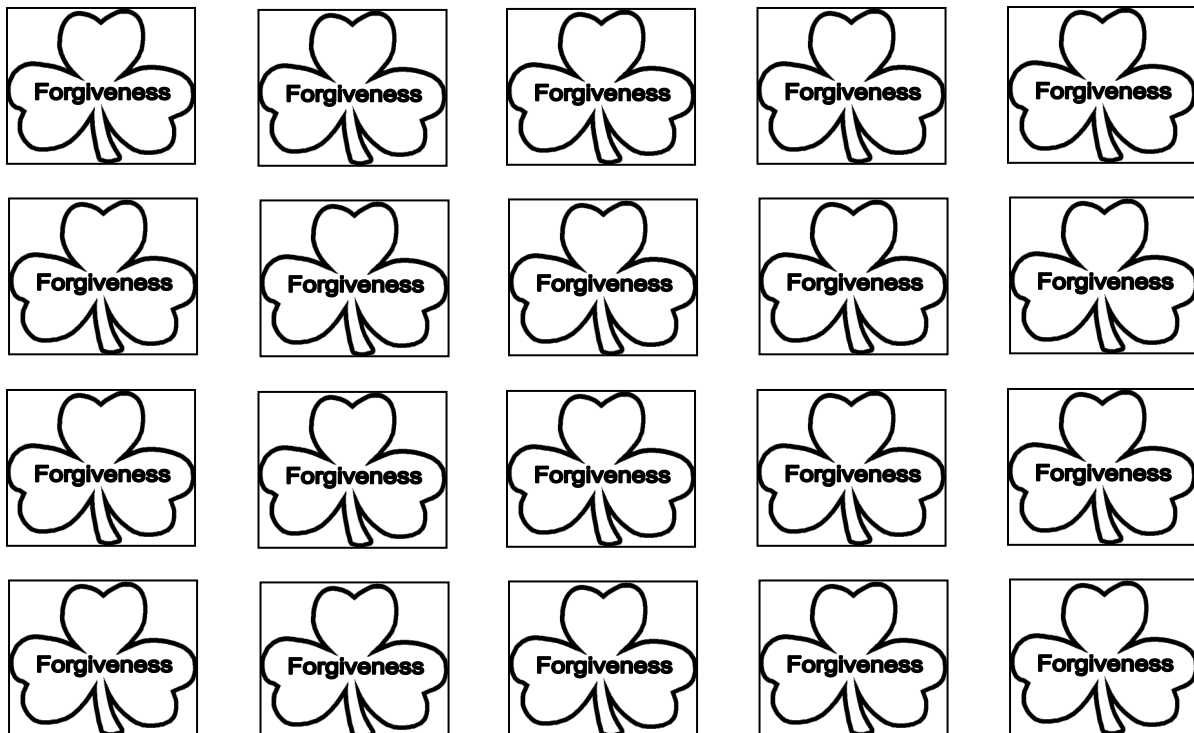
**FORGIVENESS:** pardoning those who offend you

**PRAYER:**

Saint Patrick, even though the Irish people made you a slave, you forgave them and brought them God's love. Help us to forgive others, as you did. Amen. Saint Patrick, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saint Patrick used the shamrock to teach about the Trinity, and how God is love. Color a shamrock every time you forgive someone.



**FORGIVENESS:** pardoning those who offend you

**PRAYER:**

Mother Mary, pray for us to be like your Son, who asked forgiveness for those who hurt Him. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

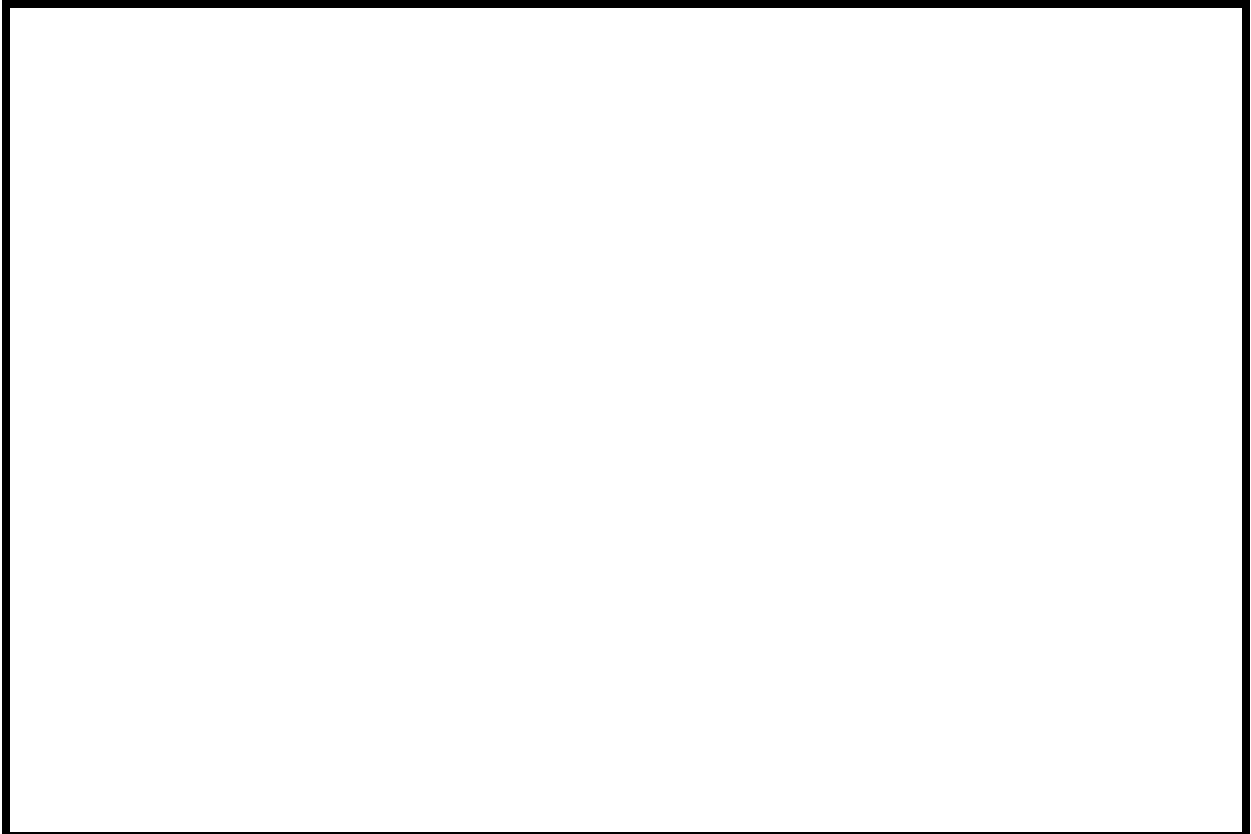
**REVIEW:**

What is forgiveness?

Who is Saint Patrick?

**GROWTH IN FORGIVENESS:**

Draw a picture of what you did this month to grow in forgiveness.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

**FORGIVENESS:** pardoning those who offend you

# May

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## PRAYER:

*Act of Charity*

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:

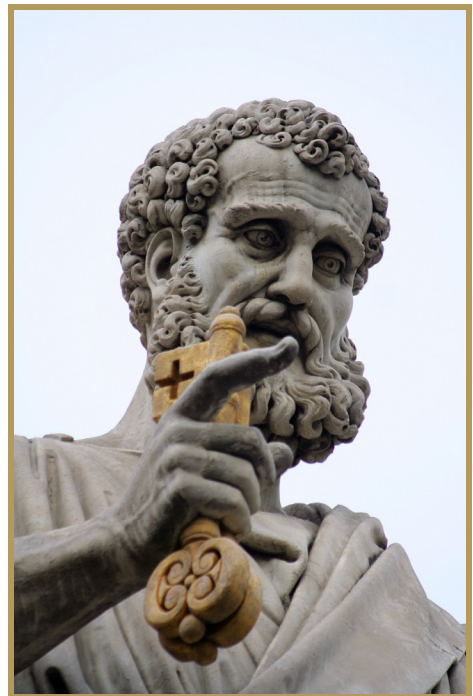
*Responsibility*: doing your job and admitting your mistakes

## SAINT OF THE MONTH:

*Saint Peter*

(1 BC - 67 AD, Jerusalem/Italy)

Feasts: February 22 &  
June 29



*Statue of St. Peter in Rome*

Saint Peter was one of the twelve Apostles. When Jesus was crucified, Peter ran away and left Jesus because he was scared. But Peter said he was sorry and Jesus forgave him. Jesus gave Peter the very important job of being the leader of all of the Apostles and the whole Church! Peter was the first pope.

**RESPONSIBILITY**: being reliable in your duties and accountable for your actions

**DISCUSSION:**

How can we show God that we are sorry when we make a mistake? What are some jobs we have right now? (Bonus: Who is our pope today?)

**HOME PROJECT:** Due May \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER:**

Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts to God's living Word! (Read and discuss Matthew 25:19-21.)

**VIRTUE ACTIVITY:**

Role-play saying "I'm sorry. Please forgive me?" in the following situations:

- taking crayons without asking
- cutting in line
- disobeying the teacher

Act out how you should do these jobs:

- cleaning up after snack
- turning in your class work
- Lining up in the hallway
- Packing or unpacking your backpack

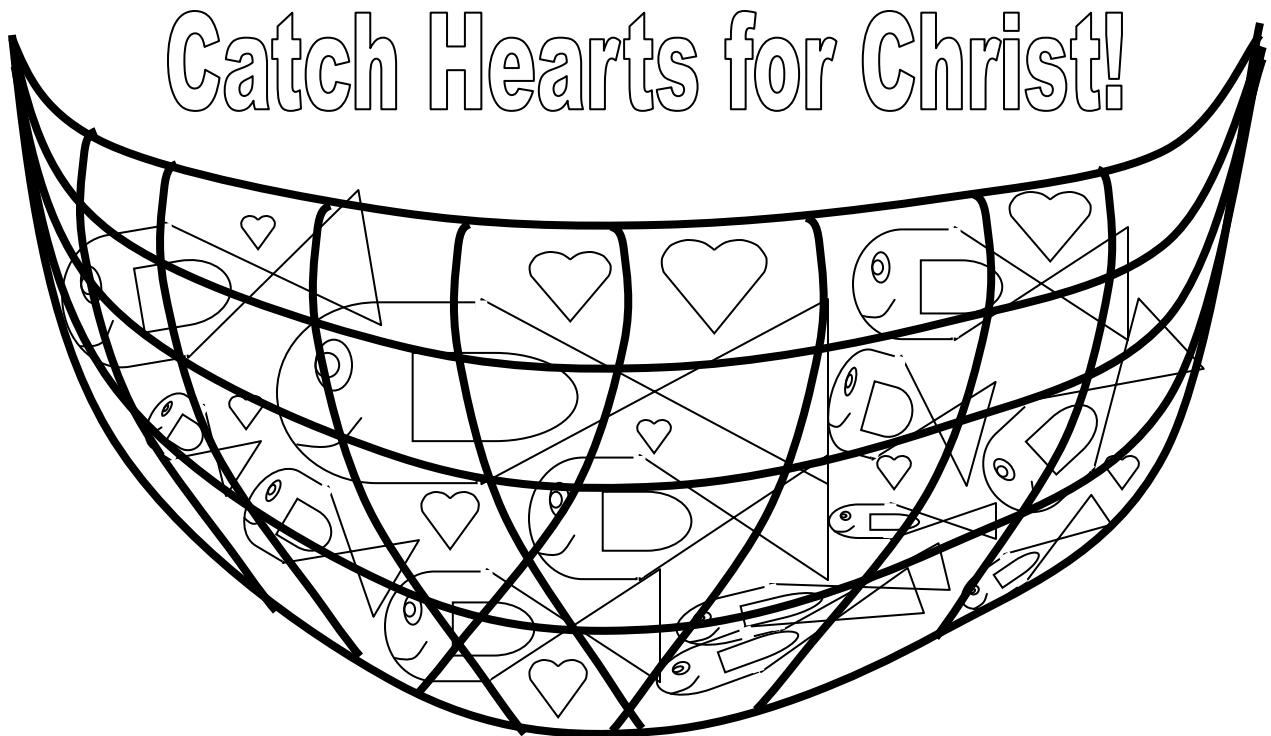
**RESPONSIBILITY:** being reliable in your duties and accountable for your actions

**PRAYER:**

Saint Peter, you asked Jesus to forgive you for denying Him, and he made you the first pope. Help me to be responsible. Amen. Saint Peter, pray for us.

**SAINT ACTIVITY:**

Saint Peter was a fisherman before he became an Apostle. Jesus taught Peter how to catch people's hearts for God. Color the fish in the net. Find the hearts and color them red.



**RESPONSIBILITY:** being reliable in your duties and accountable for your actions

**PRAYER:**

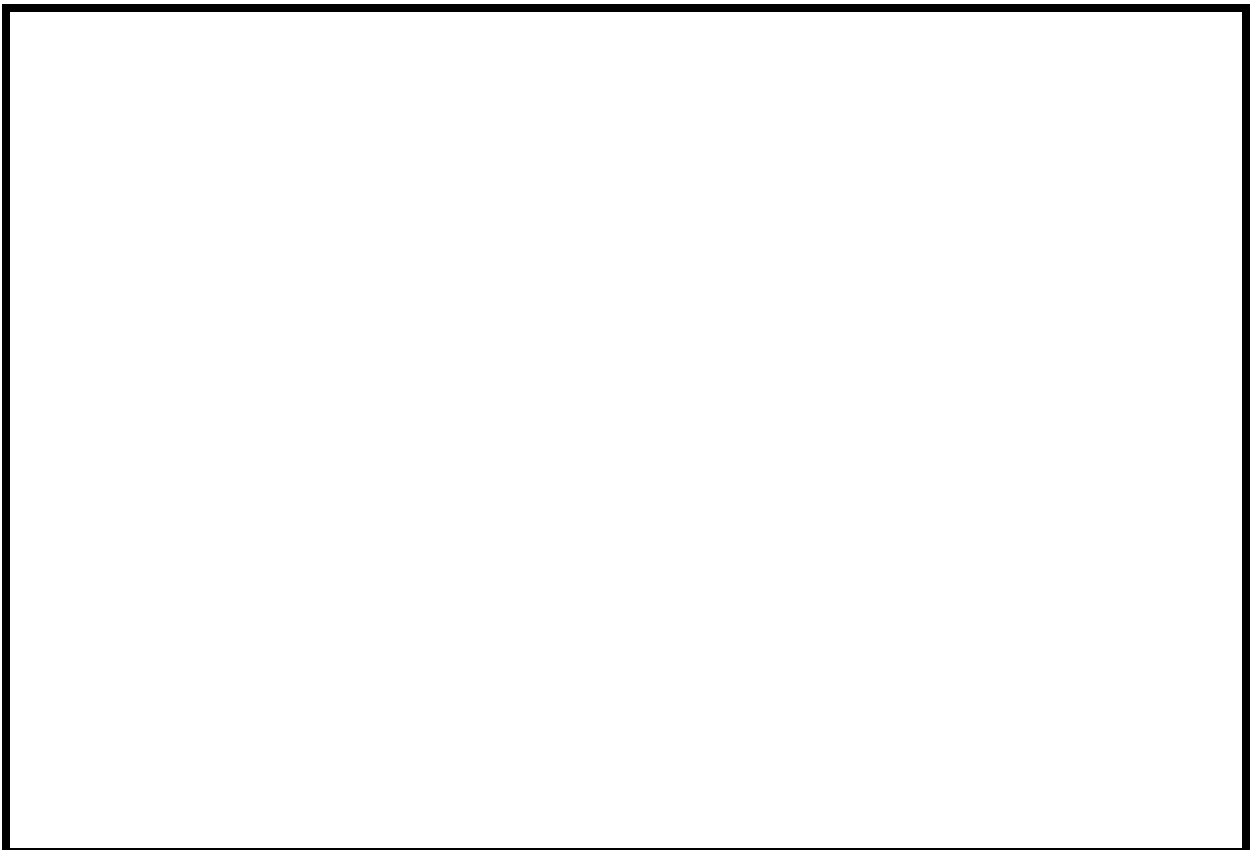
Mother Mary, you cared for Jesus and Joseph.  
Help me to be responsible for my chores and  
duties. (Pray 3 *Hail Marys*.)

**REVIEW:**

What is responsibility?  
Who is Saint Peter?

**GROWTH IN RESPONSIBILITY:**

Draw a picture of what you did this month to  
grow in responsibility.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** being reliable in your duties and accountable for your actions

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# Acknowledgements

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The *Virtues in Practice* program was originally written by a team of parents and faculty members at St. Gertrude School in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2005, and implemented beginning with the 2006 academic year. The program began as a nine-year cycle with students in kindergarten through eighth grade learning about a different virtue, and a saint who exemplified that virtue, each month. It was intended only for the use of St. Gertrude School, but within a short time it became clear that many schools desired the use of such a program.

To make the program accessible to a wider audience, Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia from St. Gertrude School, St. Mary's School in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Newport News, Virginia, and St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School in Woodbridge, Virginia worked together with faculty and staff volunteers in those schools to create the current program which follows a spiraling curriculum that repeats the same virtues over a three-year cycle while introducing new saints each year. To all who have contributed time and talent to the creation of this program, we are deeply grateful.

This program is the fruit of grace and collaboration, and is offered free of charge to those who wish to use it in their home or school. It is our prayer that all who read it will be inspired to pattern their lives more faithfully on that of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May our lives radiate His virtues, so that others may come to know and believe in the life and love He offers freely! To that end, we offer this work to His glory through the patronage of Mary, our Mother, and Star of the New Evangelization.

~ *The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation*  
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Nashville, Tennessee 37228  
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For questions related to the *Virtues in Practice* program,  
please contact the Office for the New Evangelization at [neoffice@op-tn.org](mailto:neoffice@op-tn.org).



Eight centuries ago St. Dominic de Guzman, inspired by the Holy Spirit in response to the needs of his time, founded an Order with the mission of preaching for the salvation of souls. Dominic's love for God and neighbor continues to inspire the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation today, as they joyfully embrace the Church's call to the New Evangelization. Through their teaching apostolate, the Sisters serve over 16,000 students in 41 schools in the United States, Canada, Australia, Italy, and Scotland.

## *Act of Charity*

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O my God, I love You above all things,  
with my whole heart and soul,  
because You are all good  
and worthy of all love.

I love my neighbor as myself  
for the love of You.

I forgive all who have injured me,  
and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.  
Amen.