

Atmavinte Niravil - 1

God the Father



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Atmavinte Niravil - 1

Faith Formation Series of Kerala Latin Catholic Church

God the Father



MESSAGE



Preserving perpetually fresh the command of our Lord Jesus Christ to his apostles “*go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation*” (Mk 16:15), the Church always holds in high esteem the Faith Formation, the essential element in the process of evangelization, as a means to keep alive the proclamation and transmission of the Word of God to the future generation.

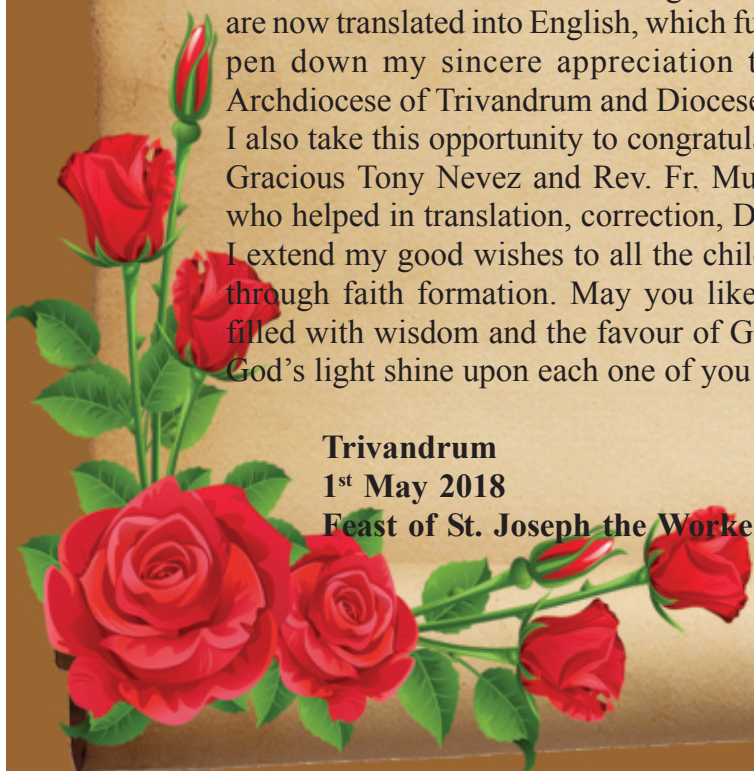
Emphasizing the significance of catechetical ministry, St. John Paul II in his Apostolic Exhortation *Catechesi Tradendae*, exhorts: “*Quite early on, the name Catechesis was given to the totality of the Church’s efforts to make disciples, to help people believe that Jesus is the Son of God so that believing they might have life in his name and to educate and instruct them in this life, thus building up the Body of Christ*” (CT 1). Catechesis enables the faithful to inculcate God’s grace in their day today lives, to experience the invisible power of God through the celebration of the sacraments within the community and to bear witness to it with self-denial.

Noting the prime and vital role of the catechism texts in the Faith Formation process, KRLCBC’s (Kerala Regional Latin Catholic Bishops Council) Commission for Catechetical took a bold step in forming these texts in vernacular language from standard 1 to XII in the year 2007. The contents presentations of these texts are noteworthy and needs to be appreciated; its presentation is simple and elegant and used modern teaching techniques. Care has been taken to depict true beliefs along with the inclusion of the history of the Latin Catholic Church and the special characteristics of the sacraments. Sensing the need of the modern epoch, these texts are now translated into English, which further widens the scope of these texts. I pen down my sincere appreciation to the catechetical departments of Archdiocese of Trivandrum and Diocese of Calicut for initiating this venture. I also take this opportunity to congratulate Rev. Dr. Laurence Culas, Rev. Fr. Gracious Tony Nevez and Rev. Fr. Muthappan Appoli and their colleagues who helped in translation, correction, DTP and page layout.

I extend my good wishes to all the children who desire to deepen their faith through faith formation. May you like Jesus grow and become strong, be filled with wisdom and the favour of God be upon you’ (cf. Luke 2:40). Let God’s light shine upon each one of you!

Trivandrum
1st May 2018
Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Archbishop Soosa Pakiam M.
President, KRLCBC
Archbishop of Trivandrum





DEDICATION

All those who believers in Christ are constantly called to deepen their faith through faith formation, the essential phenomenon that molds a mature faith and enables the faithful to proclaim vigorously. Faith formation is indeed the prime and vital mission of the Church and therefore it is an essential moment in the process of evangelization (cf. *General Directory for Catechesis* 63; *Catechesi Tradendae* 18).

None in this cosmos remain as individual entities but as part and parcel of communities. As we are commissioned by Jesus “to go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15), we just cannot ignore our mission of being the proclaimers and protagonists of the Kingdom of God, which is based on truth and justice. As the members of Christ’s community we are obliged to live an exemplary life according to the Gospel.

Faith formation text books play a vibrant role in the formation of faith in the lives of faithful. Taking into consideration the significance of text books in faith formation, KRLCBC (Kerala Regional Latin Catholic Bishops Council), Commission for Bible and Catechesis did a wonderful work of creating text books in vernacular language from class 1 to XII. Deeming it as the need of the time, the Commission translated these text books into English, which is coordinated by the catechetical departments of Archdiocese of Trivandrum and Diocese of Calicut.

At this juncture, I deem it fit to place on record my heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Dr. Laurence Culas, Rev. Fr. Gracious Tony Nevez and Rev. Fr. Muthappan Appoli for their untiring works and leading role in carrying on this translation. I also thank all the translators for their strong will power and hard work. Hoping these text books would shape the characters of the students and teachers on the basis of gospel, I present these books happily for the use of everyone.

Kochi
1st May 2018
Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Bishop Joseph Kariyil
Chairman
KRLCBC Commission for
Catechetics

MESSAGE

“To begin with, it is clear that the Church has always looked on catechesis as a sacred duty and an inalienable right. On the one hand, it is certainly a duty springing from a command given by the Lord and resting above all on those who in the new covenant receive the call to the ministry of being pastors. On the other hand, one can likewise speak of a right: from the theological point of view every baptized person, precisely the reason of being baptized, has the right to receive from the Church instruction and education enabling him or her to enter on a truly Christian life” (*Catechesi Tradendae* 14).

KRLCBC Commission for Catechesis, in its whole hearted efforts owning this mind of the Mother Church regarding catechesis, deemed it necessary to present the Catechism texts in languages more comfortable to the students. So, the translation of the current vernacular text into English and Tamil was included in the decennial plan presented in the Vallarpadam Mission Congress and BCC Convention as one of the primary objectives to be achieved. Moreover, constant plea from the part of students and their parents as well as the teachers necessitated this huge venture.

The great and praise worthy efforts invested by the Pastoral Ministry of Latin Archdiocese of Trivandrum under the direction of Rev. Dr. Laurence Culas and Rev. Fr. Muthappan Appoli and by the diocese of Calicut under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Gracious Tony Nevez towards the realization of this objective have been of immense worth. Their service to the formation of the new generation in the Latin Church of Kerala goes gratefully and proudly marked. This will go a long way to realize the specific aim of catechesis as St. Pope John Paul II says: “to develop, with God’s help, an as yet initial faith, and to advance in fullness and to nourish day by day the Christian life of the faithful young and old...Catechesis aims therefore at developing understanding of the mystery of Christ in the light of God’s word, so that the whole of a person’s humanity is impregnated by that word” (*Catechesi Tradendae* 20).

On behalf of the Chairman of the Commission for Catechetics and its members my heart overflows with great appreciation for and deep gratitude to all those who toiled to make this dream come true. May God bless them and reward them with the joy of seeing the new generations “to maturity to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (Eph 4:13).

Kochi
1st May 2018
Feast of St. Joseph, the Worker

Rev. Dr. Joy Puthenveetil
Secretary
KRLCBC Commission for
Catechetics

GRATITUDE

The word Catechesis, derived from the Greek word *'katekheisis'* means 'echo;' implying that as catechists, we echo the teachings of Christ and of the apostles. Catechism texts, playing a vital and inevitable role throughout the faith formation process, must be biblically, theologically and doctrinally reliable and infallible; thus enabling us to proclaim with Jesus, *"My teaching is not mine but his who sent me"* (John 7:16).

KRLCBC (Kerala Regional Latin Catholic Bishops Council), Commission for Catechetics was authorized to consolidate the contents and to formulate catechism texts for the usage of the faithful of Latin Catholic Dioceses in Kerala. The principal task of this commission was to review and evaluate the biblical and theological contents and doctrinal accuracy of the texts for children and youth; as a result of which catechism texts for standard 1 to 12 was formulated in Malayalam and implemented for usage since 2007. Taking into consideration, the dire need of the modern era, now these texts are translated into English for further usage.

With appreciation we place on record our sincere gratitude to Archbishop Soosa Pakiam M, the President of KRLCBC and Bishop Joseph Kariyil, the Chairman, KRLCBC Commission for Bible and Catechetics and Rev. Dr. Joy Puthenveetil, Secretary, KRLCBC Commission for Catechetics. We are indebted to the translators for their competence and hard work, especially Miss Vera Moses for the translation of this text. We are also very thankful to all those who corrected the texts. A special thanks to Mrs. Reena Shabu, Mrs. Sahayamary Delvan, Ms. Francisca T and Mrs. Sophi Godfrey for DTP work, page layout and graphics and to Chackala printers.

Bringing the entire nations to Jesus and assisting everyone to have a personal relationship with him will take place only when we, the faithful deepen our faith through faith formation, have a very personal relationship with him, which in turn strengthens us to proclaim genuinely the message of the Gospel with joy and courage; and thus attracting the entire people to him. Let the light of Jesus reflect through these texts and let everyone who use this text be enlightened by his divine light.

Trivandrum and Calicut
1st May 2018
Feast of St Joseph, the Worker

Rev. Dr. Laurence Culas
Rev. Fr. Gracious Tony Nevez
Rev. Fr. Muthappan Appoli



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1

OUR GOD

Look! Do you see the mother
bird feeding its little ones?
The mother parrot loves her
chicks. Doesn't she?



See how the mother cat
is caressing her young
ones. What a pleasant
sight! Is it not?



Look into the farm.
A cow is nursing its
calf. What an affection!



A father is fondling his son. What a blissful sight!



In the same way God the Father
cares for us.

**God is our loving
Father.**



**God is our Father.
God loves us.
God is with us.
Let us grow in God's love.**

We human beings have a body. We can see one another.

God has no body.

God is spirit.



Let us sing

We have mothers to sing lullaby,
And fathers to keep rhythm,

More than them
God loves us.

To God let us bow,
And with folded hands, give
praise.



Let us remember the Word of God

“And I will be your Father
and you shall be my sons and
daughters”

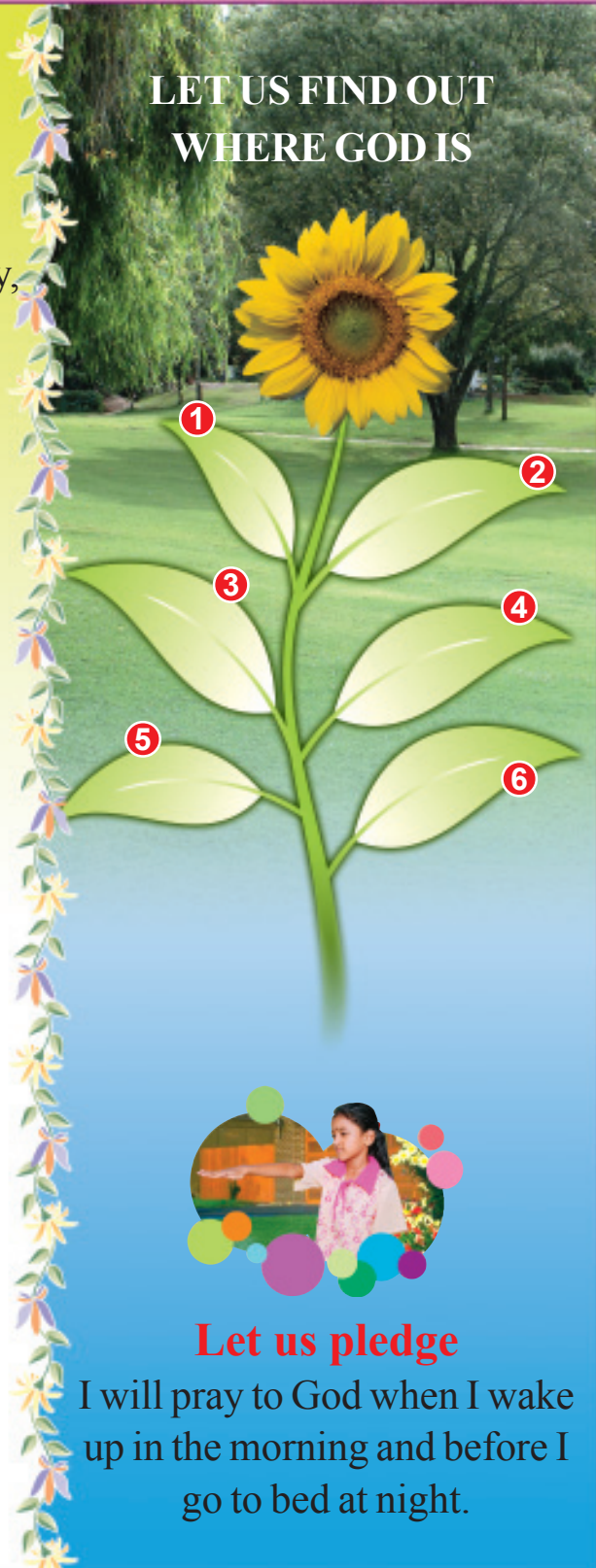
(2 Corinthians 6:18).



Let us pray

God our Father,
teach us to love you
always.

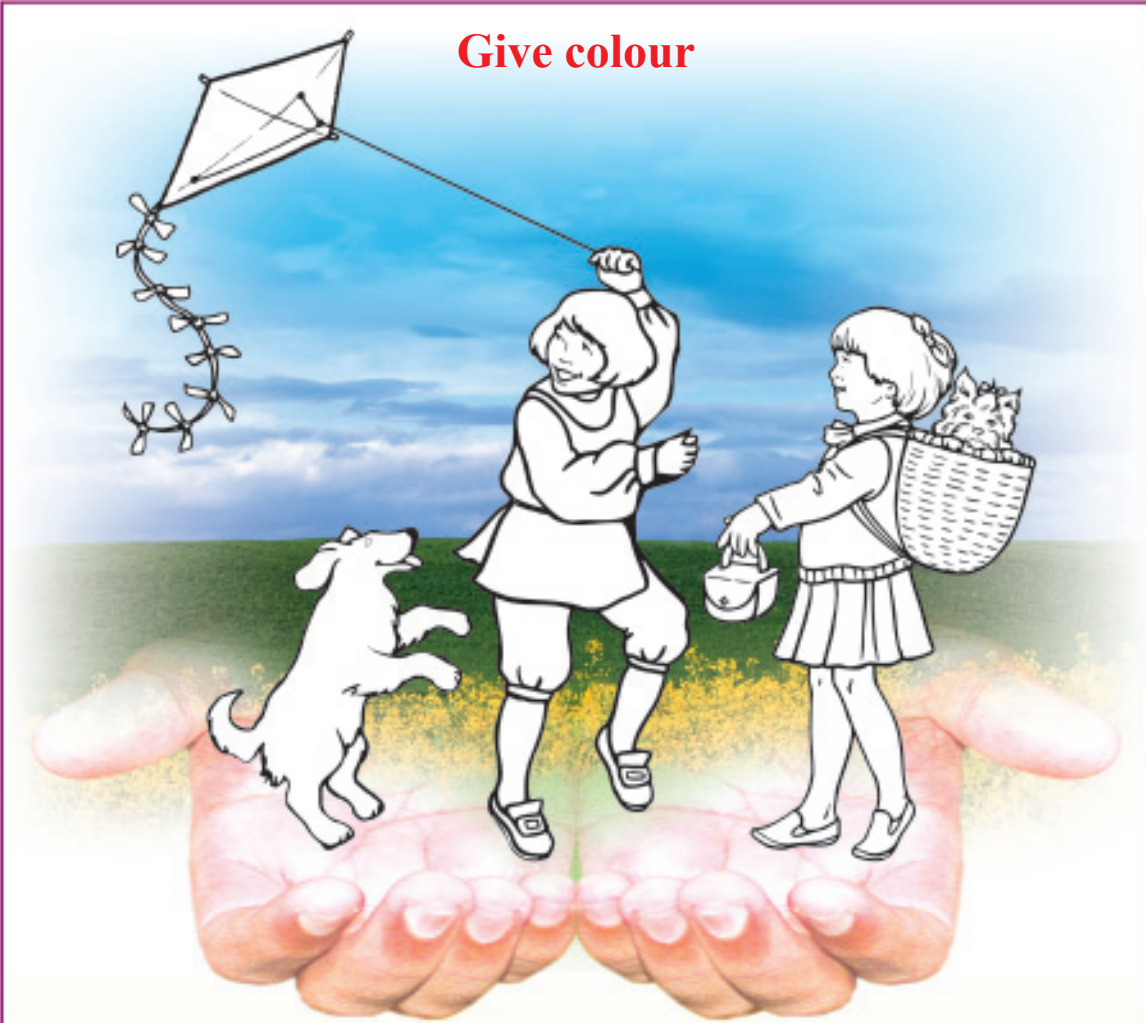
LET US FIND OUT WHERE GOD IS



Let us pledge

I will pray to God when I wake
up in the morning and before I
go to bed at night.

Give colour



Good works to practice

1. Greet the elders.
2.
3.



**Praise be to Jesus Christ;
Now and forever.**

A verse to remember

To us the Infant Jesus says:
“Glory be to the Father.”



OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.

2

GOD THE CREATOR

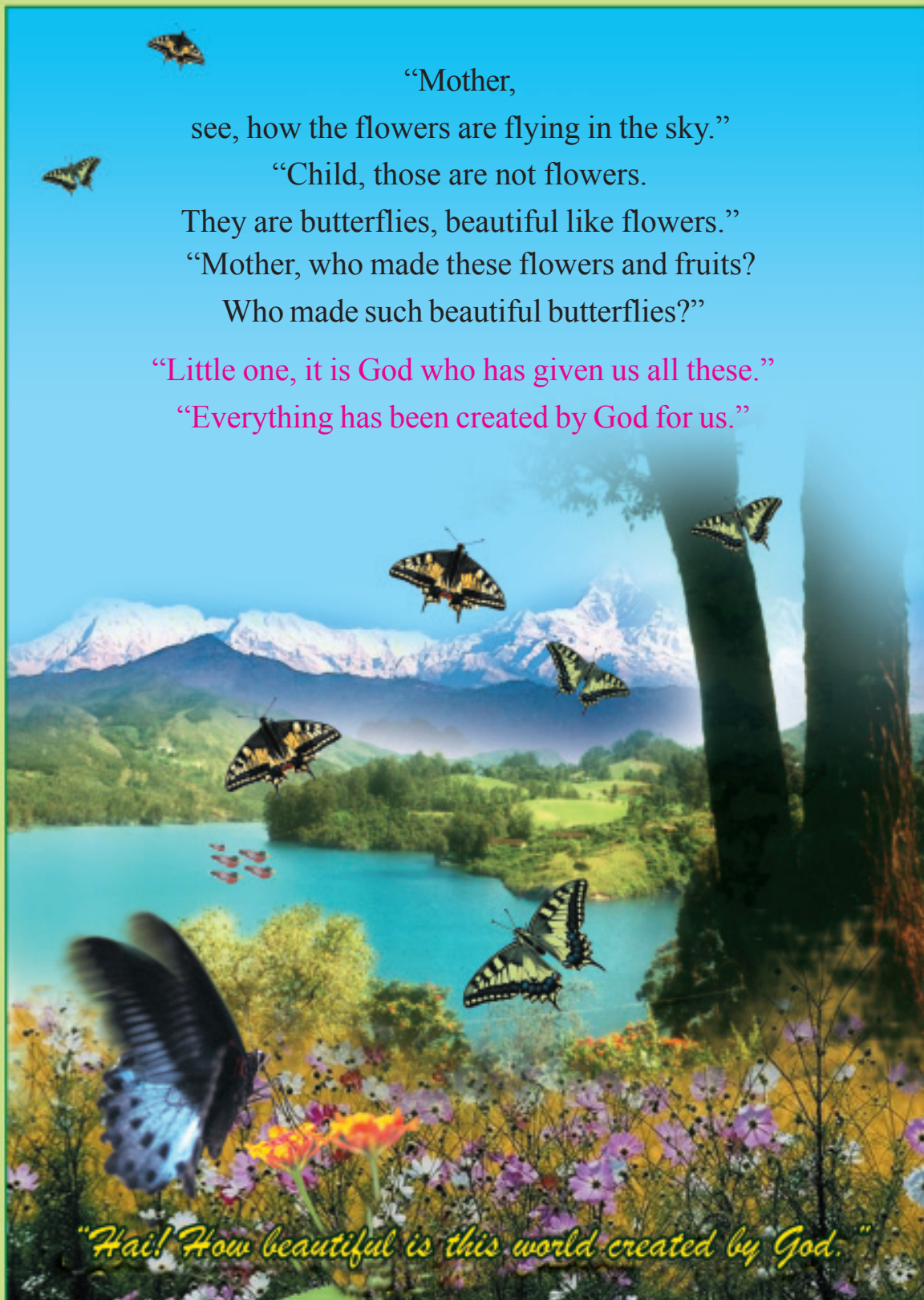


“Mother, see the beautiful flowers all around! How many flowers have bloomed for us!”

“Yes, dear! Water lilies, jasmine, chrysanthemum, sunflower are all there. Let your eyes feast up on them.”

“Mother, look, we have many fruits and vegetables too in our garden.”

“That’s right dear. Oranges, grapes, guavas, jackfruit; jambu fruits are all there. Do you feel like having one?”



“Mother,
see, how the flowers are flying in the sky.”
“Child, those are not flowers.
They are butterflies, beautiful like flowers.”
“Mother, who made these flowers and fruits?
Who made such beautiful butterflies?”
“Little one, it is God who has given us all these.”
“Everything has been created by God for us.”

“Hai! How beautiful is this world created by God.”

God created the earth and the sky.
 He also created the beautiful flowers and birds.
 God created them for all of us.
 We should love and take care of all that God
 has created.



Let us sing



Father cares for the little ones,
 Gives us fruits and vegetables,
 He sprads fragrance,
 Thro' the blooming little flowers.
 Father weaves wings for butterflies
 and like flowers they fly.
 Father, show us the right path,
 Your little ones are pleading.

LET US FIND OUT WHAT GOD HAS CREATED

Birds	Animals	Fruits	Flowers

**Let us remember
the Word of God**

**"In the beginning God
made the heavens and the earth."
(Genesis 1:1)**

Let us pray

**God the Creator of everything,
We praise You,
We thank You.**

**Let
us pledge**

**I will love all that
God has created.**



Good works to practice

1. Grow flower plants at home. Water them daily.

2. _____

3. _____



A verse to remember

To us the Infant Jesus says:
“Love all living creatures.”

3

WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN



GOD CREATED FATHER, MOTHER AND ME.

GOD IS OUR FATHER.

WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN.



God created everything on this earth. Humans are God's best creations. God is our Father. We are God's children. We are all brothers and sisters. We should love one another. We should also love all living things.



Let us sing



We are united
We are merciful
We are affectionate
We are God's children

We are humble
We are pure
We are loving
We are God's children

Cross word

F	A	B	C	D	E
T	R	M	O	P	V
O	I	T	S	H	R

Use the above given letters to form words. Find those whom you should love, respect and adore.

Those to be loved	Those to be respected
Poor	

QUALITIES OF GOD'S CHILDREN

They pray.

They do good works.

They love.

Let us remember the Word of God

“Beloved,
we are God’s children now.”
(1 John 3:2)





Let us pray

God, my Father,
teach me to love my
friends and those
who are with
me.

Let us pledge

I will
love my parents,
brothers, sisters,
teachers and
friends.



Practice good deeds

Every day recite the
family prayers
loudly.

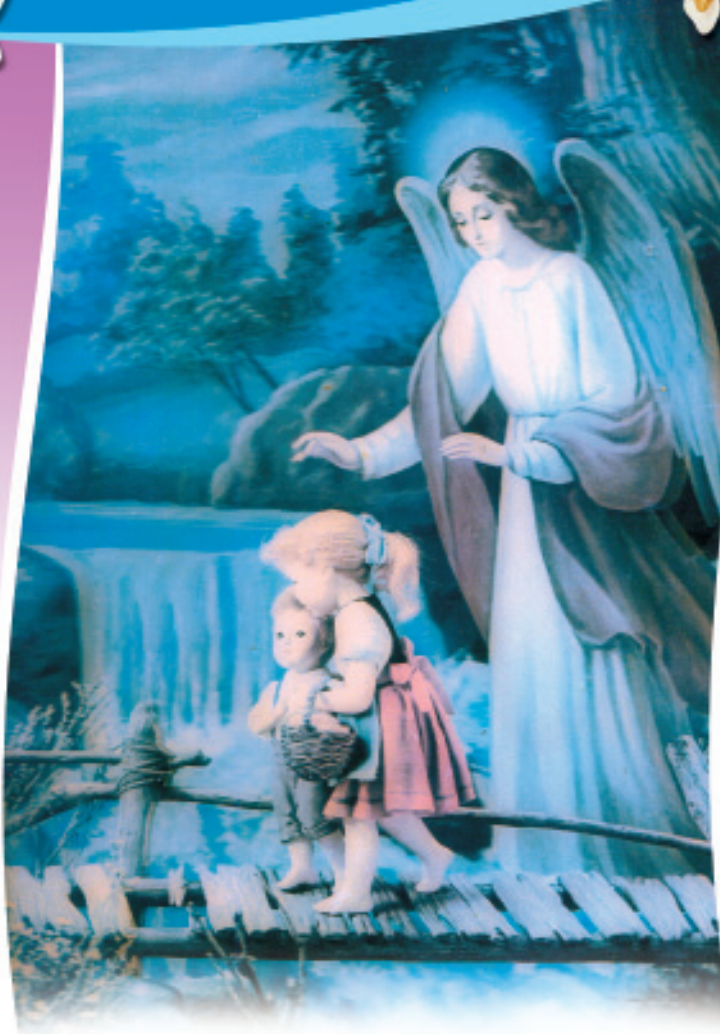
A verse to remember

To us the Infant Jesus
says: "Love one
another."



4

GOD THE PROTECTOR



God cares for everything on earth.

God feeds the birds of the air.

God safeguards the plants and animals of the earth.

More than these God cares for us
by giving us air to breathe, food to eat,
clothes to wear and house for shelter.

God protects us each moment through parents,
teachers, guardian angels and friends.

WE SHOULD ALSO CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION.

Write the names of the archangels



--	--	--

Let us see how we partake in God's
providential care

1. Share your food with the hungry.
2. Help your friends.
3.
4.
5.

Let us sing

We have an angel for company,
An angel to walk along,
An angel to protect
Sent by God, when we sleep.
We have an angel to wipe tears,
An angel to comfort,
An angel to guide
Sent by God, when we stray.



Let us remember the Word of God

“Guard me as
the apple of the eye.
Hide me in the shadow
of your wings.”
(Psalms 17:8).



Let us pray

O caring God,
we, your children
praise You!



Let us pledge

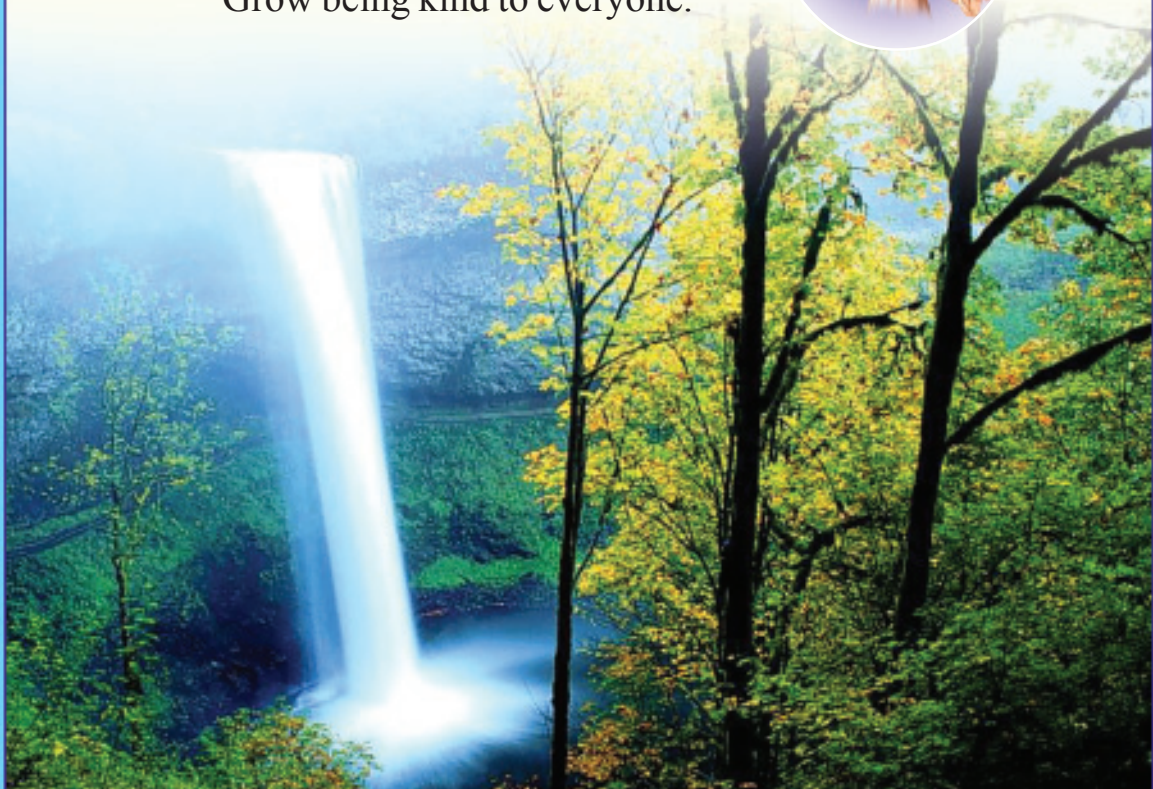
I will love my
guardian angel, parents,
brothers, friends and
teachers.

Practice good deeds

1. Take care of our surroundings.
2.
3.

A verse to remember

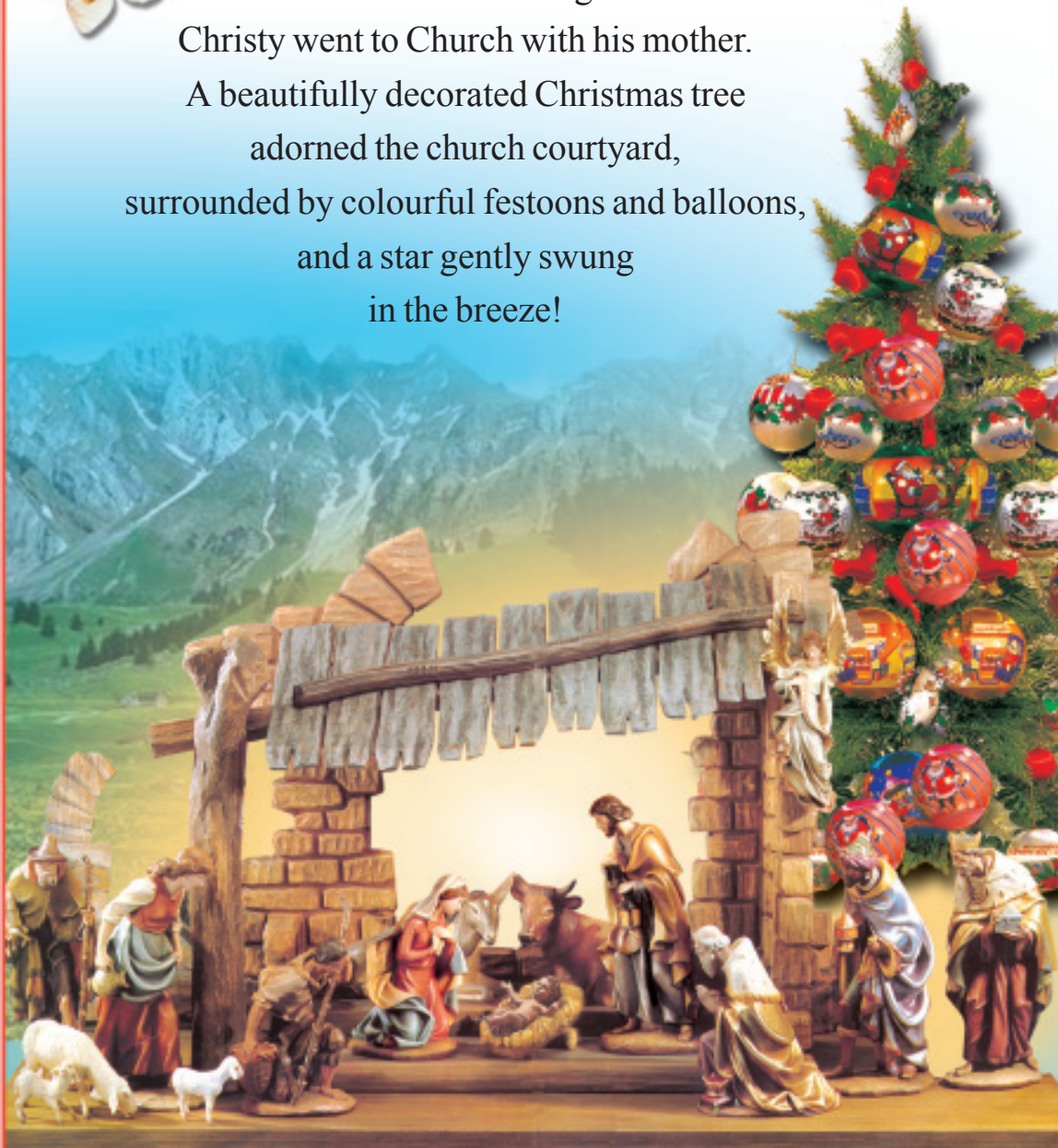
To us Infant Jesus says:
“Grow being kind to everyone.”



5

GOD BECAME MAN

On a Christmas Night
Christy went to Church with his mother.
A beautifully decorated Christmas tree
adorned the church courtyard,
surrounded by colourful festoons and balloons,
and a star gently swung
in the breeze!





When he saw the crib inside the church,
Christy jumped with joy.

“Mother, a baby!

His face is so beautiful!”

“Son, that’s not just a baby.”

“Then?”

“That is the Baby Jesus whom you wished to see.”

“Oh! So this is my Baby Jesus! Who are those people near the Baby?
Are they his parents?”

“Yes, yes. That is Joseph and Mary. Joseph is Jesus’ foster father.
Mary is his mother.

The others are the Kings and shepherds
who came to see Jesus.”

“Hai, What a beautiful Baby! Let us adore this Baby!”

Christy joined his hands and bowed before the Baby.

Christmas is a holy day. It is Jesus' birthday.
Baby Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem.
Kings and shepherds came to adore Him.
That day a wonderful star shone in the sky.
Let us adore the Baby.



Let us sing



Look at Baby Jesus - Let us
adore him.

Look at his eyes - Twinkling
like the stars.

Look at his lips - Like rose
petals, red.

Look at his face - Radiant as
the sun.

Write the words associated with Christ:

1. Shepherd
2. Bethlehem
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



Colour the picture

Colour this picture of Baby Jesus.



**Let us remember the
word of God**



“To you is born this
day in the city of David,
a Saviour, who is the
Messiah, the Lord”
(Luke 2:11).

**Let
us pray**



Dear Baby Jesus,
born in a stable,
teach me
to do good
to everyone.

Let us pledge

I will pray to
Baby Jesus
always for my friends.



Practice good deeds

1. Collect Christmas card having
the picture of Baby Jesus.

2.

.....

3.

.....



A verse to remember

Baby Jesus tells us:
“Become good children.”

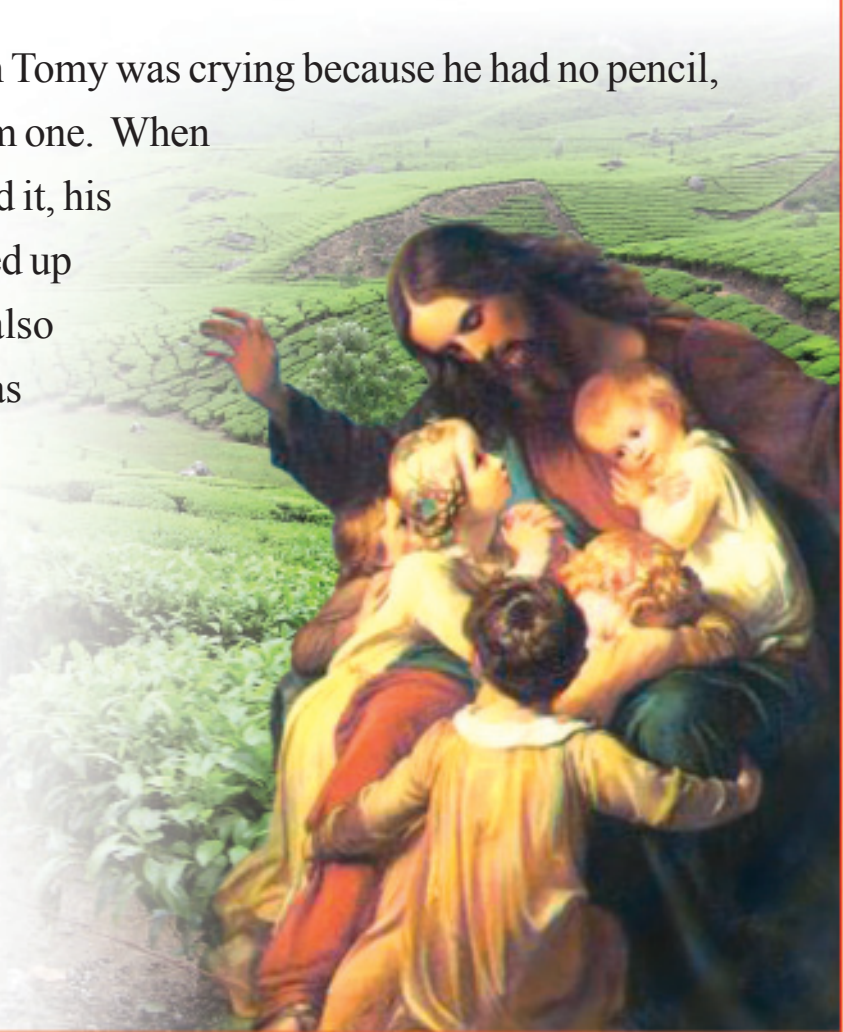


6

JESUS OUR FRIEND

Tomy was from a poor family. He studied under the dim light of a kerosene lamp. Tomy obtained the highest marks in each examination. But, he did not have a good pencil to write with.

Once when Tomy was crying because he had no pencil, Mary gave him one. When Tomy received it, his face brightened up with joy. So also Mary's. Just as Mary helped her friend, Jesus always helps us through good friends.





Jesus is a friend who knows us. Jesus is always with us. Jesus consoles us. Jesus always helps us. Jesus gives us whatever we need. We are the friends of Jesus. Let us love Jesus who loves us. Let us become like Jesus, a friend of everyone.



Let us sing

A friend we have,
A friend so gentle,

A friend so kind,
A friend, the Son of God.

A friend we have,
A friend so loving,

A friend of children,
A friend in Jesus.

WRITE WHAT JESUS HAS GIVEN YOU



Dress

.....

.....

.....

.....

WRITE THE NAMES OF FRIENDS JESUS HAS GIVEN YOU

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

WRITE THE GOOD QUALITIES OF THE FRIENDS

.....

.....

.....



Let us remember the Word of God

“Jesus took the children up in his arms,
laid his hands on them and blessed them”
(Mark 10:16).

Let us pray

Dear Jesus,
help me to become
a friend like you to everyone.



Let us pledge

I will help my
friends in their need.

Practice good works

1. Speak to everyone with a smile.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

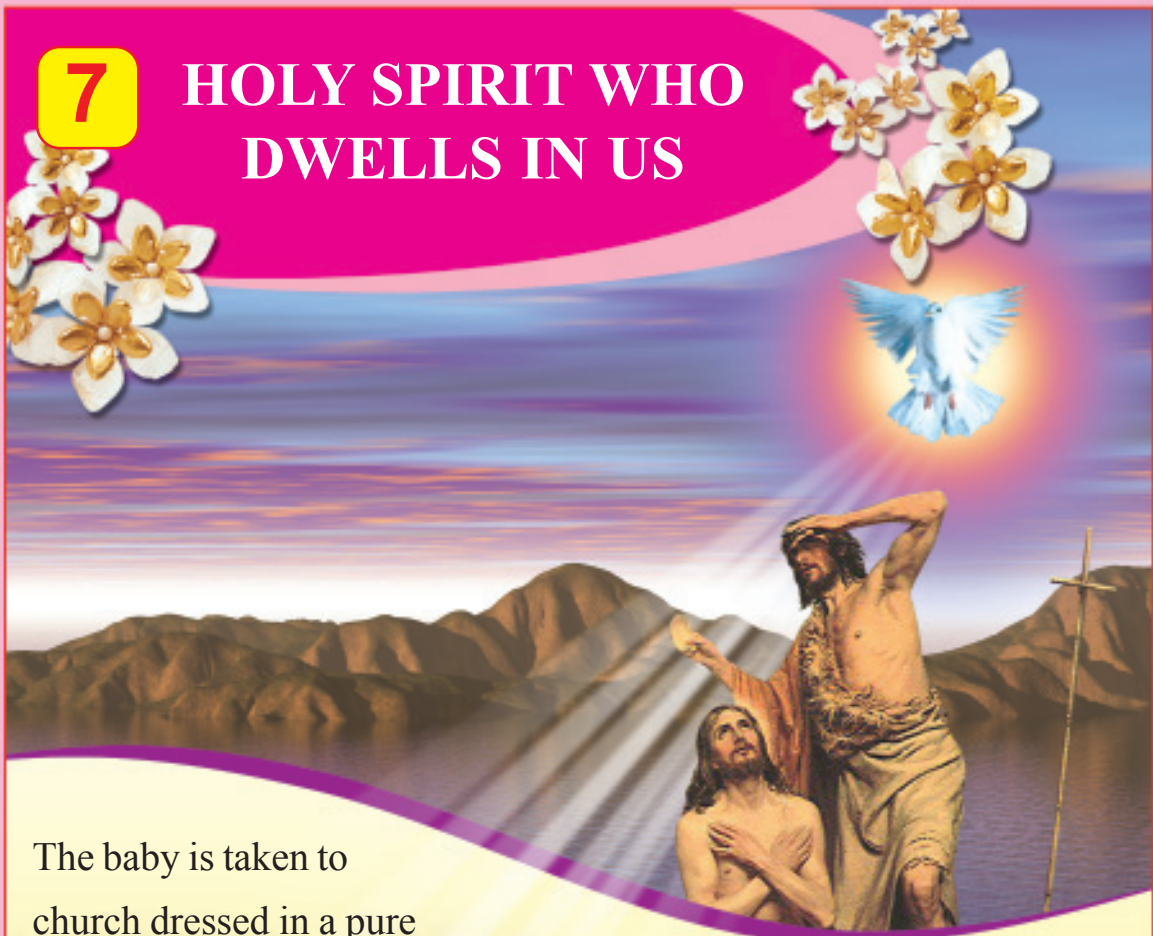
A verse to remember

Jesus speaks to us.
“Love your companions.”



7

HOLY SPIRIT WHO DWELLS IN US



The baby is taken to church dressed in a pure white gown and a bonnet.

“Hai... a baby angel!” People say joyfully.

“An angel has been born in our family.”



Our parish is a family. The parish welcomes the baby into her family through Baptism (Christening). The priest baptizes the child by pouring holy water and reciting special prayers.

With baptism the light of the Holy Spirit fills the child's heart.
Parents and relatives join in this ceremony and share the joy.

At the time of Baptism,
the Holy Spirit solemnly
comes.

**Holy Spirit is the Spirit
of God.**

Holy Spirit is God.

Holy Spirit dwells in us.

Teaches us to love.

Encourages us to do good
and helps us too.

Holy Spirit gives us strength to do good.

Let us sing

Come Holy Spirit come,
Come as holy love,
Come as knowledge,
Come melt us, come.

Come Holy Spirit come,
Come as life,
Come into us,
Come Holy Dove, come.



Find out and write the special characteristics of the Holy Spirit

1.

2. Strength

3. God

4.

Will you sing a song about the
Holy Spirit?

Practice good works

1. Share with your friend at least one of the gifts you receive.
2.
3.



Remember the Word of God

“The Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove” (Luke 3:22).



Let us pray

“God the Holy Spirit,
come and
dwell in us.”

Let us pledge

I will invoke the Holy Spirit before
any work.



A verse to remember

Jesus tells us: "Grow up in doing good."



SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the
beginning is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

SIGN OF THE CROSS – BIG

By the sign of the Holy Cross + From our
enemies, redeem us + Our Almighty God +
In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. + Amen.



8

JESUS' MOTHER, OURS TOO



When we were babies who fed us with milk? When we were hungry who came running to us with food? Who washed us, combed our hair and made us look smart? Who felt sad when thorns pricked us? Who? Our mother, isn't she?

I love my mother.

My mother is always with me.

Have you noticed that, even though the hen does not see the eagle flying in the sky, its shadow on the ground is sufficient for the hen to collect her chicks under her wings? The hen is always alert to protect her chicks.

**The Mother of Jesus too,
like the mother protects us at
all times.**



Holy Mary is the mother of Jesus.

Holy Mary is a loving mother.

Jesus is our Saviour.

Jesus is God.

Holy Mary is the Mother of God.

Jesus' mother is our mother too.

We call her 'Mother'.

This Mother protects us.

She hears our prayers.

She helps us to love Jesus

and to know him better.





Let us sing

Mother of Jesus, mother mine
Lulling me to sleep, nourishing me to grow.

Compassionate mother, loving mother
Mother of Jesus, mother mine.

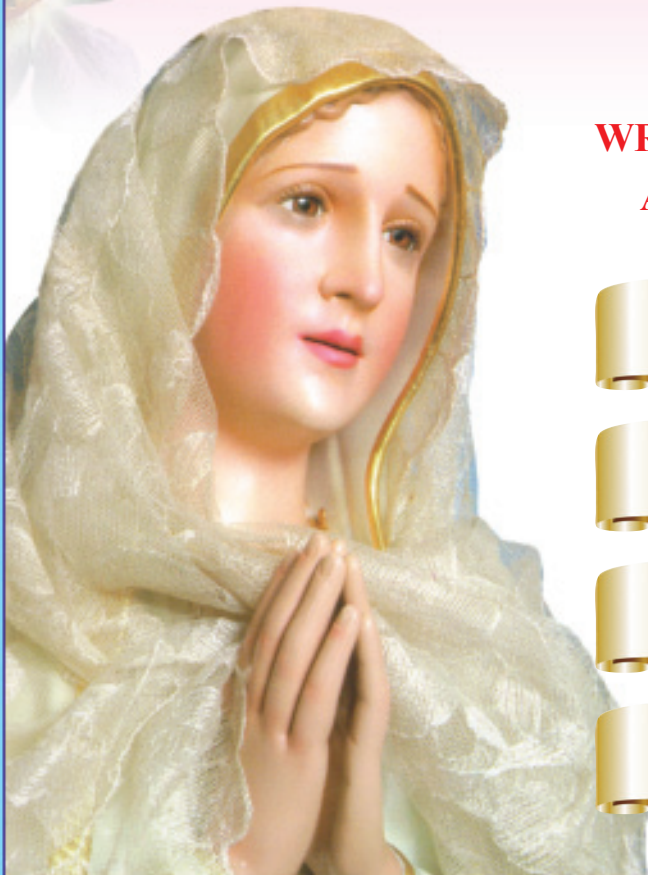
Perpetual saccour
Helper of the helpless.

Compassionate mother
Loving mother, wonderful mother.

WRITE WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT HOLY MARY:

Mother of God

My mother too



**Colour the picture of Infant Jesus
and His Mother**



**Collect different pictures of Jesus
with His Mother**



Let us remember the Word of God

“Here is your Mother”
(John 19:27).

Let us pray

Holy Mary, my mother,
My hope, pray for me.





Let us pledge
I will obey my Mother.

Practice good works

1. Pray to Holy Mother daily.
- 2.
- 3.

A verse to remember

Jesus tells us
“Love your Mother.”



Prayer

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with you,
Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your
womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our
death. Amen.



9

OUR CHURCH



Kunjumon rises in the morning. He has a bath and without delay reaches the Church. He kneels down with palms together and prays. Fervently he participates in Holy Eucharist.



Church is a place of prayer and worship. Church is God's dwelling place. Eucharistic Lord is present in the church.

Faithful assemble in the church.

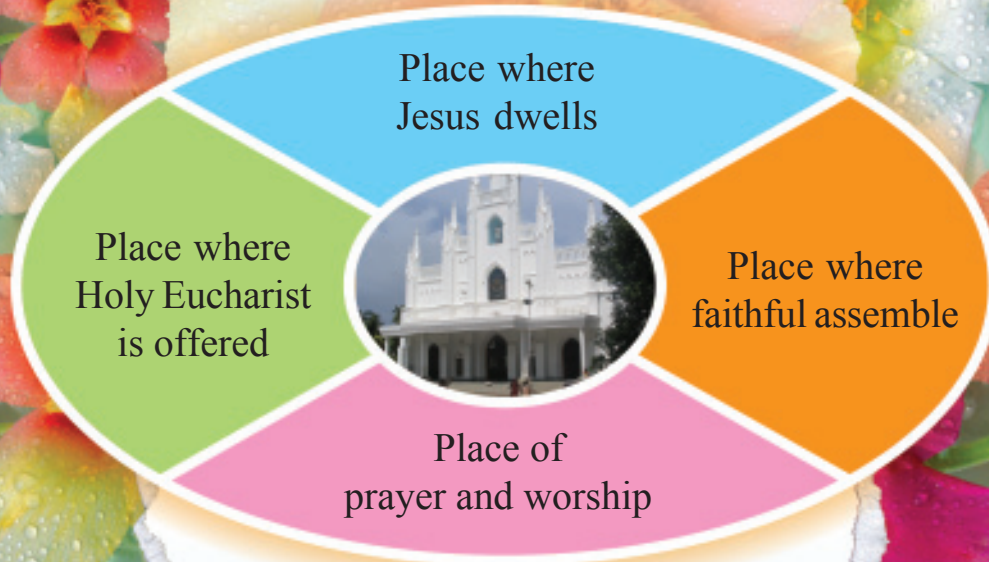
Holy Eucharist is offered daily in the church.

Word of God is shared.

God's dwelling place is holy.

We behave reverently in the church.

Let us understand



Let us sing

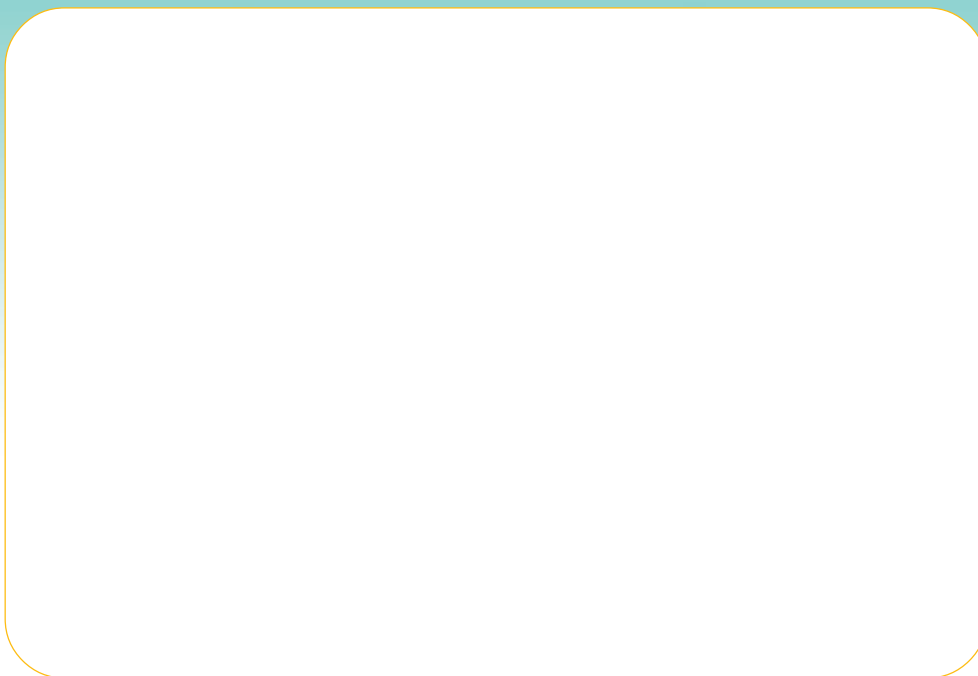
Birds have nests
Squirrels have holes

We have houses.
Does God have a house?

Friend, the Church.
Is it not? God's dwelling place?

Let us go and
worship there.

Let us draw our Church and colour it



How to behave in Church?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Let us remember the Word of God

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them” (Matthew 18:20).

Let us pray

Dear Jesus, dwelling in the
tabernacle, we love you,
we adore you.



Let us pledge

I will behave reverently
in the church.

Practice good works

1. Keep the church and surroundings clean.

2. _____

3. _____

A verse to remember

Jesus tells us:
“You must pray well.”



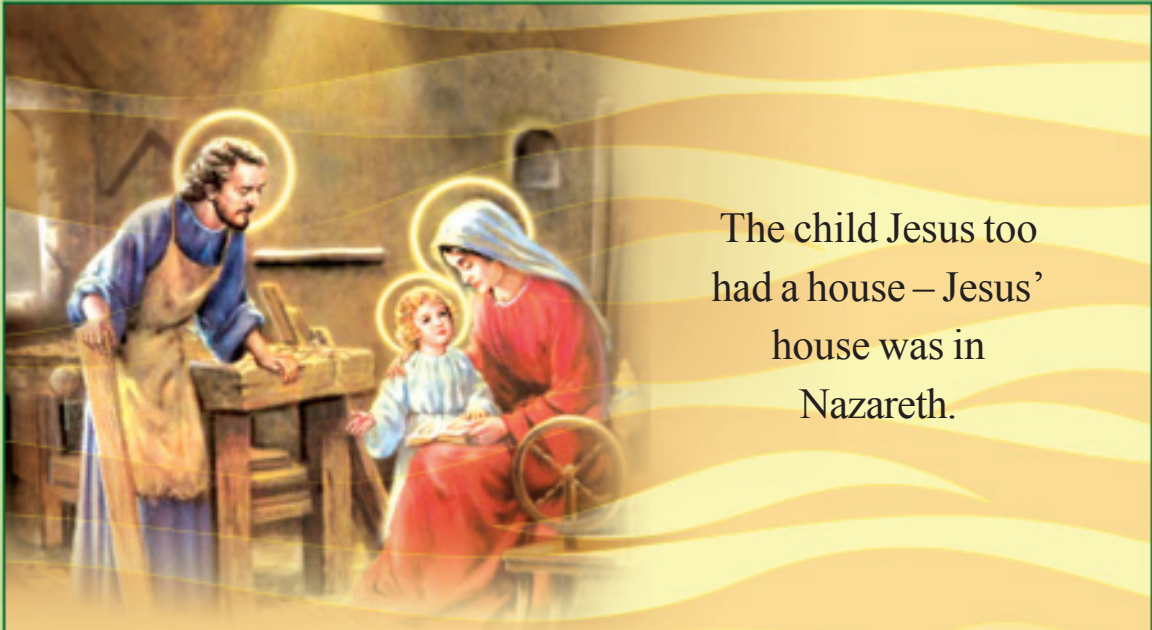
10

OUR HOME IS GOD'S HOUSE



Have you seen a squirrel?
Where does it stay?
In the hollow of a tree. Where does
the crow stay? In the crow's nest.

In this way all the creatures on this earth
have a place to live in. Rats and rabbits
live in burrows. Even the little ant has a place
to live in. It is God who has
provided a house for each and every
creature.



The child Jesus too
had a house – Jesus’
house was in
Nazareth.



This is my home: my father, mother, brothers
and sisters are here. I have a sister and a brother.
God gave me all of them. God loves me. God
dwells in my house. When I pray God is there.
When I study, God is there. When I eat or sleep
God is there too.

Such a good God!
We should always
remember Him. We
must pray to God before
we sleep at night and
when we wake up in the
morning. We should
join in the family prayers
every day.



Let us sing

What a lovely house,
The house where I was born,
Father is in the house,
Home is heaven.

What a lovely house,
The house where I was born,
Mother is in the house,
Home is heaven.

Brother is in the house,
Sister is in the house,
We live together,
Home is heaven.

Complete the poem

We have a little house,

.....

.....

.....

1. Write the names of your family members
in order

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



Let us remember the Word of God

“Children, obey
your parents, in the Lord”
(Ephesians 6:1).

Let us pray

Lord “Stay with me”
(Luke 24:29).





Let us pledge

I will obey my parents.

Practice good works

1. Keep your house and surroundings clean.

2. _____

3. _____



A verse to remember

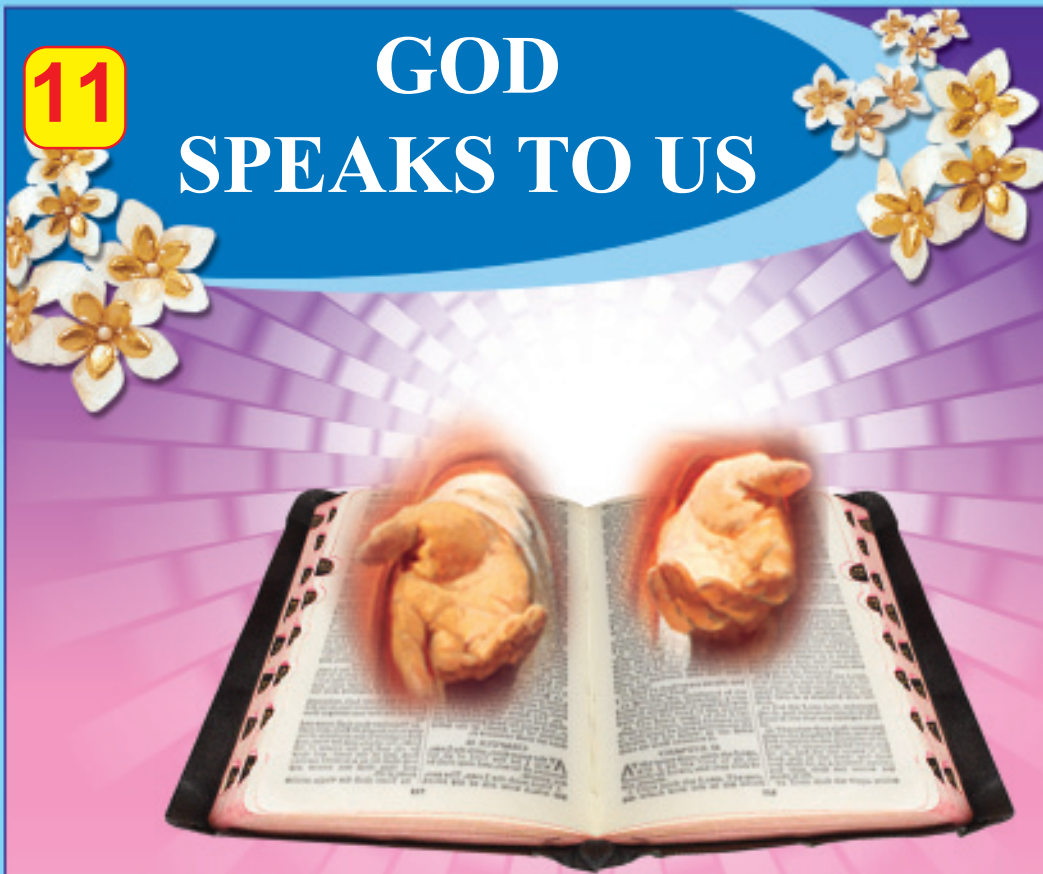
Jesus tells us:

“Bring blessings upon the house.”



11

GOD SPEAKS TO US



You have heard the Holy Bible read at home.

What is Holy Bible? The Holy Bible is Word of God.

We call God's words as 'Word of God.'

Written Word of God is called the Holy Bible.

The Holy Bible is our religious book of instructions.

God speaks to us continuously through the Holy Bible.



Through the Holy Bible

God speaks to us.

Read, listen and understand
the Holy Bible.

Respect the Holy Bible.

Live according to the Word
of God.

Memorize the verses of the Holy Bible.

Let us sing

May the Good News of Jesus
Fill the earth.



May the Word of God, holy Word
Be our hope.

May the sweetness of the holy words
Fill our hearts.

May the Word of God in our minds
Spread new light.



Tell the name of those whom you like in the Holy Bible.



Let us remember the Word of God

“Let us love one another,
because love is from God”
(1 John 4:7).



Let us pray

Lord, help me to read
the Holy Bible with attention and
devotion.



Let us pledge

I will always
love and revere
the Holy Bible.



Practice good works

1. Read and listen to the Holy Bible daily.
2. _____
3. _____



A verse to remember

Jesus tells us:
“Grow in the Word of God.”

12

WE SPEAK TO GOD

It was Children's Art Festival in School. The programme began with Unni Kuttan's prayer song. He sang: "Flowers, butterflies are all God's creation ..." All put their palms together when he sang. "Unni Kuttan, your prayer song was great," teacher Mary tapped his shoulder in appreciation. Unni Kuttan's face was lightened with joy.

All our works must begin with prayer. Why so?



Prayer connects us with God. In prayer we speak to God as we speak to our parents in our daily life. Let us praise God. Let us thank Him. Let us ask Him pardon for our wrong doings. Let us continuously pray to God. Let us pray not only for ourselves but for the good of everyone as well.



Let us sing

Rising at dawn
Kneeling in prayer
Thanking the Lord
Praising Him.

We begin our day
Reciting our prayers.

Healing our hearts
The good God blesses us.



Write a letter to Baby Jesus

**Write a prayer for your most
favourite friend**



**Let us
remember the Word of God**

“Lord, teach us
to pray as John taught
his disciples”
(Luke 11:1).



Let us pray

Lord, incline our
minds and hearts to pray to
you everyday.





Let us pledge

I will always pray for my family
and friends.

Practice good deeds

1. Collect small prayers.

2. _____

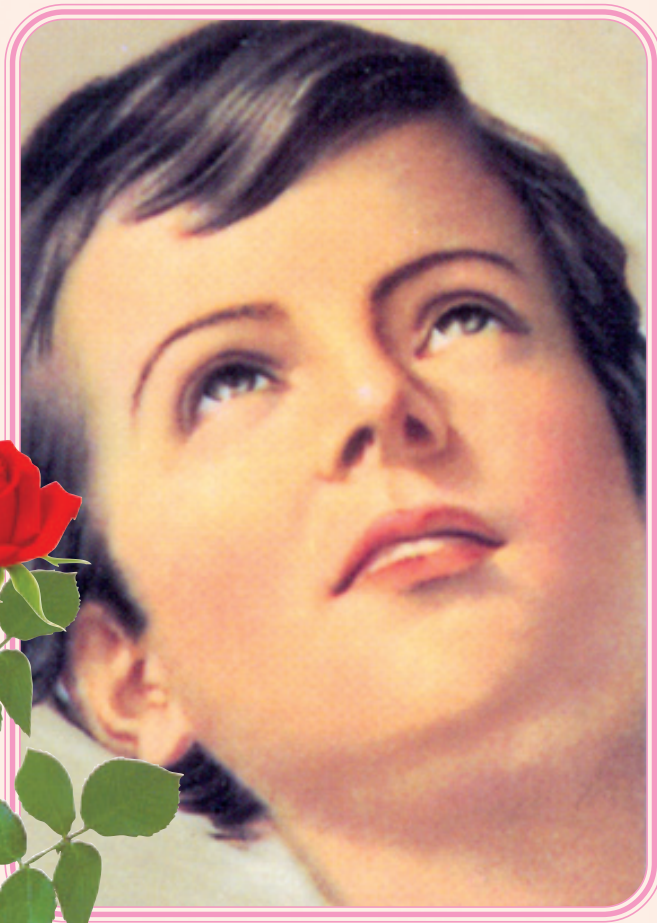
3. _____



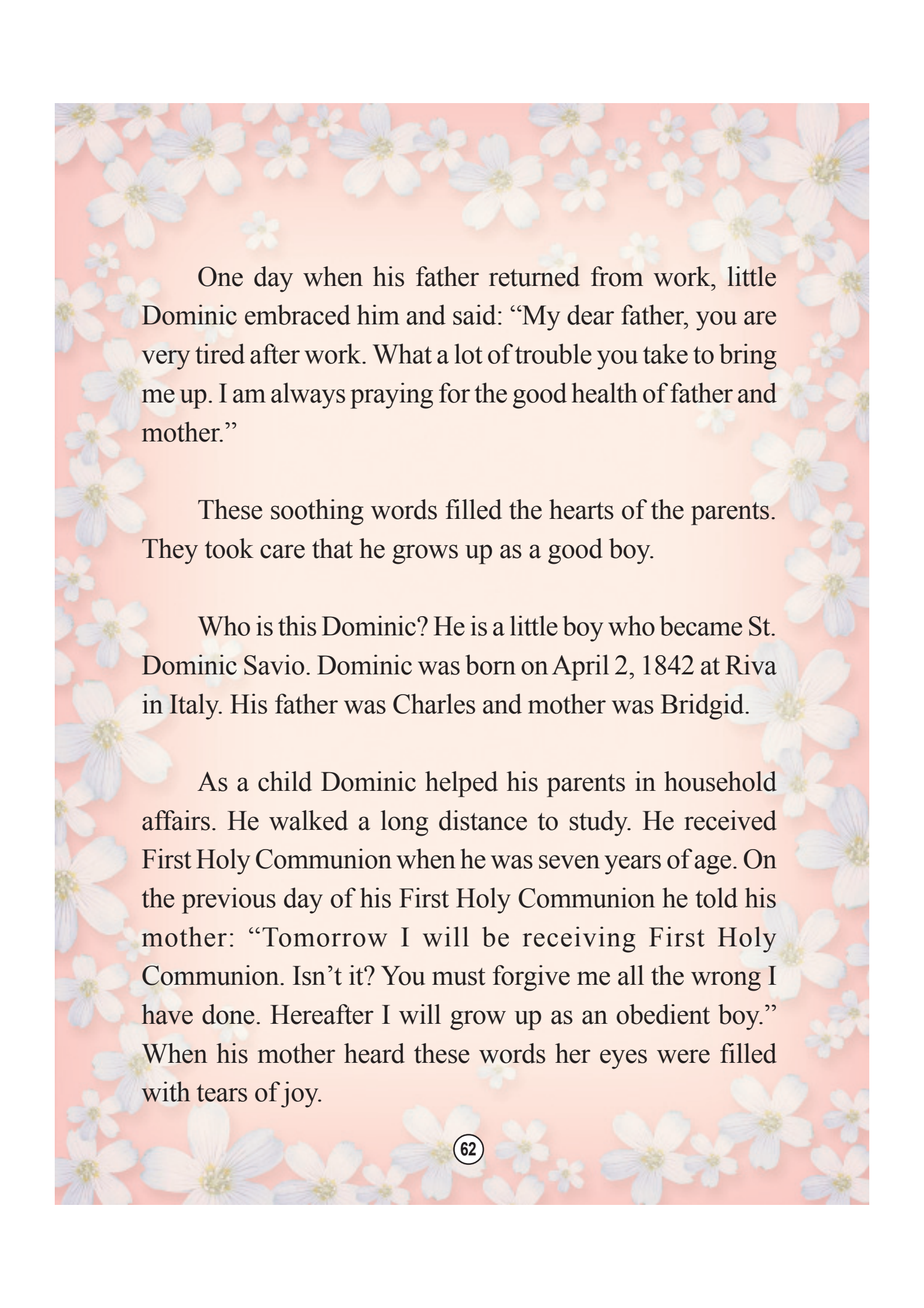
A verse to remember

Jesus tells us:
“Pray consciously.”

A Fifteen Year Old Saint



Dominic was born in a very poor family. He considered his parents as the visible gods. His little heart pained to see the hardship his father endured to maintain the small family.



One day when his father returned from work, little Dominic embraced him and said: “My dear father, you are very tired after work. What a lot of trouble you take to bring me up. I am always praying for the good health of father and mother.”

These soothing words filled the hearts of the parents. They took care that he grows up as a good boy.

Who is this Dominic? He is a little boy who became St. Dominic Savio. Dominic was born on April 2, 1842 at Riva in Italy. His father was Charles and mother was Bridgid.

As a child Dominic helped his parents in household affairs. He walked a long distance to study. He received First Holy Communion when he was seven years of age. On the previous day of his First Holy Communion he told his mother: “Tomorrow I will be receiving First Holy Communion. Isn’t it? You must forgive me all the wrong I have done. Hereafter I will grow up as an obedient boy.” When his mother heard these words her eyes were filled with tears of joy.



Dominic took four resolutions on his First Holy Communion Day:

- 1. I will go often to confession**
- 2. I will keep holy the days of obligation**
- 3. Jesus and Mary will be my friends**
- 4. I choose death rather than sin**

Dominic's desire in life was to become a priest. So he joined the seminary run by St John Bosco. He was a good model to all the boys there. He helped the boys who were not good in studies. He found out the children who often quarreled among themselves and tried to guide them through the path of reconciliation.

Meanwhile, Dominic's health deteriorated. He was called to his heavenly home at the age of fifteen.

On June 12, 1954 Pope Pius XII raised Dominic Savio to sainthood.

Like St. Dominic let us also do good from our childhood onwards. Then we too can become saints.

Let us find the answers:

1. What did Dominic tell his father when he returned from work?
2. Where was Dominic Savio born?
3. At what age did Dominic receive his First Holy Communion?
4. Who were Dominic's parents?
5. What did Dominic tell his mother on the day before his First Holy Communion?
6. What were the resolutions taken by Dominic on his First Holy Communion Day?
7. Where did Dominic join to study for priesthood?
8. What were the good works Dominic did in the seminary?
9. At what age was Dominic called to his heavenly home?
10. When was Dominic declared a saint?

Remember

I cannot do great things. But I desire to do any
small thing for the greater glory of God

(St Dominic Savio)