



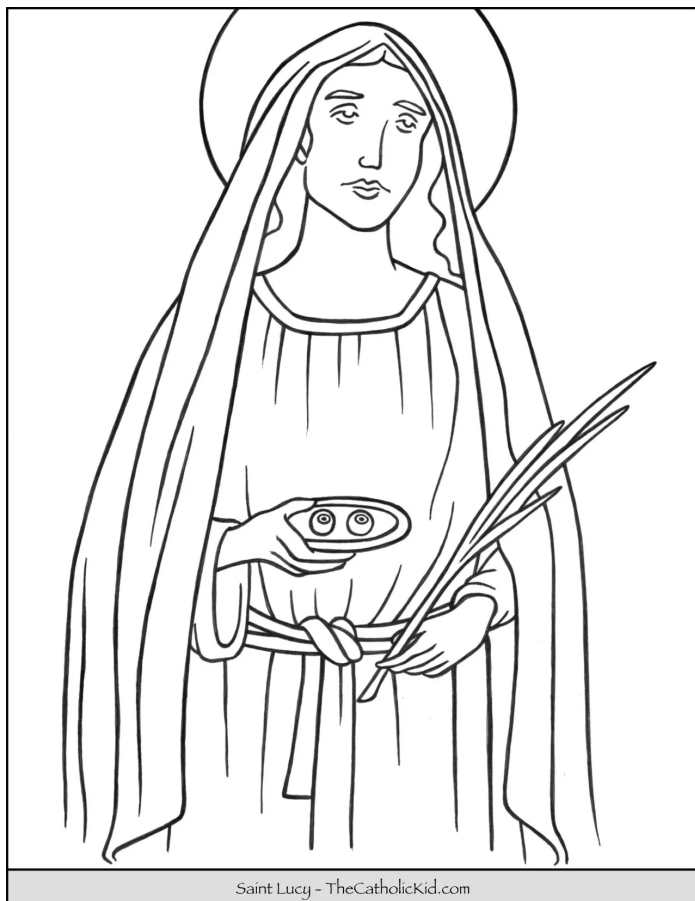
A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE KIDS OF ST. AMBROSE

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

**Saint Lucy** lived in the late third century and died sometime in the early fourth century, martyred for her faith. Because she lived so long ago, there are conflicting accounts of her life. It is believed that she consecrated herself to the Lord as a virgin and refused to marry a man who was angered by her devotion to Our Lord. It was illegal to be a Christian at that time, so he turned her over to the authorities. They punished her with death, though God protected her and many of the ways they tried to kill her failed. Finally she died by the sword. She is often pictured holding a dish containing her eyes! It's unknown whether the authorities ordered her eyes to be removed or whether the legend is true that the man she was to marry loved her eyes and she removed them herself, since she did not want to marry him. For this reason, she is the patroness of the blind and those with eye disorders. Her name means light, and many Saint Lucy celebrations around the world involve lots of candles! Her feast day is December 13th. **Saint Lucy, pray for us!**

(Source: My Catholic Kids)



Saint Lucy - TheCatholicKid.com

## FAMILY TIME

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



In this week's Gospel, Mark reminds us that God's plan for salvation was in place long before Jesus arrived. In fact, centuries before, the Prophet Isaiah foretold that a messenger (John the Baptist) would prepare the way of the Lord, and he did!

**FAMILY DISCUSSION:** John the Baptist tells us of the importance of repentance and seeking forgiveness for our sins. He tells his followers that Jesus is coming to baptize with the Holy Spirit. You have been baptized in the Spirit! Now prepare for Jesus' arrival!

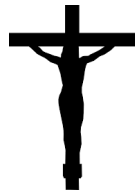
- Reflect: What do I need to repent of? What sins are holding me back in my relationship with the Lord?
- What is our plan for receiving the Sacrament of Penance before Christmas?

**Psalm 85: "Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation."**

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

DWELLING  
 FEAR  
 GLORY  
 GOD  
 JUSTICE  
 KINDNESS

KISS  
 LAND  
 PEACE  
 PEOPLE  
 PREPARE  
 PROCLAIMS



*Let us prepare...*

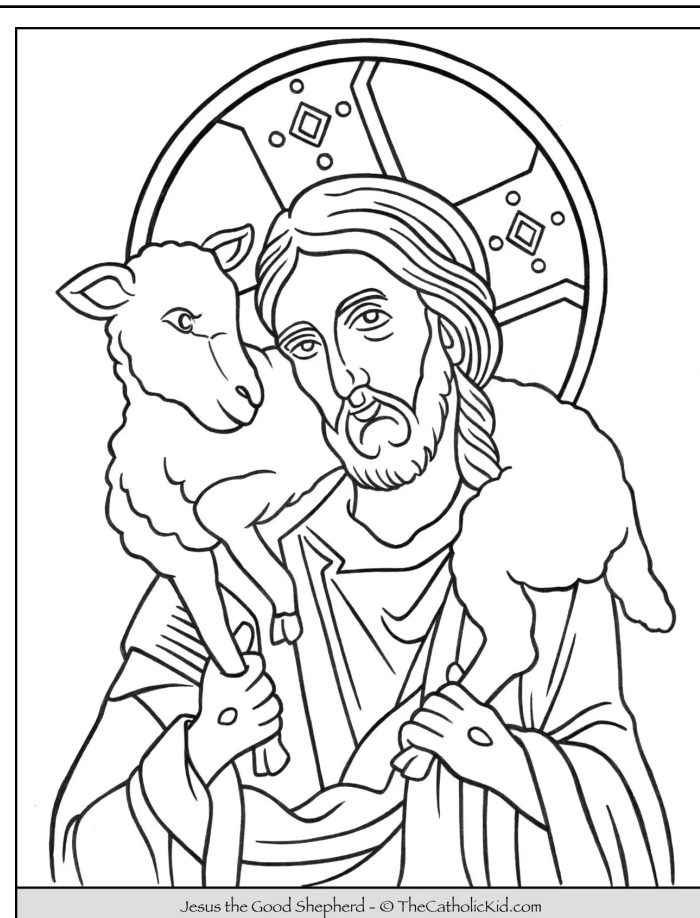
Has it been awhile since you've been to Confession? Check out these resources to help you prepare! There are videos and articles that can help you feel ready, including examinations of conscience based on age.



**Learning About and Preparing for Confession**

*"As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us."*

Psalm 103:12



Jesus the Good Shepherd - © TheCatholicKid.com

In today's first reading, the Prophet Isaiah reminds us that our Lord rules as a shepherd, feeding His flock, carrying His sheep in His arms, and leading all sheep with great care! You are the Lord's little lamb. Rejoice and pray!

**Gentle Jesus, compassionate and caring Good Shepherd, help me to follow You faithfully.**

**Strengthen me daily with Your love, and guide me along life's paths.**

**Keep me free from every evil, protect me from sickness and danger, and lead me to serve You with all my mind and heart and soul.**

**Hear my needs and grant me petitions, especially these intentions important to me at this time:**

[Mention your petitions here]

**Bless me each day with peace of mind and heart. May I experience Your saving power in my daily life, as I await the fullness of life and joy with You forever. Amen.**

SOURCE: <https://www.thecatholiccrusade.com>