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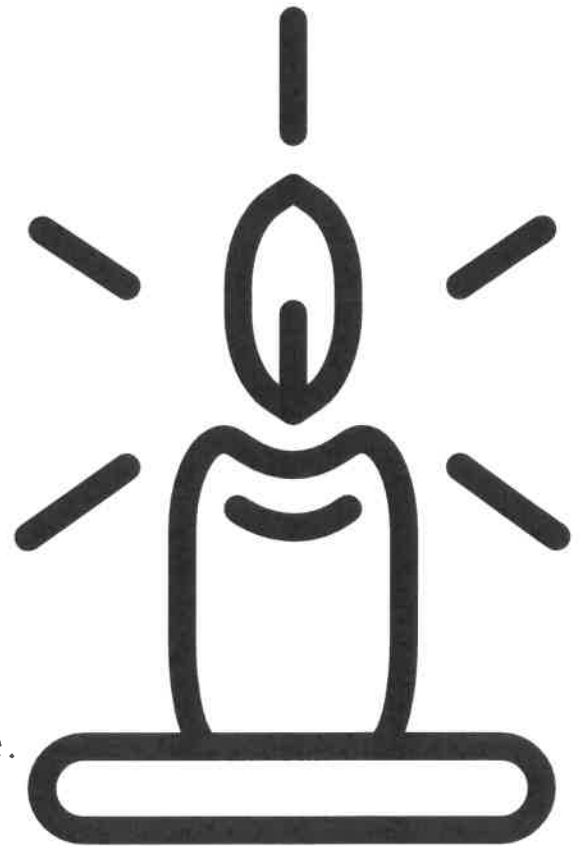
Today marks the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Our Gospel this week continues in John where we learn about the miracle of Jesus curing a blind man. At first, the blind man believes that Jesus must be a great prophet to be able to restore his sight. But after being questioned by the Pharisees and speaking with Jesus a second time, the man understands that Jesus is the Christ. Jesus proclaims to him that He is the light for the world. Jesus, and Jesus alone, can bring light to the darkness! Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Light!

★ FOR MORE FUN ★

Have you ever sat in a room that is totally and completely dark?

Sometimes we lose power and our homes can be very dark. When Jesus walked the earth there was no electricity. Oil and candles were burned to provide light. It is hard to imagine in 2020 how dark the evenings must have been with no streetlamps or electricity.

Ask your parents to help you create a space that is really dark in your home. Take a flashlight with you or, if you are with a parent, light a candle. Sit for a few minutes and simply say, *"Jesus you are the Way, the Truth and the Light of the World. Walk with me today and everyday."*





1. Today is the \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. From which book of the Bible is today's first reading?

1 Samuel      2 Samuel      Genesis      1 Kings      2 Kings      Exodus

David is a prominent character in the Old Testament. Do you remember anything else he was involved in? (There is more than one correct answer).

(a) He defeated the giant, Goliath.      (b) He wrote most of the Psalms.

(c) He met Jesus.      (d) He ran and hid from King Saul.

(e) He became king of Israel.      (f) He was one of the 12 Apostles.

(g) He was the father of Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived.

(h) \_\_\_\_\_.

3. From which book of the Bible is today's second reading taken?

Colossians      Galatians      Philippians      Ephesians      1 Thessalonians

Do you know who wrote this letter?

Peter      Paul      John      James      Judas      Simon      Jesus

The writer tells us to, "Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord." Underline the things you think Jesus finds "pleasing" or "good".

When kids read their Bible.      When kids fight.      When kids are kind to each other.

When kids spend lots of money.      When kids watch movies with bad language.

When kids pay attention during Mass.      When kids go to Confession.

\_\_\_\_\_.

Circle the things you will do this week, to make Jesus happy.

4. From which book of the Bible is today's Gospel reading?

Matthew      Mark      Luke      John

5. Can you see the Stations of the Cross in your church?    Yes    No    Not sure

If so, how many can you see? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15



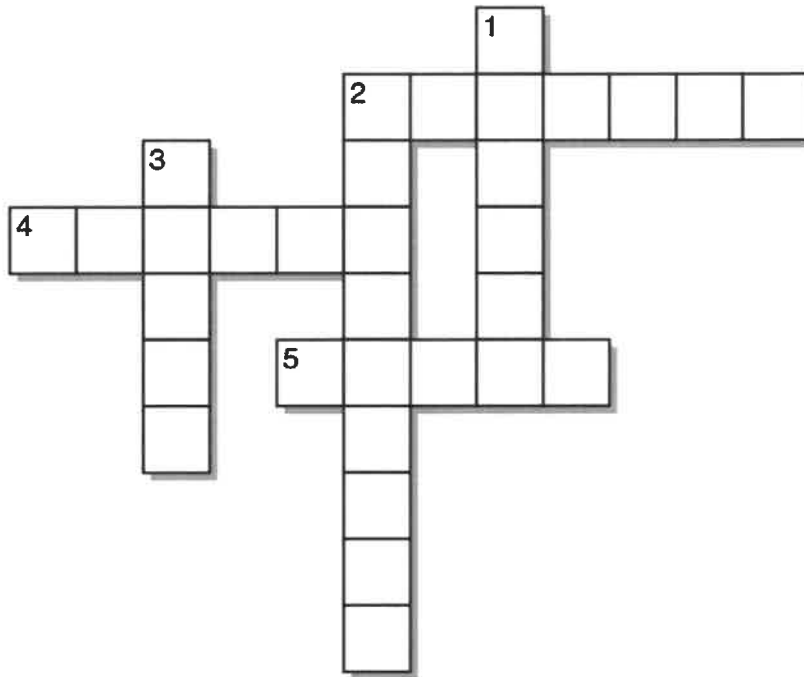
The Fourth Sunday of Lent | John 9:1-41

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

- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| BEGGER    | BELIEVE   | BLIND     |
| DISCIPLES | DIVISION  | JESUS     |
| LIGHT     | PHARISEES | PRAISE    |
| PROPHET   | RABBI     | SABBATH   |
| SALIVA    | SILOAM    | SYNAGOGUE |
| TEACH     | WASHED    | WORLD     |



The Fourth Sunday of Lent | John 9:1-41



### Across

- 2. The blind man at first thinks that Jesus is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Another word for spit.
- 5. Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.

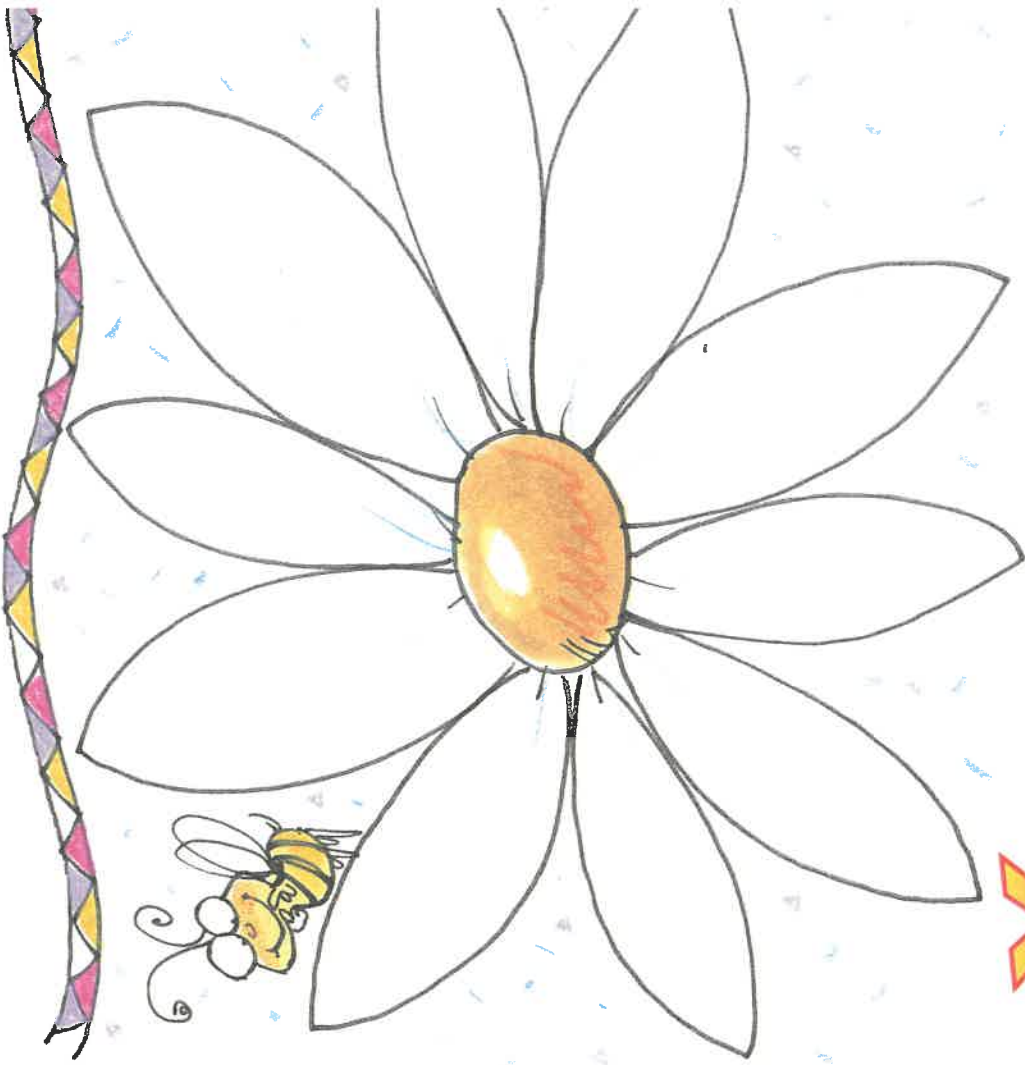
### Down

- 1. Today is the \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday of Lent.
- 2. The word for the high priests at the synagogue.
- 3. When a person can not see they are \_\_\_\_\_.



# explaining GOD'S WORD

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A) • John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 • March 22, 2020



# Y

ou can make this flower come to life. Every time you see something that reminds you of God's love, write it on one of the petals and color that petal. Each petal should stand for a special sign of God's presence in your world.



# Family Page

As Jesus pointed out in today's gospel, we can be blind in many ways. We can be blind to God's goodness. We can be blind to the goodness in others. We can even be blind to the goodness in the members of our own families. For a family activity this week, set aside a few minutes at the beginning of your family meal time to acknowledge some special goodness in one another. Each family member should take a turn being the leader. You can do this activity for as many days as you have family members.

- 1** Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Place a candle on your table and light it to remind you that Jesus is present, lighting your way.
- 2** The leader begins by thanking God for the food you are about to share and asking for God's blessings on your meal and on your time together.
- 3** The leader should then mention a good quality about each person at the table, thanking God for that person's presence among you.
- 4** End with this "Goodness Prayer."

## Goodness Prayer

Jesus, you came to open our eyes so that we might see the goodness of God and of all God's creation. We are blessed to be together at this time and to see in one another the special goodness God gave each of us. We thank you for this moment and ask you to always be with us to light our way. Amen



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# See With Your Heart!

Today's gospel story is about a man who had been blind all his life. He had never seen a bright yellow sunrise or the colors of the flowers in the spring. He had never sat quietly in the field watching the birds in the sky.

Jesus touched the blind man's eyes with a little clay from the ground and told him to go wash in the pool. The blind man did what Jesus told him. Suddenly, he could see! For the very first time in his life, he saw the world and knew God's love.

When the man told others what Jesus did, they didn't believe him. Jesus said it was they who were blind, for they could not see, with the eyes of faith, that Jesus was the Son of God.

Do you sometimes not see what Jesus came to help you "see"? Do you pass by flowers and trees but forget the God who put them there?

Do you sit down at the table and forget to thank God for the food and for your family's love? Do you do your lessons well in school but forget that God made your mind and the teachers who teach you so well?

Try to "see" all the wonderful things God does for you every day — and thank God for loving you.

## Jesus Helps You To See

To see, you need light. Decode the message below and you will understand how Jesus helps you to see God by learning what he says about himself in today's gospel story.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 8 5 4 9 10  
4 5 6 11 9 12 7 13

### Code Key

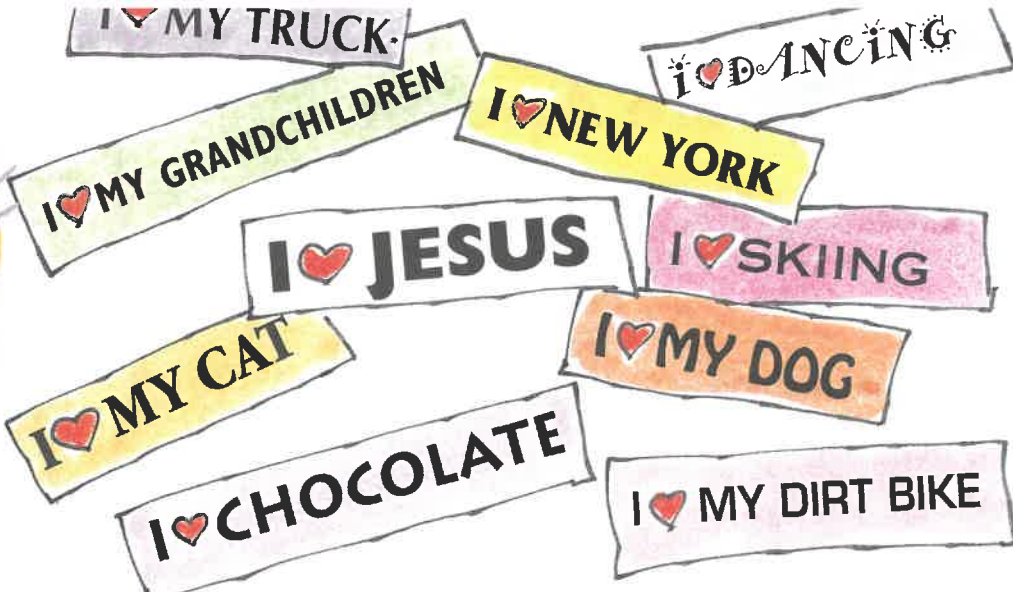
1 = I; 2 = A; 3 = M; 4 = T; 5 = H;  
6 = E; 7 = L; 8 = G; 9 = O; 10 = F;  
11 = W; 12 = R; 13 = D





# THE GOOD NEWS

WEEKLY  
Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)  
John 14:15-21 • May 17, 2020



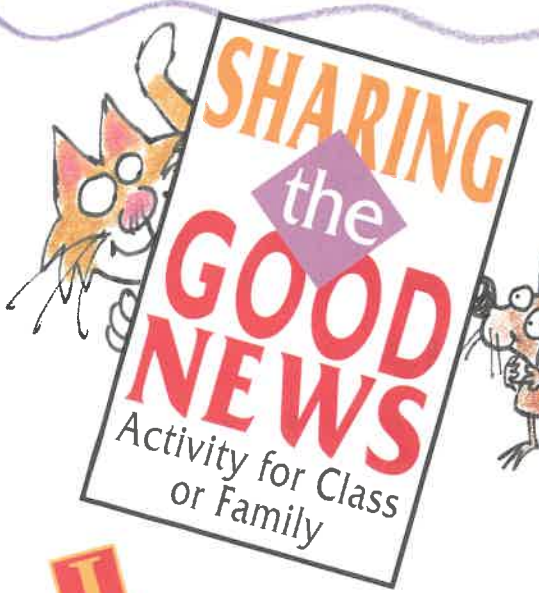
**GOSPEL THEME**  
Love is shown through deeds, not just words.

## Our roads abound in



**I**f we can believe the bumper stickers we see, people just about everything and everyone from pickup trucks and puppy dogs to grandchildren and Jesus. But if you really notice the way some of these people act

toward their neighbors, it seems it's far more popular to people than it is to LOVE them! Read the stories on the back page, and see if you can tell which ones reflect love in action and which reflect love only in words.



**1** Make LOVE cards for each person playing (see illustration). Divide each card into twenty squares. Across the top four squares write the letters LOVE. In each of the other squares, place a number from one to sixteen. Every card should have numbers in different sequences.

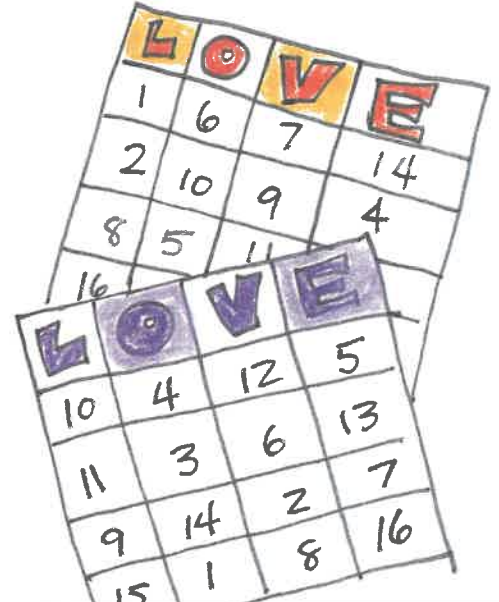
**2** Cut out sixteen small hearts for each person playing the game (you may use buttons or small plastic chips from another game if you prefer).

**3** Number thirty-two small bits of paper with the numbers one through sixteen.

**4** Now you are ready to play your game. Select one person to be the caller of the numbers. Each time a person fills a line across, down, or

diagonally on their card, that person must call out "LOVE" and announce one act of love he or she could perform that day.

**5** Save the game pieces to play any time. This is a fun way to put love into action.



**J**ESUS said, "The one who obeys my commands is the one who loves me." It's not enough to say we love Jesus or our neighbor, we have to do something to show it. Here is a game you can play to link the word LOVE with an act of love. The game is played like BINGO.

# Scripture Acrostic

To solve this acrostic, fill in the blanks next to the clues and transfer the letters to the numbered spaces below. (Do not use letters numbered 0.)

Finished	23	10	31	3																					
An animal to ride	28	37	0	26	12																				
A plaything	1	18	16																						
Where you live	2	9	20	42																					
She rides a broom	33	25	27	17	34																				
Courageous	11	0	21	38	6																				
Warmth	8	29	21	27																					
Not high	36	10	7																						
Four minus three	4	22	39																						
Obey	19	25	5	23																					
Remain where you are	40	27	21	16																					
Opposite of "no"	13	32	14																						
Grassy forest growth	41	30	26	24																					
Pet name for mother	15	35	41																						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16									
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32									
	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42.															

## I ♥ MY BEST FRIEND

Fritz Friendly and Lonell Loyal are good friends from Heartsville. They do everything together. On the playground at recess they talk about studying together after school at Lonell's house. Lonell has trouble with social studies, so Fritz helps him. Fritz has trouble with math so Lonell helps him.

Suddenly a boy about Fritz's age comes by and says, "Hey, Fritz! All the guys are getting together at Henderson's after school. Why don't you ditch that wimp Lonell and come along?"

"No thanks," Fritz replies. "If Lonell isn't welcome, I'm not interested. And don't call Lonell a wimp."

## I ♥ MY PARENTS

Olivia Obedient of Old Orchard is an only child. Olivia's mother was just coming in from work and went to the kitchen to begin preparing dinner. Mr. Obedient was due home any minute.

Olivia says she loves her parents very much: "Just this morning I made a neat card for my mother telling her how much I love her. Mom likes that sort of thing."

Then the telephone rang. "Olivia," called Mrs. Obedient, "Would you get that? I'm just putting the chicken into the oven."

Olivia hollered back from the other room where she was watching TV: "I can't right now. It's the good part of the program. The answering machine will get it."

Yesterday Olivia gave her father a big hug when he left for work. Olivia knows that hugs make her dad happy.

Mr. Obedient pulled into the driveway just then and called from the car. "Olivia! Come out and move your bike so I can get in the garage!"

"Can't you move it?" Olivia yelled back. "I'm doing something else right now!"

## I ♥ MY BROTHER

"I really LOVE my little brother," Sheena Sibling of Springfield said. "He's so cute and so cuddly. I would do anything for him." Eleven-year-old Sheena was in her backyard pushing two-year-old Matt in a swing. Matt shrieked and giggled with delight.

At that moment, Sheena's best friend came by to invite her to come over and play video games. Sheena immediately stopped pushing Matt and left with her friend, ignoring Matt's cries of "Me too! I go too!"

Mr. Sibling came out of the house, where he had been busy making supper. He picked up Matt from the swing and brought him inside.

## I ♥ JESUS

Every Sunday morning, Jason Jordon of Jacksonville serves Mass for Father Sheehan at seven o'clock. Everyone likes Jason. "He is such a nice boy," they all say.

If anyone asks whether he loves Jesus, Jason says, "Sure I love Jesus. Doesn't everyone?"

How does Jason show his love for Jesus? "I'm not sure," Jason says. "I just try to love others, I guess...like Jesus said we should do."

After Mass this past Sunday, Jason helped a little kid down the street learn how to kick a soccer ball. When the lesson was over, Jason helped an elderly neighbor carry a large bag of groceries into her house. After that, he ran off to play with his friends.

