

We Honor Mary and the Saints

25

WE GATHER

✝ Let us pray by singing.

🎵 Litany of Saints

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Holy Mary, born without sin,
Holy Mary, taken into heaven:

Chorus

Pray for us.
Pray with us.
Help us to share God's love.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul,
Saint Mary Magdalene,
Saint Catherine of Siena:

(Chorus)

☀ What does it mean
to honor someone?
What are some
ways we honor
people?



WE BELIEVE


The Church honors the saints.

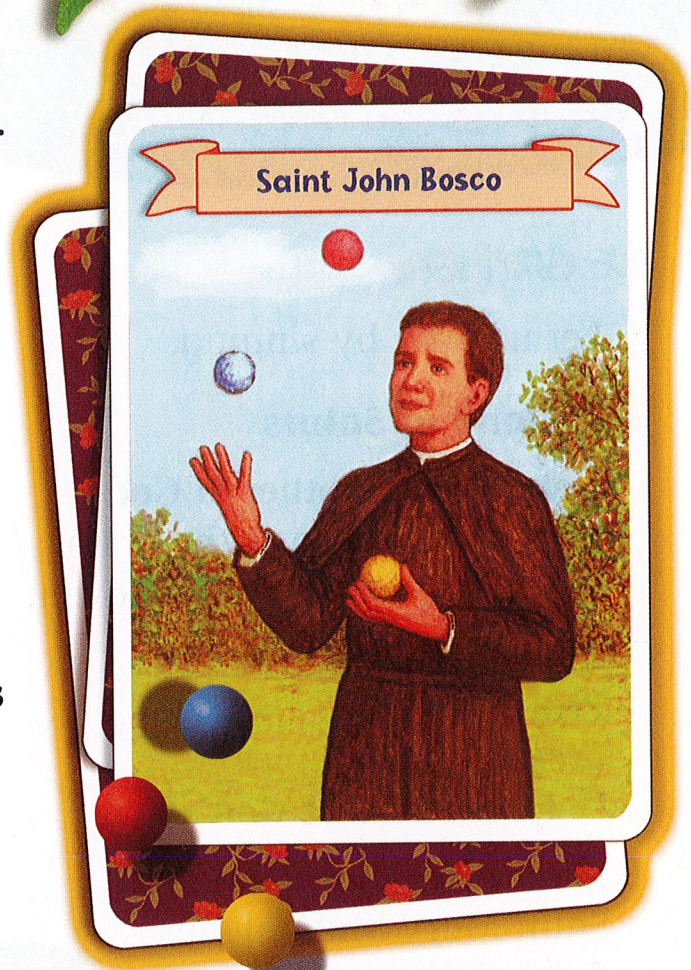
God is good and holy and wants us to be holy, too. So he shares his life with us. The sacraments help us to be holy. Loving God and others helps us to be holy, too.

The Church community honors holy people. The saints are holy people. The **saints** are all the members of the Church who have died and are happy with God forever in Heaven.

The saints followed Jesus' example. We remember and try to do what the saints did. Here are some of the saints we remember.

- Saint Peter and Saint Paul helped the Church to spread and grow.
- Saint Brigid of Ireland and Saint Catherine of Siena were peacemakers.
- Saint Rose of Lima and Saint Martin de Porres helped the poor and the sick.
- Saint John Bosco and Saint Frances Cabrini began schools to teach children about God's love.

 What saint do you know about? Write a sentence to tell some ways you can follow this saint's example.



Key Word

saints all the members of the Church who have died and are happy with God forever in Heaven


The Church honors Mary.

God chose Mary to be the Mother of his own Son, Jesus. So God blessed her in a special way. Mary was free from sin from the very first moment of her life. She was always filled with grace. All through her life she did what God wanted. A few months before Jesus was born, God sent an angel to Mary.

 Luke 1:28–30, 38

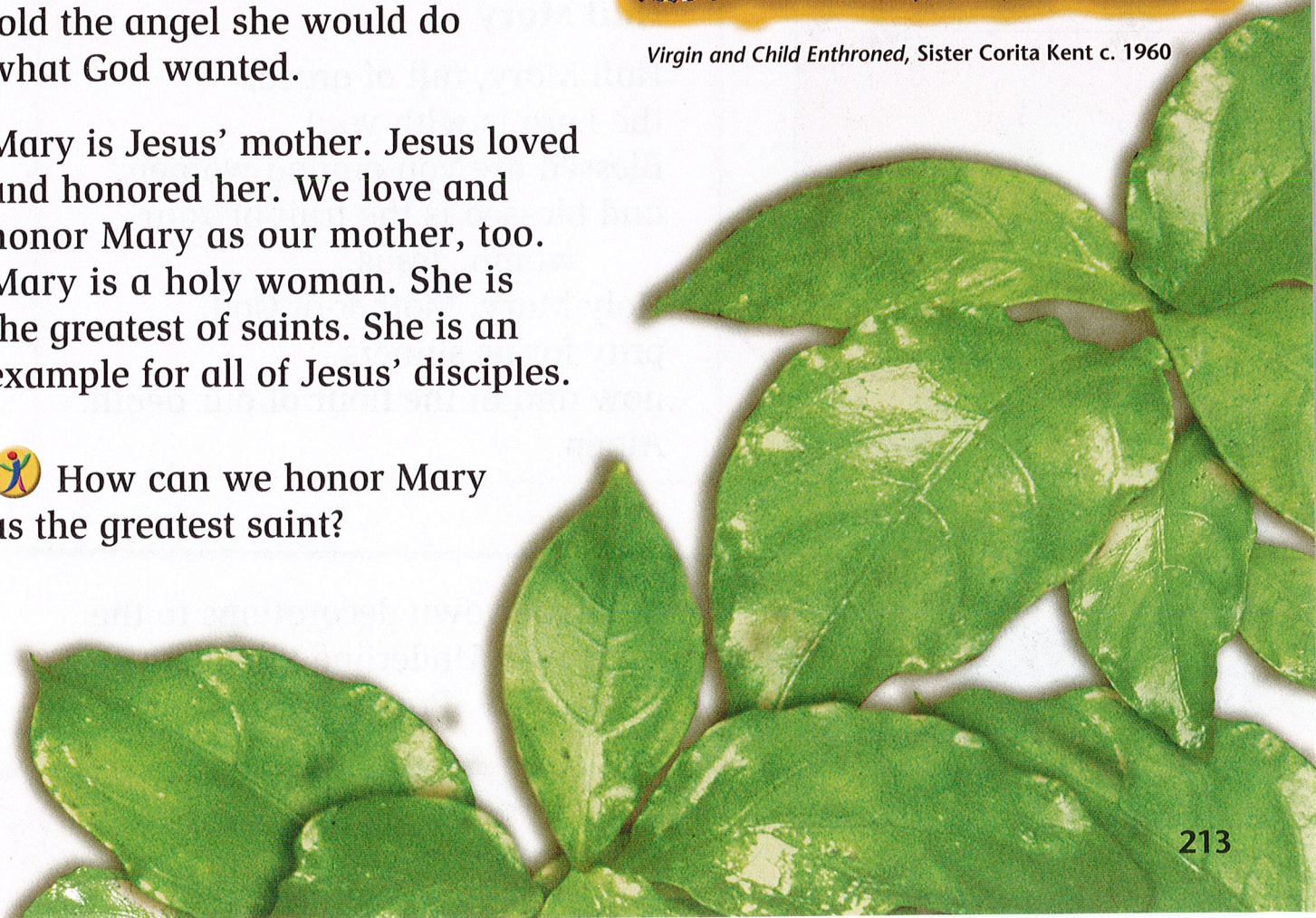
The angel said to Mary, “Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.” (Luke 1:28) Then the angel told Mary not to be afraid. The angel said that God wanted her to be the Mother of his own Son. Mary told the angel she would do what God wanted.

Mary is Jesus’ mother. Jesus loved and honored her. We love and honor Mary as our mother, too. Mary is a holy woman. She is the greatest of saints. She is an example for all of Jesus’ disciples.

 How can we honor Mary as the greatest saint?



Virgin and Child Enthroned, Sister Corita Kent c. 1960





We honor Mary with special prayers.

Mary had a cousin named Elizabeth. Elizabeth was going to have a baby, too. Mary went to visit and help her cousin.



Luke 1:39, 40-42

When Elizabeth saw Mary, she was very happy and excited. The Holy Spirit helped Elizabeth to know that God had chosen Mary to be the Mother of his own Son. Elizabeth said to Mary, “Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” (Luke 1:42)

These words to Mary are part of one of the Church’s prayers, the Hail Mary.

Hail Mary

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.



Add your own decorations to the prayer frame. Underline Elizabeth’s words to Mary. Pray the Hail Mary now.

We honor Mary on special days.

Catholics honor Mary during the year. On special days, called feast days, the whole parish gathers for Mass. Here are some of Mary's feast days.

Date	We gather to celebrate
January 1	Mary is the Mother of God.
August 15	Mary is in Heaven with God forever.
December 8	Mary was free from sin from the very first moment of her life.

Sometimes parish communities gather to honor Mary by having a procession. A **procession** is a prayer walk. While walking, people pray and sing. On December 12, many parishes have a procession to honor Mary as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

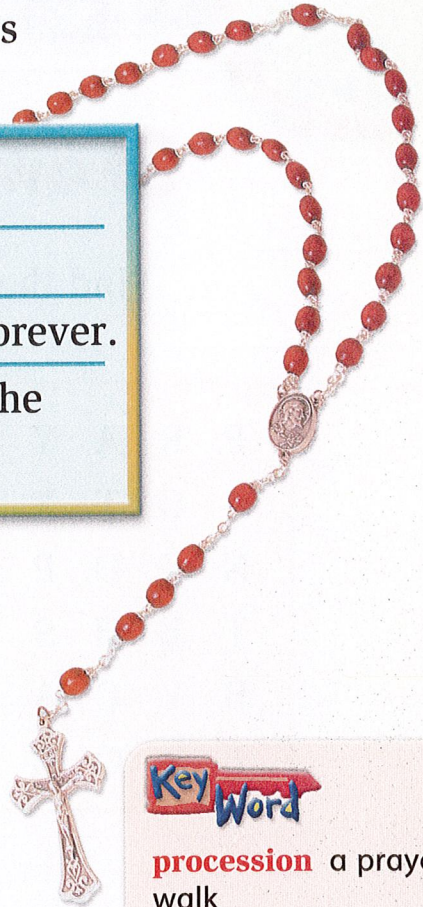
Inside and outside homes and churches, people often put statues and pictures of Mary. Looking at the statues and pictures helps people to remember Mary.

WE RESPOND

What can your class do to honor Mary?

Immaculate Mary

Immaculate Mary,
your praises we sing.
You reign now in heaven
with Jesus our King.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!
Ave, Ave, Maria!

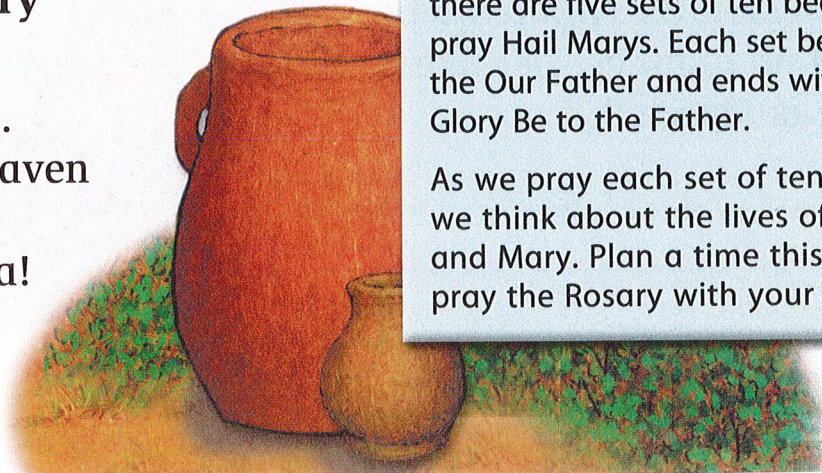


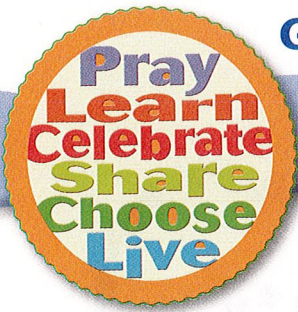
Key Word
procession a prayer walk

As Catholics...

The Rosary is a prayer in honor of Mary. When we pray the Rosary, we use beads as we pray. We begin with the Sign of the Cross, the Apostles' Creed, Our Father, three Hail Marys and a Glory Be to the Father. Then there are five sets of ten beads to pray Hail Marys. Each set begins with the Our Father and ends with the Glory Be to the Father.

As we pray each set of ten beads, we think about the lives of Jesus and Mary. Plan a time this week to pray the Rosary with your family.





PROJECT

Show What *you* Know

Find the **Key Words** hidden in the word search.

P	R	A	Y	I	S	X	I	O	N
A	O	T	X	J	A	S	H	O	S
N	C	D	P	M	I	R	U	J	T
T	E	H	S	Y	N	L	P	A	Z
B	Y	C	A	N	T	Q	T	S	A
P	R	O	C	E	S	S	I	O	N

saints

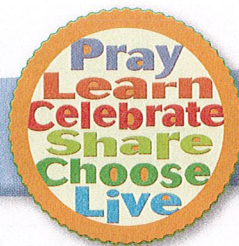
procession

Saint Stories

Saint Frances of Rome, Italy, took food to those who were poor. She comforted people who were sad and lonely. She cared for children who had no families. Her feast day is March 9.



DISCIPLE



Make *it* Happen

Mary is the greatest of saints. Make a card to honor Mary. Share it with your parish.



Pray the Hail Mary quietly with a friend.

DISCIPLE CHALLENGE Talk together about what “full of grace” means.

Take Home

As a family, find paintings and stained-glass windows and other works of art that tell us about Mary. Visit your parish church or look online. Choose your family favorite. Write about it here.

CHAPTER TEST

Fill in the circle beside the correct answer.

1. Mary _____ did what God wanted.
 always never
2. Mary was free from _____ from the first moment of her life.
 work sin
3. _____ told Mary that God wanted her to be the Mother of his own Son.
 Elizabeth An angel
4. Mary is the _____ saint.
 greatest newest

Complete the following sentences.

5. _____ is one of the Church's prayers to Mary.
 6. A procession is a _____.
 7. _____ are all the members of the Church who have died and are happy with God forever in Heaven.
 8. Feast days are ways to _____ Mary.
- 9–10. Write two ways you can follow the example of Mary and the saints.
-