

Family Page

The happiness of the apostles upon seeing Jesus again can be seen as a reflection of the joy we all feel when we are reunited with people we love. Too often we forget how important people are to us until they are no longer near us. This week, make it a special point to let those who are part of your daily lives know how much you love their company.

1 Gather the family to talk about the important people in your lives. Make two lists: one of people you see every day but forget to appreciate (especially the members of the family) and one of people who are important to you but live far away.

2 Plan a "reunion" celebration including all those people on the first list. Write a special tribute to all those people on the list, telling them how wonderful you feel that you can be together with them, how much you love them, and mention their special gifts to you. These tributes can be read at your celebration.

3 Conduct a family "letter-writing reunion" with those people on the second list. Write each person a letter, with small notes from each family member (or pictures drawn by the youngest members of the family). Be sure to tell these people that you love them and wish you could be with them.

4 Make a PEACE and LOVE banner. Write the words PEACE and LOVE in large colorful letters on your banner, then add the names of the people from both your lists.

Answer to A Gift From Jesus:

PANTS-ANTS+EAR+INK-RINK+ICE-I=PEACE

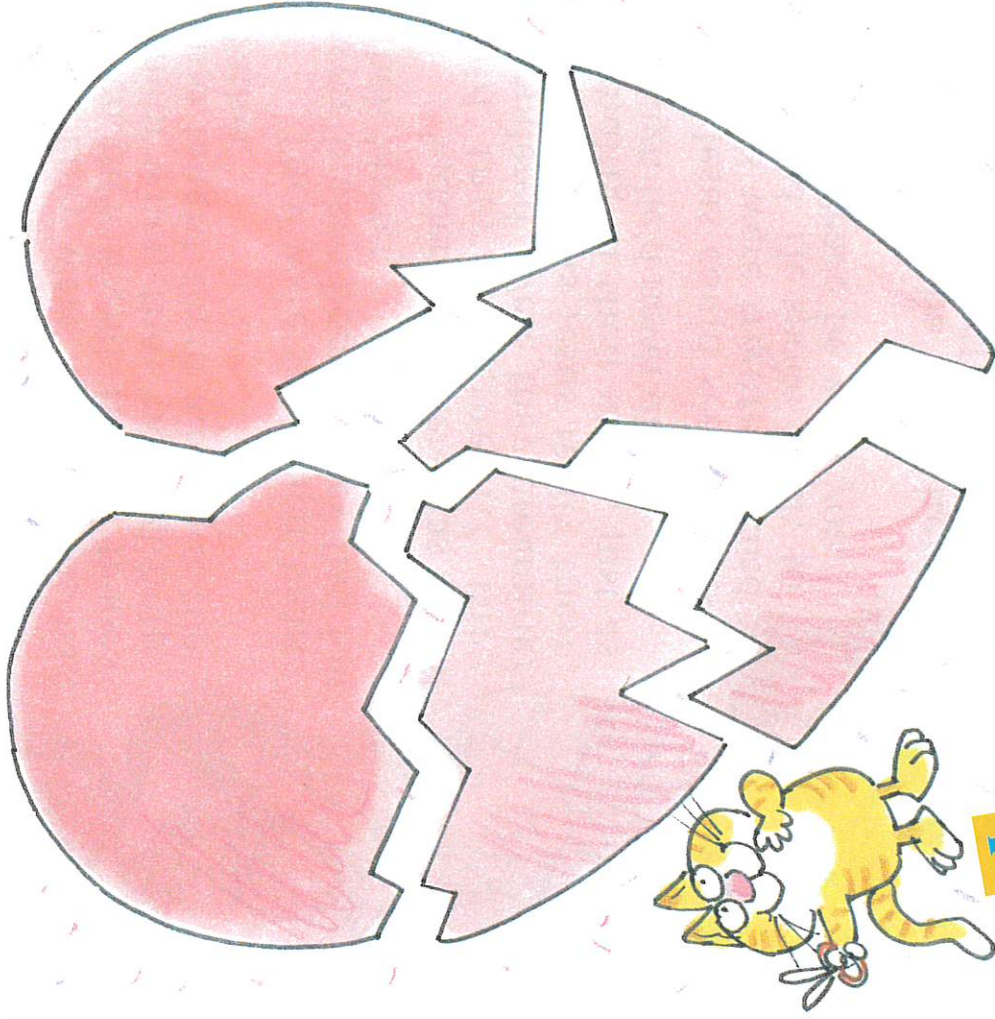


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explaining GOD'S WORD

Second Sunday of Easter / Sunday of Divine Mercy (A) • John 20:19-31 • April 19, 2020



JESUS MENDS A BROKEN HEART

As you read the gospel story today, you will see how Jesus mended the broken hearts of his friends. You can mend this broken heart by cutting out the pieces and fitting them together.

A Surprise Visit

In this week's gospel story, the apostles were all together in a locked room.

They were afraid. Maybe those who killed Jesus would come and get them now.

They were lonely. Jesus had been their friend. He had helped them when they needed help and taught them all about the Father.

They were sad. Their hearts were broken because they had lost their Master.

Suddenly — there was JESUS! Did they imagine it? they wondered. Were they dreaming? No — it was Jesus really there, standing in their midst, just as though he'd never died.

Jesus could see that his friends were frightened and confused. He spoke gently to them: "Peace be with you," he said.

Peace, he told them. Peace means, "Don't worry about anything, I will always be with you." Peace means, "Don't be sad, I love you with all my heart."

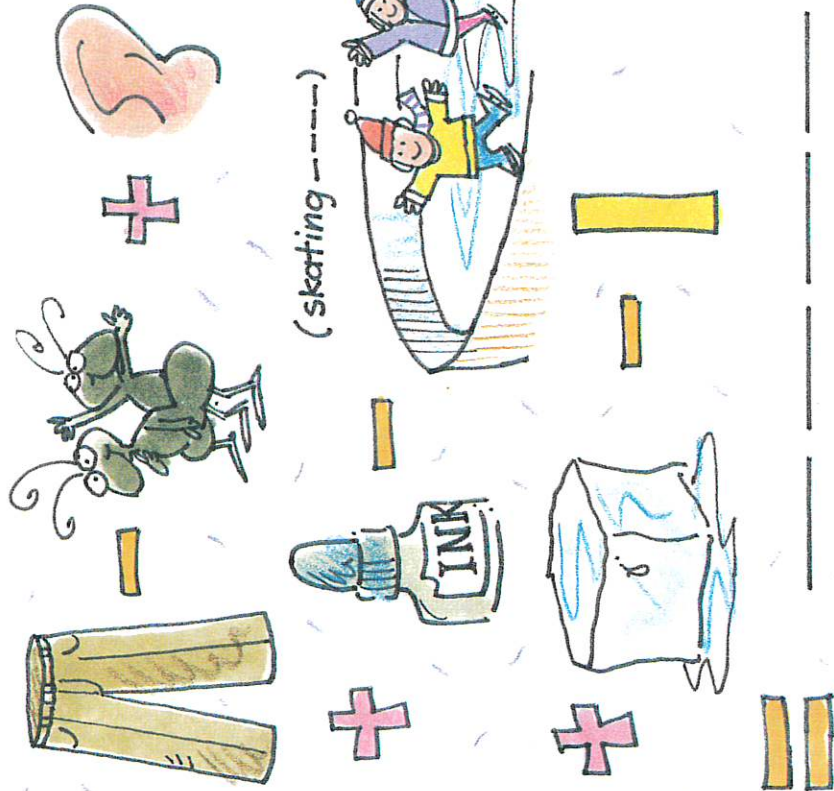
Jesus gave his peace for all time. He gave his peace to you and to me and to all who love him.

PEACE!



A Gift From Jesus

Solve the rebus to see what special gift Jesus gives you in today's gospel story.



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