

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2023

St. John the Evangelist Church
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503
www.stjohnsaltoona.org

March Prayer Intention of Pope Francis ***For Victims of Abuse***

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - 8:30 AM • TUESDAY - 8:30 AM
WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM
THURSDAY - 8:30 AM • FRIDAY - 8:30 AM
SATURDAY - 4:00 PM
SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Maria Spayd, Mike Greslick
 Sat. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky, Ginny Reeder
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Jim Campbell, Gary Johnson, Patrick Schurr
 Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Jack Majcher, David Langguth
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Iris Tatar, Mark Krepich Dave Auerbeck

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance , NOT FILLED
 Sat. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM- Emily Miller, Chloe Truscello
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Lexi Tatar
 Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED,
 NOT FILLED
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Bob Olson, Sadie Swope, Lexi Tatar

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy
 Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky, Susanna Tomlinson, Dolores Capriotti, Bob Olson, Barbara Bundy

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - David Langguth, , Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer, Betsy Lloyd,
 Sat. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick, Ed Stoltz, Ginny Reeder
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Dolores Capriotti, Wendy Campbell, Patrick Podoletz
 Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Connie Baker, Mary Truesdale, Darlene Scarpaci, Mike O'Neill
 Friday, April 7, 7:00 PM - Darlene Scarpaci, Connie Baker, Jane Becker, John Becker

SACRISTAN

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - Ray & Mary King
 Sat. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy
 Thurs. Apr. 6 - 7:00 PM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. Apr. 1 - 4:00 PM - Marge Rudolph , Julie Beiswenger
 Sat. Apr. 2 - 8:00 AM - Christopher Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. Apr. 2 - 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

COMMUNION FROM THE CUP - Bishop Mark has directed that parishes may begin distributing Holy Communion under both forms at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023. This permission to resume the practice of offering the Precious Blood will be introduced gradually in such a way that parishioners may come to their own readiness to receive. Certainly, if one is experiencing Covid symptoms, that person is to refrain from receiving from the Cup. Whether or not one chooses to receive from the Cup, it is our Catholic teaching that in receiving Holy Communion one always receives both the Body and the Blood of Christ, even if only receiving the Host.

OUR RITE OF SENDING! At our 11 o'clock Mass this weekend we celebrate the Rite of Sending, as those who are to be confirmed by Bishop Mark on April 11 will be affirmed by their home parish and given our sincerest blessing. We offer our prayerful support as they make their final preparations for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

OUR RICE BOWLS! – As we approach the end of Lent, those who have been participating in Operation Rice Bowl are asked to return them to the Gathering Space. Funds collected are an indication of the compassion which we show to those who are the poorest of God's people.

OUR EASTER EGG HUNT! We were very pleased by the turnout for the Easter egg hunt which we sponsored last weekend. Despite the cold weather, the children and their families had a delightful time, with a wonderful celebration of fellowship which followed in Bailey Hall. A special thanks to our director of religious education, Diane Ryan, and to her many helpers who worked so hard to make this event a success!

OUR GRATITUDE – Many thanks to all those who have "taken a step" in their sacred giving to the parish! God is never outdone in generosity. May His blessings be upon you in abundance!

OUR COMMITMENT TO STEWARDSHIP! We might best consider Lent as our "Stewardship Season"! We are grateful to those who have already pledged for the coming year and encourage prayerful reflection on the measure of our giving in return for God's many blessings. Our pledge of prayer, service and sacrificial giving is our commitment to the ways in which we can give ourselves to God's work, commit our lives to God's service, and use our blessings to build up God's kingdom.

A SPRING TRIP TO LONGWOOD GARDENS – On Monday, May 13, we are planning a bus trip to Longwood Gardens, one of the premier gardens in the United States. We will be departing at 7:00 AM from our parking lot, with a rest stop on the way, and will be returning by 10:00 PM. You are encouraged to take a lunch on the bus. For lunch or dinner, there is a wonderful restaurant at the Gardens which is open until 4. The cost per person is \$115, which includes travel, entrance to the gardens, and a tip for our driver. To make reservations, call the parish office. Reservations are to be made by May 1st.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE - Just a reminder that Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. These practices can remind us of our hunger for God and of the countless hundreds of the human family!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE 2023 –Your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate impact on ministries that care for the poor, strengthen family life, nurture our youth, and provide leadership development for clergy and laity. During Lent, and throughout the year, we are challenged to renew our spiritual devotions and duties – and one of those holy duties is to support the Church. We are challenged to open our eyes and see those in our midst that bring hope to life through their time and talent in serving the community through the 14 ministries supported by the Catholic Ministries Drive. You can place your Commitment Card in the offertory basket, or you can send it in the mail or make an online gift at www.dioceseaj.org/giving.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



In an attempt to encourage greater participation for Stations, and to promote a greater love for the Holy Eucharist, our Friday evening devotions will begin at 5:00 with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with Stations of the Cross beginning at 5:30. Stations will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please consider joining us!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 4: Tenebrae 7:00 PM

HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM

The Passion of the Lord 7:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY:

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets - 12:00 PM

Easter Vigil 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Schedule for the Week of March 26

Sunday, March 26 - The Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

11:00 AM - Mass for *Patricia Ward-Johnson* requested by Chris & Iris Tatar

Monday, March 27 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Patricia Ward-Johnson* requested by Ginger Cooney

Tuesday, March 28 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Wednesday, March 29 - Lenten Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Charlie Moore* requested by David & Jeannie Swanger

Thursday, March 30 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass For *People of the Parish*

Friday, March 31 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass For *Margareta Goch*

5:00 PM - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5:30 PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 1 - Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Sunday, April 2 - The Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 AM - Mass for *Mary Jo Sibert & Richard Bender* requested by Larry & Carol Field

11:00 AM - Mass for *Hilda Neal* requested by Julie & Bernie Beiswenger

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];
Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;
Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7;
Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11;
Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

EASTER FLOWERS: All memorial donations for Easter flowers should be submitted by Monday, April 3, in order to be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin.



PENANCE SERVICES IN OUR AREA:

St. Rose of Lima, Altoona - March 26 @ 5:00 PM

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Altoona - March 27 @ 7:00 PM

Cathedral, Altoona - March 29 @ 6:00 PM

Our Lady of Lourdes, Altoona - March 30 @ 5:30 PM

St. Mary, Hollidaysburg - April 2 @ 4:00 PM

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Jesus answered Martha's prayers on His own terms, not hers. Yet the outcome is much more than she could have imagined. If we are to be good stewards and protectors of the gifts God has given, we must begin by spending more time with God. It is a belief that in those moments when we most struggle, Jesus is there with us. We must listen for God's help, so that in turn we are able to assist someone else who may be suffering. We need to give our time through prayerful listening. May each of us, use our time as treasure to help build his kingdom on earth. May we have the courage to fulfill our role in the Divine Plan according to God's will by "loving our neighbor as ourself." (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2020/02/21)

March 11/12

Envelopes	\$ 4,968.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 1,101.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 50.00
Catholic Education	\$ 80.00
Parish Development	\$ 85.00
Easter Flower Offering	\$ 145.00
Holy Thursday/Angel Tree	\$ 20.00
2 nd Sunday Food Collection	\$ 331.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,805.00
Total Offertory	\$ 9,585.40

2023 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal - \$41,761

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available upon request. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 to request your giving statement. If you are registered with My Own Church, you can log in and download your statement yourself.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: Our families can become wrapped up chasing things we perceive will make us happy. Jesus' words to Lazarus, He says to us: "Come out" from what entombs you. In this fifth week of Lent "untie" yourself and be free from unnecessary possessions *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

SELL YOUR OWN STUFF SALE: Holy Trinity is having a "SELL YOUR OWN STUFF" event Saturday June 3rd. If you are interested in renting a space inside the Maria Parish Center for \$20.00 to "SELL YOUR OWN STUFF", please contact Jan at 814-942-7835.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: There will be no class on Palm Sunday or Easter, April 2nd and 9th. We will resume on Sunday, April 16th, and continue to meet through Sunday, May 21st. All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 in the St Johns school cafeteria. For more information call Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at giny.reeder@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Janine Anna • Joshua Banks
Bernie Beiswenger • Diane Blyler • Scott Brenneman
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Michelle Cooney
Ron Cunningham • Flo Dancha • Mary Lee DeStefano
Michael DeStefano • Charlie Elder • Kathy Felty
Leann Frazier • Ed Garlena • Gerry Gonsman
Sherryl Hartman • Bill Hoefler • Don James
Nancy James • Lisa Jimenez • Tim Jimenez
Marianne Jones • Neveah Langenbacher • Lisa
Elsie MacCullagh • Sherri Maffettone
Genevieve Mathias • Angela Mazzei • Susie Miller
Karrie McCall • James Mclarren • Sylvia Louise Mills
Donna Moyer • Ailani Myers • Deacon Gene Neral
Patricia Olson • Linda O'Sullivan • Sara Parrish
Mary Rajnish • Ryan Raybuck • Allison Recker
Bette Richards • Vicki Riley • John Rita • Carol Rodgers
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Bruce Shank
Anne Showalter • Betsy Slat • David Sunderland
Patty Swanson • Rick Swanson • Tim Temofonte
Marion Tessitore • Mary Truesdale • Kathy Wagner
Lois Werfel**

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

Karen A. Pleva, sister of Mike (Loane) Maier
May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

CASH BASH: Our Knights of Columbus is holding a Ca\$h Ba\$h at the East Freedom Fire Hall on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Tickets are \$40 each and include two dinners, beverages and one entry in the drawing. A basket raffle, multiple 50/50's and pull-tab tickets will also be offered throughout the evening. Cash and prizes valued at over \$2,500! Contact Chris Ringkamp (814-330-4074) or see any Knight for tickets.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FUNDRAISER: We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss's location(s) listed below on 3/26/2023 to aid us in raising money to benefit Knights of Columbus.

Please cut out this coupon (including the Group number) and present it on 3/26/2023 at Hoss's in Duncansville. Hoss's will then donate 20%* or 25%** of your total check paid to Knights of Columbus

DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS ON HOSS'S PROPERTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL DISQUALIFY OUR ORGANIZATION! Thank you for your cooperation!
Group #127813

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

March 26: 11th Grade Rite of Sending at 11:00 Mass
(Candidates & Sponsors/Parents)

April 2: 9:15 - 10:45 AM Class

April 9: NO CLASS

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

*Thank
You*

A big thank you to everyone who donated candy and made food for our Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Fling Brunch this past Sunday! We had a nice crowd for both events and even though it was a bit chilly, the children had a lot of fun collecting eggs! Thanks

to the parishioners and families for making this another successful community event!

BUS TRIP TO SALAMANCA NEW YORK CASINO: The Mount Carmel Social & Administration Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Seneca Casino in Salamanca, NY, on Saturday, April 15th. We will depart from the Mt. Carmel Church Parking Lot at 9 AM and depart from the Casino at 7 PM. The cost of the trip is \$40/person. We get back \$25 slot play (subject to change). To receive the Bonus please bring to the Casino a valid photo ID. To make reservations, please call the Parish Office at 814-942-8501 during the week.

ST. ROSE OF LIMA SVDP CONFERENCE CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM 2023: With the assistance of the parishioners from St Rose of Lima, St. John the Evangelist and St. Patrick's, the St. Rose SVDP Conference continued in its efforts to serve the poor and needy. Our Conference helped make living through the tough times a little bit easier for the seniors, homeless, new and expectant moms and the single parents in our community by supplying Care Packages for their use. These packages contained items that each group would find useful, such as toiletries, blankets, gloves, hats, jig saw puzzles, scented candles, healthy snacks, diapers, baby wipes, parenting books, coffee mugs, bath bombs, activity books, etc. Each donor was also asked to include items to help boost the mental health of the recipient, such as a handwritten note of encouragement, a rosary, prayer card, gift card, etc. Through the collection period, the St Rose SVDP Conference delivered over 190 care packages to these needy individual and families with the help of Family Services and WIC. The members of the St Rose SVDP Conference would like to take this time to thank all our donors who make our programs possible and the lives of the needy a bit easier. God Bless You All!

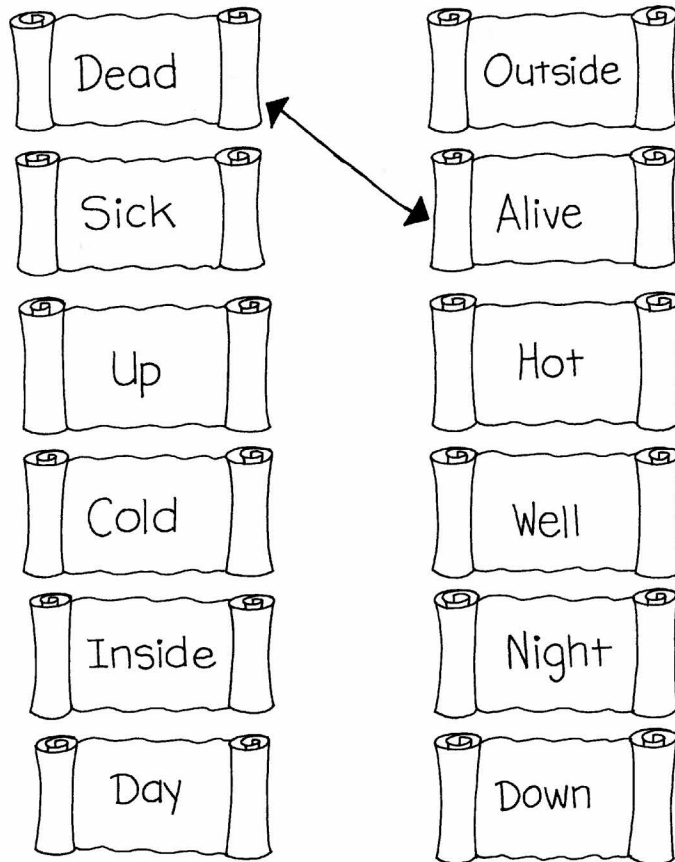
God's Word for Children

Jesus' friend Lazarus was dead.

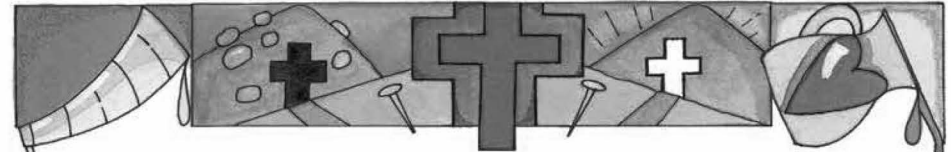
But at Jesus' command, he became alive again.

“Dead” is the opposite of “alive.”

Match the other words on the left to their opposites on the right with arrows as shown.



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Fifth Sunday of Lent

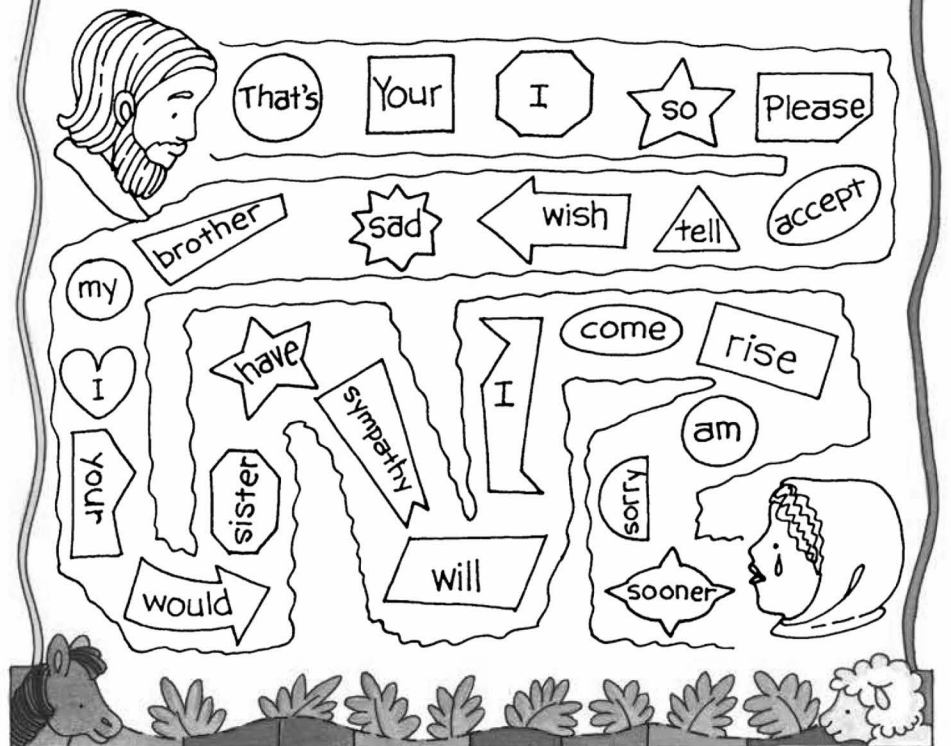
Two sisters, Martha and Mary, sent word to Jesus that their brother, Lazurus, was sick. After a few days, Jesus and the disciples began to travel to Bethany, the village where the family lived.

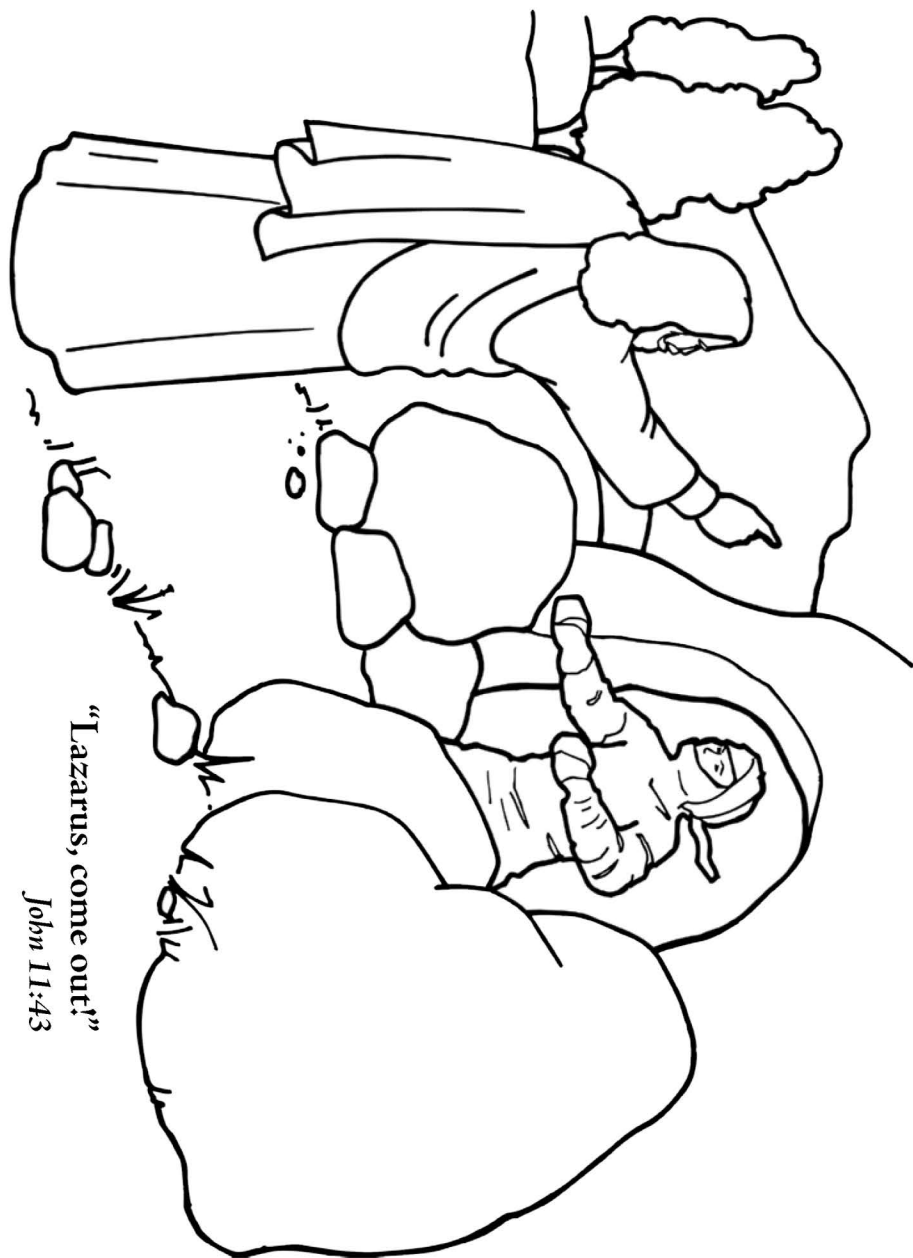
Begin at Jesus and follow the road to meet Martha.

Along the way, circle only shapes with four sides.

They will tell you what Jesus said upon hearing that Lazarus had died.

You can read this story in your Bible at John 11:1–45.





"Lazarus, come out!"
John 11:43



MARY

We always celebrate the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord during Lent. Just like the other people in our family of faith we've been reading about, Mary holds a special place in the life of Jesus and in our own lives. This past Wednesday we recalled how the angel of God told Mary she was to be the mother of the Savior. But this great honor would also come with great suffering and sorrow.

When Mary and Joseph presented the infant Jesus in the temple, Simeon told Mary that she would know seven great sorrows in her life. Four of them occurred when Mary followed Jesus on the way to the cross:

- Meeting Jesus on the way to the cross
- Jesus' crucifixion
- Taking Jesus down from the cross
- Burying Jesus

These events must have made Mary very sad. Choose one of them and draw a picture of how you think Mary must have looked. When you face troubles or are very sad, say a prayer asking Mary to be with you just as she was with her son, Jesus.

