

Sunday, July 9, 2023

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was an Algonquin-Mohawk native born in 1656, and she became the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Church. She converted to Catholicism at age 19 and took a vow of chastity, refusing to marry. She only wanted to belong to Jesus. This decision was not popular with her relatives, so she moved to Canada to live out her days in prayer and penance, praying for the conversion of her people. She died when she was only 24 years old. She is the patroness of ecology and the environment, people in exile, and Native Americans. We celebrate the feast of Saint Kateri on July 14. Saint Kateri, pray for us! (Source: www.catholic.org)

"I am not my own; I have given myself to Jesus. He must be my only love."

- St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30



FAMILY TIME

At the dinner table, in the car, we talk about our faith, wherever we are!

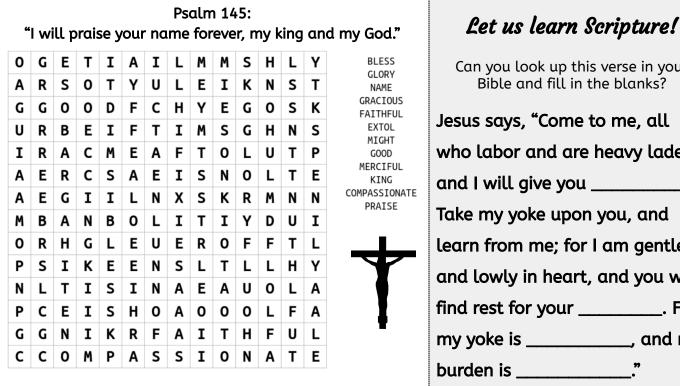


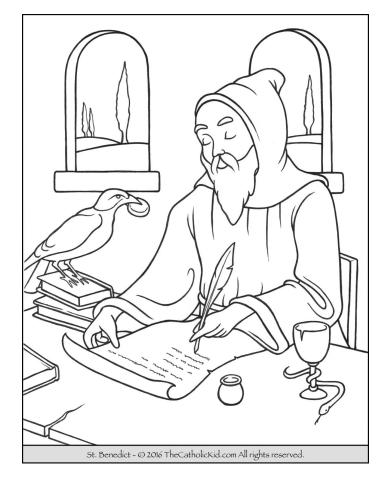
In this week's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that we come to know the Father through the Son, and knowing the Son requires us to be childlike - like Jesus is meek and humble of heart, so are we called to be meek and humble of heart.

MEEK - being quiet and gentle; accepting and submitting to God's will

HUMBLE - understanding yourself in relation to God and other creatures; humility is the virtue that prevents you from reaching too far for personal greatness, but rather, it allows you to show gratitude for the gifts God gave you and allows you to use them in accordance with His will

FAMILY CHALLENGE: Discuss the definitions of meek and humble. Why do you think these are associated with "little ones"? How might these traits lead us to know the Son and, through the Son, the Father? Pray together that the Lord will help the members of your domestic church (family) to help each other grow in meekness and humility.





Let us learn scripture!
Can you look up this verse in your Bible and fill in the blanks?
Jesus says, "Come to me, all
who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you
Take my yoke upon you, and
learn from me; for I am gentle
and lowly in heart, and you will
find rest for your For
my yoke is, and my
burden is"
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Saint Benedict was born in Italy in 480. He was the abbot of a community of monks and later began his own community, the Benedictines. He wrote the Rule of their order that tells them how to live, work, and pray. It is still used today! We celebrate the feast of Saint Benedict on July 11. Saint Benedict, pray for us!

"He who labors as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands."

"What, dear brothers, is more delightful than the voice of the Lord calling to us?"

- St. Benedict

Can you lift your heart to God by praying? Can you also listen carefully to hear the Lord calling you? Spend some time today telling the Lord how much you love him and listening to what He says in return!