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EXPLORE how Saint Anthony of Padua is a role model.



DISCOVER that God's promise to love us is fulfilled in Jesus.



DECIDE ways to be a sign of God's love.





How do your parents and your teachers help you and guide you? How do they show you that they love and care for you?

Once, Jesus was teaching his disciples. He wanted them to know that he would always love them and care for them. Jesus told them,

I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

Why did Jesus call himself the Good Shepherd? What did he want his disciples to know about him?

Disciple Power

Love

Love is the greatest of all the virtues. Jesus commanded his disciples, "Love one another, as I love you" (John 15:12). Jesus loves us so much that he died on the Cross for us. Read what Sainh Paul tells us about love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Saint Anthony of Padua

Some members of the Church are good role models for us. They show us how to live as disciples of Jesus. They are kind, helpful, and loving as Jesus, the Good Shepherd, was. The Church names these people *Saints*. Saint Anthony of Padua is one of the Saints of the Church.

Anthony was born in Portugal in 1195. He wanted to be a missionary, a person who travels to tell others about Jesus. Anthony loved Jesus and wanted to go out and tell others about him.

He heard about four Franciscan missionaries who were martyrs. Christian martyrs are people who give up their lives for Jesus. Anthony loved Jesus so much. He, too, was willing to give up his life for Jesus.

Anthony went to Italy to join the Franciscans. Franciscans join together to follow Jesus as Saint Francis of Assisi did. They give up all their possessions. They pray together. They sometimes travel to faraway places to tell others about Jesus.

Which Saint are you, your parish, or school named after? How is this person a role model for you?



Saint Anthony of Padua

Great Love for Jesus

Anthony became known for his preaching. When Anthony taught about God's love, people turned away from sin. Soon, crowds of people came to the city of Padua to hear him preach. His Franciscan brothers built a platform in a tree for him. Anthony would stand on this platform so everyone could see and hear him.

Saint Anthony had a great love for the child Jesus. Statues and pictures of Saint Anthony usually show him holding the child Jesus in his arms.

Saints, like Anthony of Padua, set a good example of holiness for us. They imitate Christ by faithfully following his teachings. We remember and celebrate the life of Saint Anthony of Padua each year on his feast day, June 13.

What is one way you can set a good example as a disciple of Jesus?

Saint Anthony of Padua, c. 19th Century

Activity Below are five descriptions of Saints. Find and circle them in the story about Saint Anthony of Padua.

- give up their lives for Jesus
 - · travels to tell others about Jesus
 - set a good example of holiness for us
 - follow Jesus as Saint Francis of Assisi did
 - imitate Christ by faithfully following his teachings



FAITH FOCUS

What did Jesus do to reveal God to us?

FAITH VOCABULARY Incarnation

The Incarnation is the mystery of the Son of God, the Second Divine Person of the Trinity, becoming truly man while not giving up being God.

public ministry of Jesus

This is the saving work that God the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to do, beginning with the baptism of Jesus and his announcement of that work in the synagogue in Nazareth.

The Incarnation

The birth of the Savior promised by God is one of the greatest revelations of his love for people. The angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary,

"[Mary,] the holy Spirit will come upon you. . . . [Your child] will be called holy, the Son of God."

LUKE 1:35

Mary's son, Jesus, is the only Son of God.

An angel also told Joseph, the husband of Mary, that the Virgin Mary would give birth to a son. The angel said,

"You are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." MATTHEW 1:21

Jesus is a Hebrew name that means "God saves." The only Son of God the Father took on flesh. This means that the Son of God became truly human without giving up being God and lived among us. We call this mystery of faith the Incarnation. The word incarnation means "putting on flesh." Jesus is true God and true man.

Jesus, the only Son of God, is the Savior of the world. Because Mary is the Mother of Jesus, who is truly God, Mary is truly the Mother of God.

Why is Christmas a sign of God's love? What do you and your family do at Christmas time to celebrate God's love?



The Nativity Scene is a traditional retablo from the central Peru Andes; made from boiled potato and plaster of paris.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth in Galilee.

A short time after his baptism in the Jordan River, it became time for Jesus to begin the work that the Father sent him to do. We call this work the **public ministry of Jesus.**

Jesus went to the synagogue in Nazareth. He took a scroll containing the writings of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled it, stood up, and read aloud:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

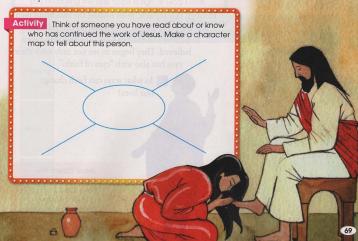
LUKE 4:18-19

With these words, Jesus described the work the Father sent him to do. He is the Messiah who had been sent to them by God.

Faith-Filled People

Patron Saints

Saint Anthony of Padua and other Saints are also patron Saints. Patron Saints are role models for groups of people, such as lawyers, students, parishes, and nations. Their lives show us ways to continue the work that Jesus began on Earth.



FAITH FOCUS How did Jesus reveal his Father's love?

Signs of God's Love

Jesus' whole life on Earth revealed his Father's love for all people. Miracles were some of the most amazing things Jesus did. The word miracle means "wonder, something amazing and marvelous." The miracles of Jesus were amazing signs of God's love at work in the world. The Gospels tell us about many miracles that Jesus performed during his public ministry.

Read about this miracle of Jesus giving sight to two blind men. See how Jesus changed their lives.

As Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed [him], crying out, "Son of David, have pity on us!" When he entered the house, the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" "Yes, Lord," they said to him. Then he touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. . . . they went out and spread word of him through all that land.

MATTHEW 9:27-31

Through this miracle, Jesus invited the two blind men and the other people who witnessd this miracle to believe and trust in God. The two blind men believed. They began to see not only with their eyes but also with "eyes of faith."



Jesus Opens the Eves of a Man Born Blind, Duccio di Buoninsegna (tempera on panel)

c. 1278-1318

Eyes of Faith

Jesus shared signs of God's love throughout his public ministry. Here are some miracles Jesus performed during his earthly ministry:

- Healing of a Centurion's Servant (Matthew 8:5–13; Luke 7:1–10)
- Calming a Storm on the Sea of Galilee (Matthew 8:23–27; Mark 4:35–41; Luke 8:22–25)
- Healing a Blind Man of Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26)
- Healing of a Crippled Woman (Luke 13:10-17)
- Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-44)

Jesus calls us to be people of faith. He calls us to see with eyes of faith and to live our faith. We are to be signs of God's love for others to see.

Property How can we see our world with eyes of faith?

Catholics Believe

Signs of God's Love

All the people of the church are called to be signs of God's love. teople in your school and parish do this in many ways. Priests and eligious, principals and eachers, children and idults all work together to put into practice the alues that Jesus lived

Activity Use the Faith Planner to write the things that you do during the day to be a sign of God's love.

		Faith Planne	
	Saturday	Sunday	Weekdays
Morning			
Noon			1.4
Evening			

FAITH FOCUS

What does it mean to say that Jesus is the Messiah?

Christ Healing the Sick, c. 19th Century

Jesus Is the Messigh

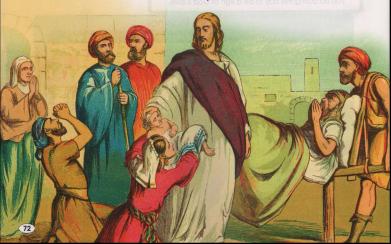
John the Baptist heard about the things that Jesus was doing. He sent two of his followers to investigate.

When John's followers found Jesus, they asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind can see again, those who could not walk are walking, lepers are healed, and the deaf hear. Those who died are brought back to life, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

Jesus' answer means that he is the Messiah. He was doing the work that the prophet Isaiah foretold. Jesus is the Anointed One, promised by God, to save all people from sin. Jesus is the Son of God who shows us the perfect love God has for everyone.

What signs do you see in your life that show Jesus is with us today?



IFOLLOWIJESUS

Followers of Jesus Christ do amazing things. They love, forgive, and show kindness to people as Jesus did. Saint Paul wanted to help the first Christians be like Jesus. He wanted them to imitate Christ in what they did and said.

BE IMITATORS OF CHRIST

Imagine that you are sitting in a crowded room. You are listening to Saint Paul, who says,

So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us. . . . Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

Remember what you wrote in your Faith Planner. Write down three things that you can do to be an imitator of Christ.

MY FAITH CHOICE This week, I will be an imitator of Christ. I will be a sign of God's love in the world. I will



Pray, "Jesus, help me come to know and follow you better. Help me to love like you. Amen."

TO HELP YOU REMEMBER

- Jesus is the only Son of God who became one of us and did not give up being God.
- When Jesus began his public ministry, he announced that he was the Promised One of God.
- Everything Jesus said and did was a sign of God's love for people.

Chapter Review

Recall

Circle the faith words hidden in the puzzle. Share the meaning of each word with a partner.



Reflect

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta said, "Do ordinary things with extraordinary love." Write three things that you do every day. Then tell how you could do each of them to show God's love.

Share

Write thank you notes to persons in your school who love and care for others. Thank them for their loving words and caring actions. Be sure to send them!

We Believe

We profess our faith in Jesus Christ when we pray the creeds of the Church. We pray the Nicene Creed each Sunday at Mass. Pray this part of the Nicene Creed.

- Group 1: I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
- Group 2: born of the Father before all ages.
 God from God, Light from Light,
- Group 1: true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
- Group 2: through him all things were made.
- Group 1: For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
- Group 2: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
- Group 1: For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
- Group 2: he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
- Group 1: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- Group 2: He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

All: Amen.

With My Family

This Week . . .

In Chapter 5, "The Son of God," your child learned:

- God fulfilled his promise to send the Messiah, the Savior and Redeemer of the world.
- ► The angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God and name him Jesus.
- ► The Son of God became man without giving up being God. This mystery of faith is called the Incarnation. Jesus is true God and true man.
- ► The miracles of Jesus were unique signs of God's saving presence in the world, inviting people to faith in God.
- Love is the greatest of all virtues. Jesus' whole life was a sign of God's saving love for all people.

For more about related teachings of the Church, see the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 422–507 and 512–560, and the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 79–87.

Sharing God's Word

Read together Luke 4:18-19, Jesus announcing the work that his Father had sent him to do, or read the adaptation of the story on page 69. Discuss how you see your parish continuing the work of Jesus.

We Live as Disciples

The Christian home and family is a school of discipleship. Choose one of the following activities to do as a family, or design a similar activity of your own:

- Read about Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:13-17. Name some of the things that your family does or can do to tell others about Jesus.
- Name some of the people in your school who are continuing the work of Jesus. Then choose one thing to do as a family this week to continue the work of Jesus.

Make a "Top Ten" list of loving things that your family does for others. Post the list on your refrigerator as a reminder that your family practices the virtue of love and is a sign of God's love.

Our Spiritual Journey

Saint Paul teaches that love is the greatest of all the virtues. Love is the driving power of living our faith. In this chapter, your child professed his or her faith in God. Read and pray together the prayer on page 75. Or profess your faith in Jesus: "I believe in one Lord. Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God." Then discuss how your love for God drives you to live your faith.

