

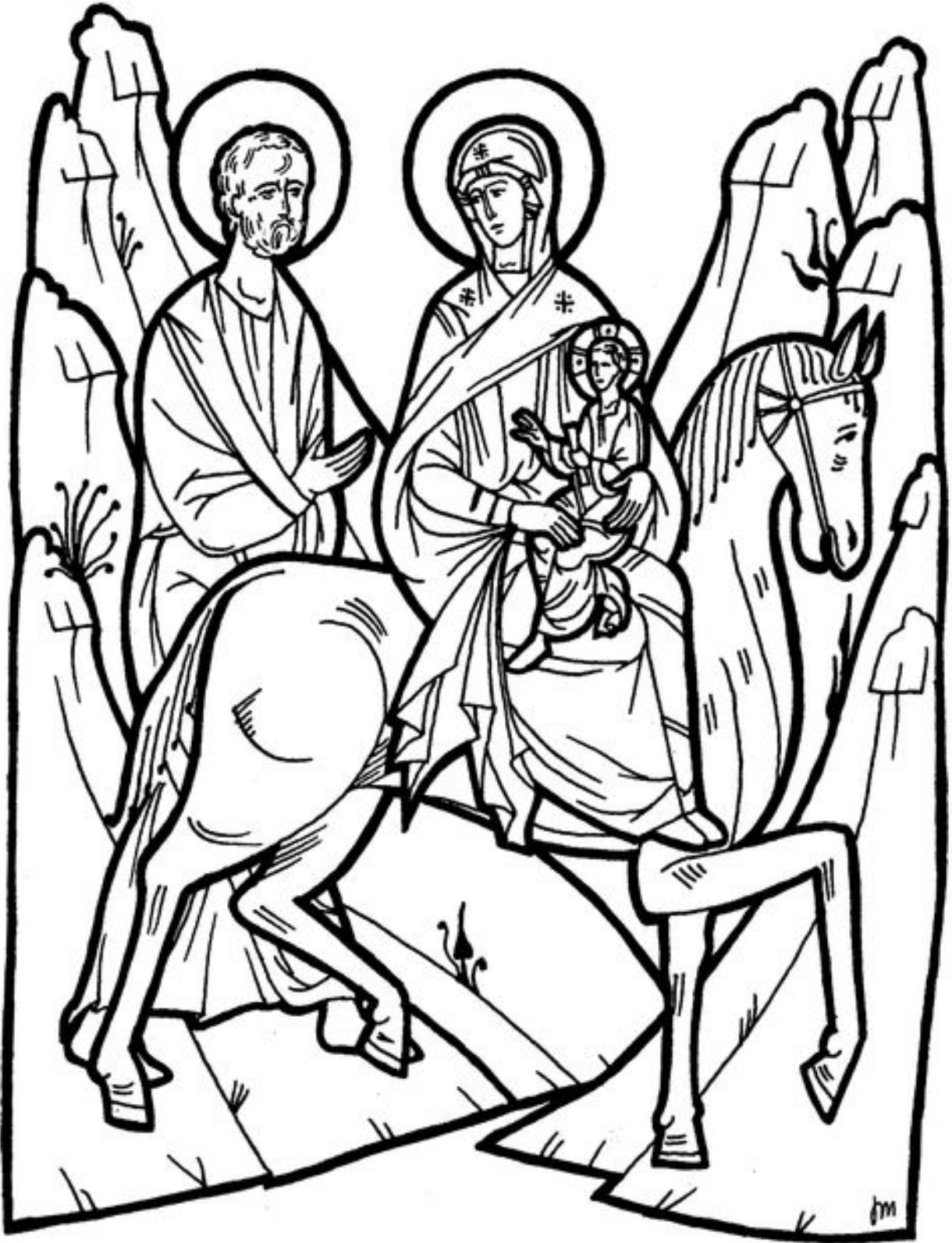
# Sunday after Christmas David, Joseph, James

December 31, 2023



# Coloring Icons

Would you go?



Flight Into Egypt ■

# Galatians

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## 1:11–19

PAUL CALLED BY GOD

11 I WANT YOU TO KNOW, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THAT THE GOSPEL I PREACHED IS NOT OF HUMAN ORIGIN. 12 I DID NOT RECEIVE IT FROM ANY MAN, NOR WAS I TAUGHT IT; RATHER, I RECEIVED IT BY REVELATION FROM JESUS CHRIST.

13 FOR YOU HAVE HEARD OF MY PREVIOUS WAY OF LIFE IN JUDAISM, HOW INTENSELY I PERSECUTED THE CHURCH OF GOD AND TRIED TO DESTROY IT. 14 I WAS ADVANCING IN JUDAISM BEYOND MANY OF MY OWN AGE AMONG MY PEOPLE AND WAS EXTREMELY ZEALOUS FOR THE TRADITIONS OF MY FATHERS. 15 BUT WHEN GOD, WHO SET ME APART FROM MY MOTHER'S WOMB AND CALLED ME BY HIS GRACE, WAS PLEASED 16 TO REVEAL HIS SON IN ME SO THAT I MIGHT PREACH HIM AMONG THE GENTILES, MY IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WAS NOT TO CONSULT ANY HUMAN BEING. 17 I DID NOT GO UP TO JERUSALEM TO SEE THOSE WHO WERE APOSTLES BEFORE I WAS, BUT I WENT INTO ARABIA. LATER I RETURNED TO DAMASCUS.

18 THEN AFTER THREE YEARS, I WENT UP TO JERUSALEM TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH CEPHAS[A] AND STAYED WITH HIM FIFTEEN DAYS. 19 I SAW NONE OF THE OTHER APOSTLES— ONLY JAMES, THE LORD'S BROTHER.

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# Matthew

## 2:11-23

11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### **The Escape to Egypt**

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14

then Joseph[a] got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

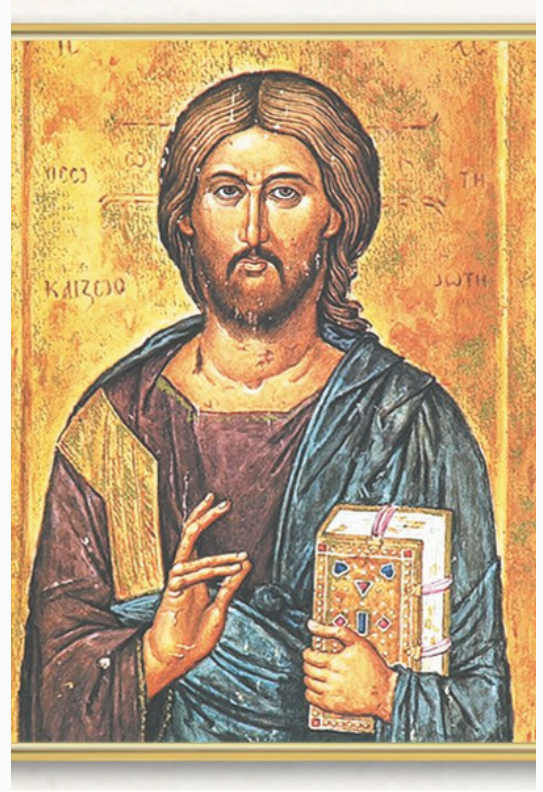
### **The Massacre of the Infants**


16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men,[b] he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.[c] 17 Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

18 "A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

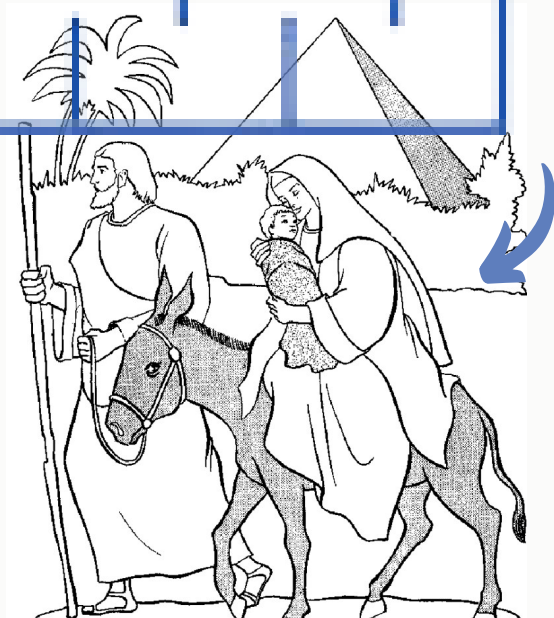
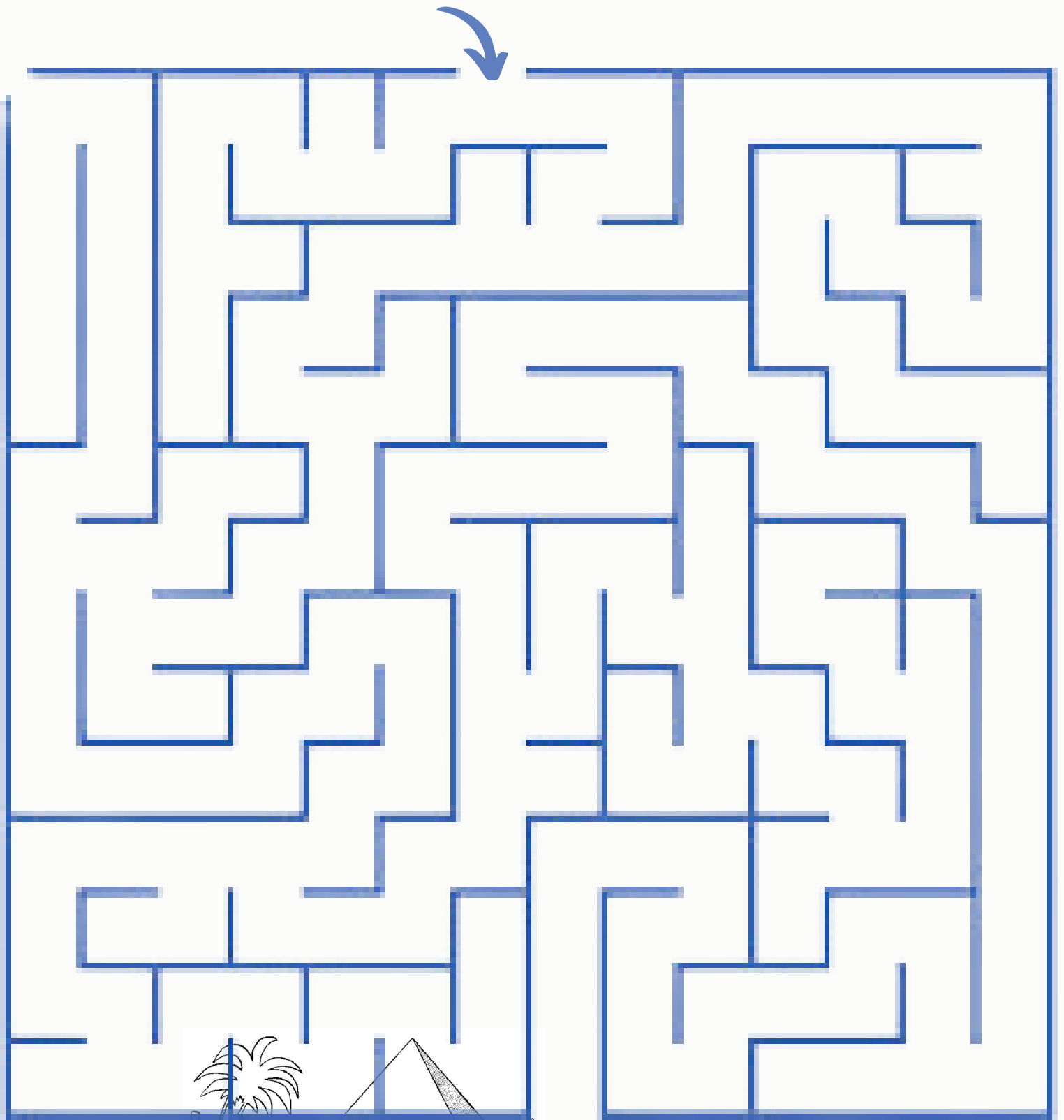
### **The Return from Egypt**

19 When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20 "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." 21 Then Joseph[d] got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. 23 There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."





What do you hear  
God saying?



# Prayer before Communion

O LORD, I BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT YOU ARE TRULY CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE FIRST.

ACCEPT ME TODAY AS A PARTAKER OF YOUR MYSTICAL SUPPER, O SON OF GOD, FOR I WILL NOT REVEAL YOUR MYSTERY TO YOUR ENEMIES, NOR WILL I GIVE YOU A KISS AS DID JUDAS, BUT LIKE THE THIEF I PROFESS YOU: REMEMBER ME, O LORD, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O MASTER, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O HOLY ONE, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

MAY THE PARTAKING OF YOUR HOLY MYSTERIES, O LORD, BE NOT FOR MY JUDGMENT OR CONDEMNATION BUT FOR THE HEALING OF SOUL AND BODY.

O LORD, I ALSO BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT THIS, WHICH I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE, IS TRULY YOUR MOST PRECIOUS BODY AND YOUR LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, WHICH, I PRAY, MAKE ME WORTHY TO RECEIVE FOR THE REMISSION OF ALL MY SINS AND FOR LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN. O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER. O GOD, CLEANSE ME OF MY SINS AND HAVE MERCY ON ME. O LORD, FORGIVE ME FOR I HAVE SINNED WITHOUT NUMBER.

# Prayer for Vocations

**O GOD, GREAT IN MIGHT AND INSCRUTABLE IN WISDOM, MARVELOUS IN COUNSEL ABOVE THE SONS OF MEN, FATHER OF ALL PERFECT GIFTS: YOU THE SAME LORD, ENLIGHTEN WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT THE HEARTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CALL THEM TO FOLLOW YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND OUR SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD! GIVE THEM THE COURAGE AND GENEROSITY NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR VOCATION, FOR YOU COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING! GIVE TO THE PARENTS THAT FAITH, LOVE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH WILL INSPIRE THEM TO OFFER THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SERVICE AND REJOICE WHENEVER ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN IS CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY OF PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS CONSECRATION. WE IMPLORE YOU THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE MOST PURE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY!  
AMEN!**