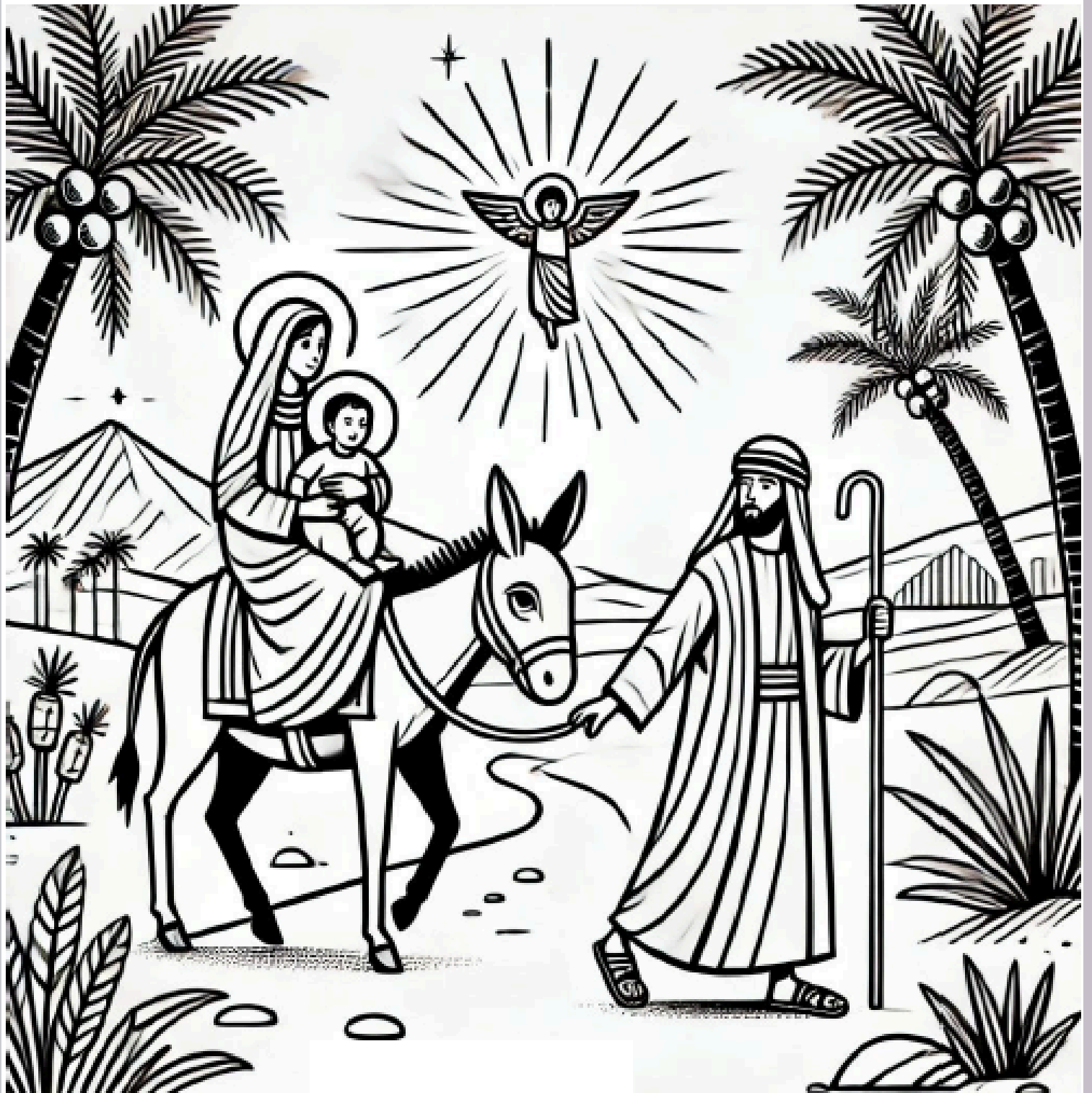


Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2024



Coloring Icons



Galatians 1:

11-19

11 PAUL'S GOSPEL REVEALED TO HIM BY CHRIST.[A] BRETHREN, I WANT YOU TO BE ASSURED THAT THE GOSPEL I PREACHED TO YOU IS NOT HUMAN IN ITS ORIGIN. 12 I DID NOT RECEIVE IT FROM A HUMAN BEING, NOR WAS I TAUGHT IT. RATHER, I RECEIVED IT THROUGH A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST.

13 UNDOUBTEDLY YOU HAVE HEARD ABOUT MY FORMER WAY OF LIFE IN JUDAISM,[B] HOW I FIERCELY PERSECUTED THE CHURCH OF GOD AND TRIED TO DESTROY IT. 14 I PROGRESSED IN JUDAISM FAR BEYOND MANY OF MY CONTEMPORARIES, INASMUCH AS I WAS MUCH MORE ZEALOUS IN UPHOLDING THE TRADITIONS OF MY ANCESTORS.

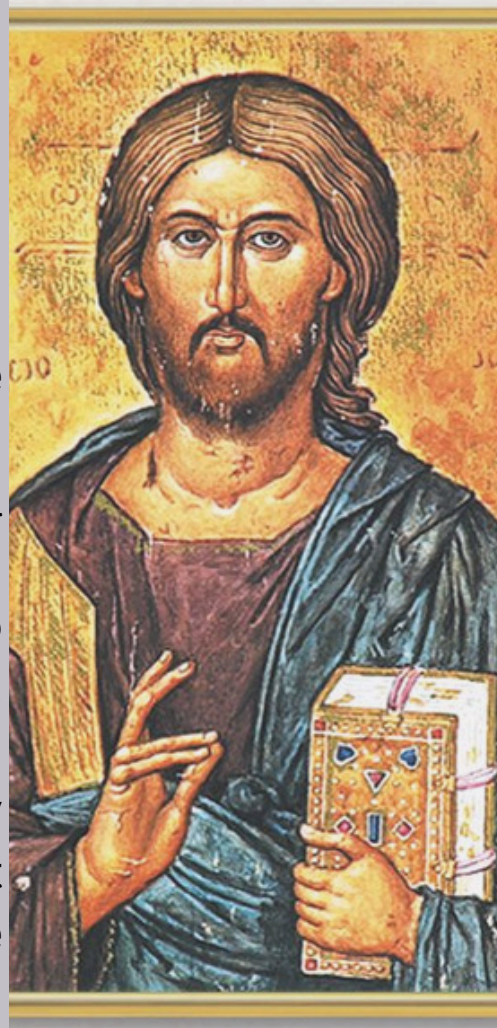
15 PAUL'S EARLY YEARS AS A CHRISTIAN. HOWEVER, WHEN GOD, WHO HAD SET ME APART EVEN BEFORE MY BIRTH, CALLED ME THROUGH HIS GRACE AND CHOSE 16 TO REVEAL HIS SON TO ME SO THAT I MIGHT PROCLAIM HIM TO THE GENTILES, I DID NOT CONFER WITH FLESH AND BLOOD,[C] 17 NOR DID I GO UP TO JERUSALEM TO CONSULT WITH THOSE WHO WERE APOSTLES BEFORE ME. RATHER, I WENT OFF TO ARABIA, AND AFTERWARD I RETURNED TO DAMASCUS.

18 PAUL'S FIRST MEETING WITH PETER.[D] THEN AFTER THREE YEARS, I DID GO UP TO JERUSALEM TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH CEPHAS, AND I STAYED WITH HIM FOR FIFTEEN DAYS. 19 HOWEVER, I DID NOT SET EYES ON ANY OF THE OTHER APOSTLES, EXCEPT FOR JAMES, THE BROTHER OF THE LORD.[E]

Matthew 2:

13-23

13 The Flight into Egypt. After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and instructed him, “Arise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Remain there until I tell you. Herod seeks the child to kill him.” 14 Therefore, he got up, took the child and his mother, and departed that night for Egypt, 15 where they remained until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”^[a] 6 The Slaughter of the Innocents at Bethlehem. When Herod realized that the wise men had deceived him, he flew into a rage and



issued an order to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and the surrounding area who were two years old or less, in accordance with the information that he had obtained from the wise men. 17 ^[b] Thus were fulfilled the words that had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 18 “A voice was heard in Ramah, lamenting and sobbing bitterly: Rachel weeping for her children, and refusing to be consoled, because they were no more.” 19 The Return to the Land of Israel.^[c] After the death of Herod, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, “Arise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought to kill the child are dead.”^[d] 21 He got up, took the child and his mother, and returned to the land of Israel. 22 But when Joseph learned that Archelaus^[e] had succeeded his father Herod in Judea, he was afraid to go there. After he had been warned in a dream concerning this, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. 23 He settled in a town called Nazareth,^[f] so that what had been spoken through the Prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazorean.”

Caught you Listening

Today's Gospel reading tells us the story of Joseph leading his family to safety and the horrible things that can happen when our leaders are only interested in themselves.

Find the letters in the portion of the Gospel written below that spell out the virtue Joseph teaches us.

"Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt,"

- First word, fourth letter: _____
- First word, first letter: _____
- Last word, first letter: _____
- Sixth word, last letter: _____
- Tenth word, first letter: _____
- Third word, fourth letter: _____
- Third word, second letter: _____
- Eighteenth word, first letter: _____
- Ninth word, fourth letter: _____

Matthew 2:13-23

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

Bethlehem

lamenting

consoled

kill

Joseph

Dream

prophet

boys

Herod

Egypt

Ramah

son

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!