



TO TEACH AS JESUS DID

OCTOBER 2017

Sacred Space

The month of October is the special month of the Rosary. We all love to be reminded of the things that make us happy. A mother, for instance, may love a particular song that reminds her of her first date with her husband or the birth of her child. The song may not be the best song ever, but she loves it. And Mary loves to be reminded that she is the Mother of God, that the Lord is with her, that she is blessed, full of grace. Pray to her:

The angel said to Mary, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

Luke 1:26-28

<https://stjosemaria.org/ipray-our-lady-of-the-rosary/>



From the Resource Center

October 13th marks the 100th anniversary of the final apparition by Our Lady to three young children at Fatima, Portugal. On that day, an estimated crowd of 70,000 individuals saw the miraculous sign that Mary had promised in order to assure the people that her apparition and her messages were true: The sun spun, changed colors, and "danced." After the miracle, the clothing of the people, which had been drenched with rain, was no longer wet and the mud had all dried up. To learn more about this event, visit the Archdiocesan Pinterest board: Saints – Our Lady of Fatima at

<https://www.pinterest.com/dbqarch/saints-our-lady-of-fatima/>. You will find



Our Lady of Fatima grotto

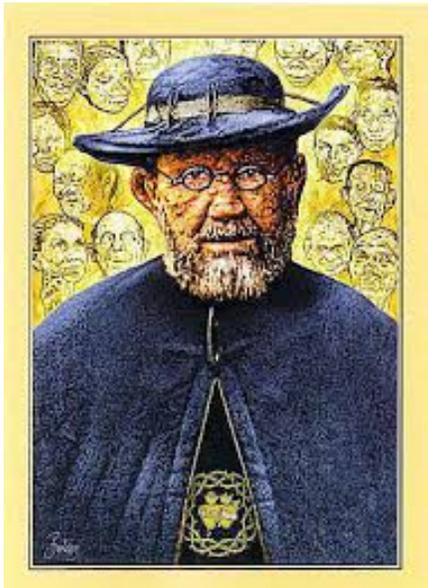
- a craft grotto: <http://www.catholicplayground.com/marian-appearitions-create-a-mini-grotto/>
- coloring sheets: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Miracle-of-the-Sun-Our-Lady-of-Fatima-Catholic-Booklet-1492296>
- a spinning sun pinwheel craft: <http://www.drawn2bcreative.com/spinning-sun-pinwheel-lady-fatima/3>
- a Miracle of the Sun Spinner: <http://www.catholicicing.com/fatima-craft-miracle-of-sun-spinner/>
- a brief online video: <https://safeshare.tv/x/FcUTFueHJIY>
- and much more, including highlights of many of the DVDs and books available through the ERC.



Did You Know? Fatima video



Fatima Craft - Miracle of the Sun Spinner



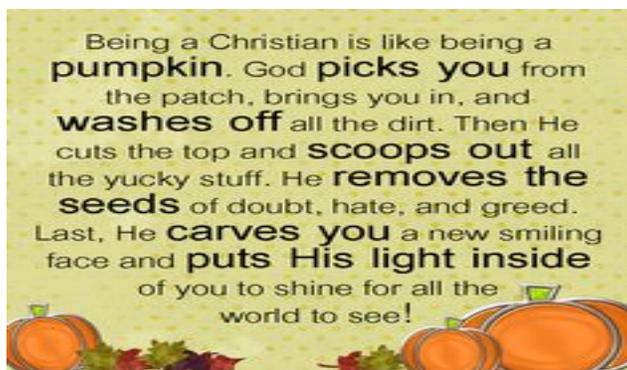
Saint of the Month

Father Damien or Saint Damien of Molokai

was a Roman Catholic priest from Belgium and member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, a missionary religious institute. He won

recognition for his ministry from 1873 to 1889 in the Kingdom of Hawaii to people with leprosy (also known as Hansen's disease), who were required to live under a government-sanctioned medical quarantine on the island of Molokai on the Kalaupapa Peninsula. During this time, he taught the Catholic faith to the people of Hawaii. Father Damien also cared for the patients himself and established leadership within the community to build houses, schools, roads, hospitals, and churches. He dressed residents' ulcers, built a reservoir, made coffins, dug graves, shared pipes, and ate poi from his hands with them, providing both medical and emotional support. After sixteen years caring for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those in the leper colony, Father Damien realized he had also contracted leprosy when he was scalded by hot water and felt no pain. He continued with his work despite the infection but finally succumbed to the disease on 15 April 1889. Father Damien has been described as a martyr of charity. Father Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on 11 October 2009. The Catholic Encyclopedia calls him "the Apostle of the Lepers."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Father_Damien



<https://i.pinimg.com/236x/08/c6/c5/08c6c5dd7631079f842b5e7acd214b0f--christian-quotes-about-faith-christian-poems.jpg>

Engaging Parents in Catechesis: Catholic Response to Halloween

Again and again, Catholic parents and teachers and catechists really wonder about celebrating this holiday that kids love so much. I would encourage you, your catechists and Catholic schoolteachers to read:

<http://www.uscatholic.org/church/2009/09/dont-be-scared-halloween-readers-share-frightful-memories>

The writer explores the history of Halloween and the Catholic response. He suggests "harvest" parties as an alternative to Halloween parties that emphasize frightfulness. Some parishes organize "trunk or treat" where trunks open up with goodies and kids trick or treat in the church parking lot. Kids could be encouraged to dress as saints since it is the eve of All Saints' Day. Or carve this kind of jack-o-lantern:



Methodology: Getting Kids' Attention

According to Jared Dees who writes for *Religion Teachers' Journal*, says that *getting* students' attention and keeping it can be a real challenge for any teacher or catechist. Kids of all ages can be easily distracted and have a hard time sitting in desks and remaining focused. Dees suggests that catechists are faced with the challenge of trying to make religious education different from just another school class. Religion teachers are charged with the need to make religion more than just another subject among many. Both catechists and Catholic schoolteachers would benefit greatly by using inductive teaching strategies.

Dees suggests that inductive teaching strategies that capture a student's attention include the 20 questions game, role-playing and story telling. Go to:

<https://www.thereligionteacher.com/inductive-teaching-strategies/#sthash.7HGjjEhj.dpuf> for the complete list of such strategies.