

Family Page

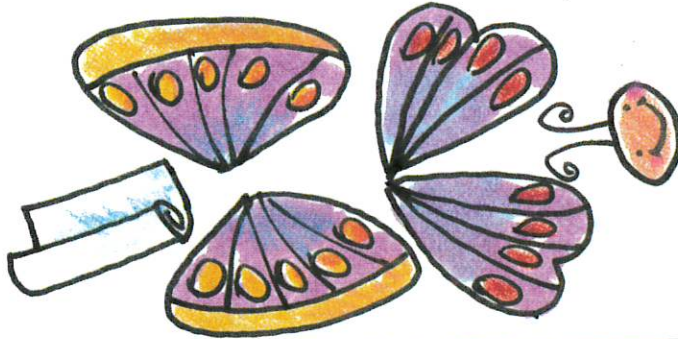
The butterfly is a traditional Easter symbol. The caterpillar, to all outward appearances, is dead as it lies within the cocoon it has spun around itself. Then one day it emerges as a beautiful butterfly.

This butterfly is the caterpillar in a new form. So Jesus, emerging from the tomb, is the same person — but glorified!

Begin this project by choosing a large piece of poster paper or burlap. Attach a bare branch and the words *life through death*.

On squares of paper (like those pictured here), write down some things you can do to be more loving. Cut the squares out and roll them up like a cocoon. As you finish each loving act, the cocoon can become the body of a butterfly. Just use the patterns you see here to add the wings and head. Attach your butterflies to the branch as signs that you are rising to new life with Jesus.

Give money to the poor.
Pick up my dirty clothes.
Play without fighting.
Tell my family I love them.



explaining GOD'S WORD

Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) • John 3:14–21 • March 14, 2021



Join hands and pray this prayer together:

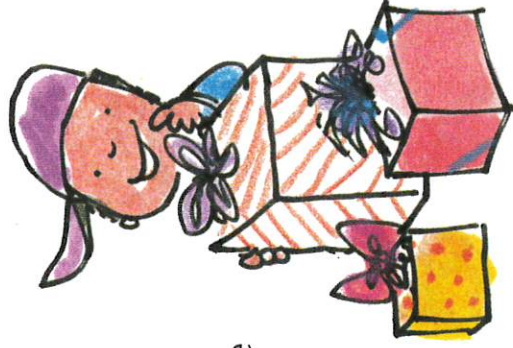
Jesus, your death made it possible for us to live as your brothers and sisters in the family of God. Help us to die to selfish attitudes that cause us to be locked up within ourselves as the butterfly is locked within the cocoon. With your help and our efforts, we free ourselves to love others as you yourself love them.
Amen

LIFE through **DEATH**
a picture to color

The Best Gifts of All



Do you like to get gifts? What kind of gifts do you like to get? Do you like to GIVE gifts? What kind of gifts do you like to give? What is the most wonderful gift that you have ever received? Giving and receiving gifts is one way people say "I love you."



God said "I love you" to us in the most wonderful way of all. God gave Jesus to us so we could share his life and love now and be with God forever in heaven.



Jesus gave gifts of love too. He healed the people, helped them to know about God, told them stories about heaven, and taught them how to love one another.

Then he gave the greatest gift of all! He suffered and died on the cross, just to say "I love you!"

God said "I love you" by giving us Jesus. Jesus said "I love you" by giving his life. How will you say "I love you" this week?

