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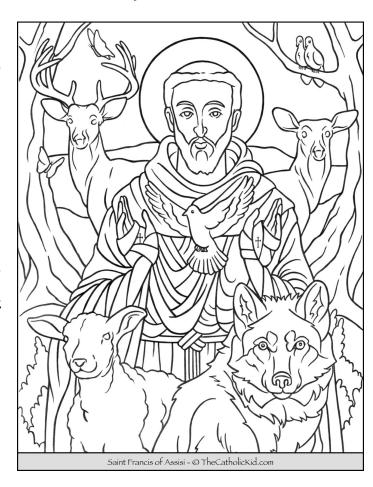
### Sunday, October 1, 2023

Saint Francis of Assisi was born in Italy in the late 12th century. His father was a cloth merchant, and Francis was well educated. He even traveled as a soldier. However, God called him to give up everything and "rebuild his Church." Francis started to do so literally, fixing up churches that were in ruins. He then went on to found the Franciscan Order for men and the Poor Clares for women. These orders lived by the following rule: "to observe the holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, living in obedience without anything of our own and in chastity." With great charity, these orders served people in great need. Today, Saint Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment. His feast day is October 4. Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us!

(Ref. Britannica.org)

"It was easy to love God in all that was beautiful. The lessons of deeper knowledge, though, instructed me to embrace God in all things."

- Saint Francis of Assisi



Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

## **FAMILY TIME**

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



In this week's Gospel, Jesus shares a parable about two sons, one who obeys his father's will eventually and one who says he will obey but doesn't. Those who refuse God but later repent and obey will be brought into God's kingdom. Those who refuse God must repent if they hope to be allowed into the kingdom.

#### **FAMILY DISCUSSION:**

- God's mercy is always open to us. What are some ways we can be more like the first son? In what ways do we turn back to God after we've been disobedient? How do we feel *before* and *after* turning back to God?
- Can you think of a time, like the second son, that your words and actions didn't align? Discuss and reflect on the words 'honesty' and 'integrity'. How can we make sure words and actions align?

#### Psalm 25 "Remember your mercies, O Lord." Ε S Ν D Ν S 0 S J U Е S P Q Τ Χ G 0 Н Q W S D Κ 0 В 0 Χ Χ R Χ M Η G D G G Τ Z S 0 Н V U Ν S Τ Н 0 Ε Z Κ Τ Н U M В G Τ 0 M R S D U 0 0 0 J C Ε U S Е K D Z Z G W K 0 W **COMPASSION KINDNESS GOODNESS LOVE GUIDE PATHS** HUMBLE **SAVIOR**

**TEACH** 

JUSTICE

# Let us pray...

There is a very beautiful prayer that was not written by St. Francis of Assisi, but it does capture his attitude towards life and the Gospel. With your family, you can pray and sing with the link below.



Prayer of St. Francis

May we all be instruments of God's peace.

Amen!

**PRAY AND DRAW:** Today's Gospel teaches us that obedience will lead us to God's kingdom. There are times we all need to make better choices and be obedient to God. In one box, draw someone making a poor choice. In the second box, draw the same person repenting, saying they are sorry, and making a better choice.