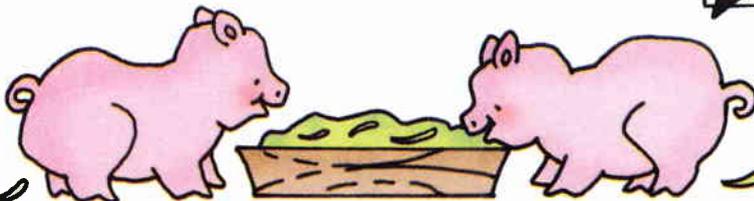
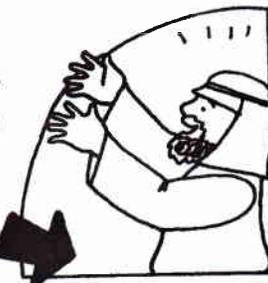
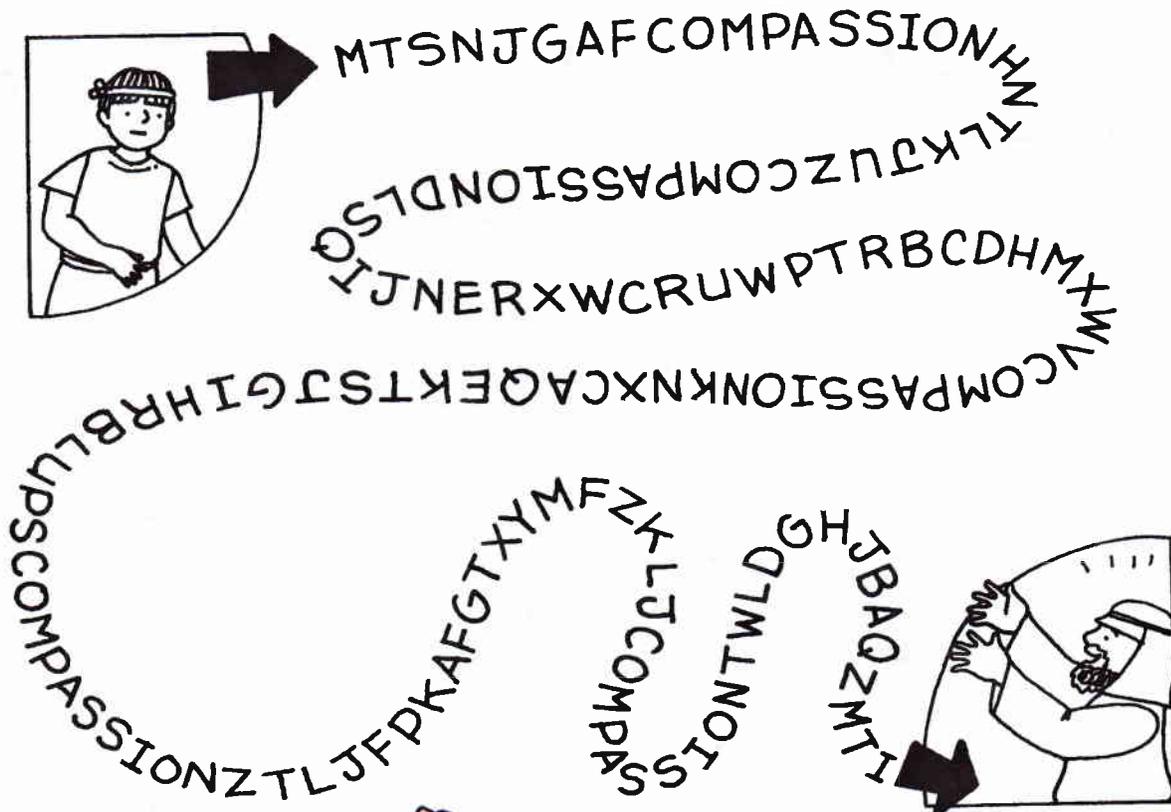


March 31, 2019 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus told a story about a young man who left his father's house (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32).

He foolishly spent all his money, until he had no food and only the clothes on his back. He returned home, hoping his father would hire him as a worker. But his father forgave him and lovingly welcomed his son back! Follow the letter trail from the son to the overjoyed father. Highlight a word that appears five times in the trail.



“He was lost and has been found”

Luke 15 : 32



CATHOLIC CORNER

LENTEN COMPANIONS: SIMON, VERONICA, THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

3 weeks to Easter: We travel with Simon, Veronica, and the women of Jerusalem.

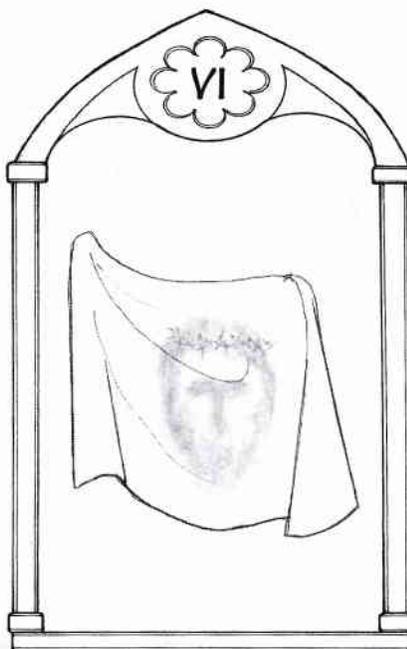
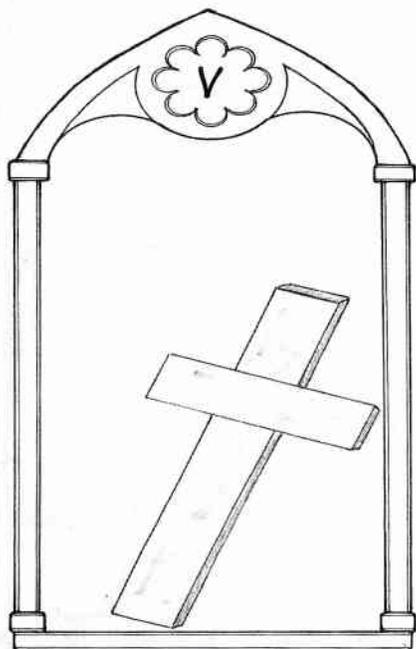
Today is called Laetare Sunday. *Laetare* is Latin for "Rejoice." The entrance antiphon at the beginning of today's Mass (from Isaiah 66:10) begins, "Rejoice, Jerusalem." Lent is half over and we have reason to have hope and rejoice.

Good friends are important. Friends who help us, who stand with us, make hard times easier. The story of Jesus' suffering includes people who helped him. When Jesus was weak and stumbling under the weight of the cross, Simon of Cyrene helped him carry it. Veronica wiped his weary face with her veil. Some women keeping watch along the road wept when they saw Jesus. He felt their love and support and tried to comfort them even in his own suffering. All of these helpers are remembered in the Stations of the Cross: Simon (station 5), Veronica (station 6), and the Women of Jerusalem (station 8).

How can these people be our companions? When we see our friends in need, we can try to be like Simon and help carry their burdens. We can be like Veronica and make them feel better or more comfortable. We can be like the women of Jerusalem: even if we can't make our friends' troubles disappear, we can share their burden of sorrow so they know they are not alone.

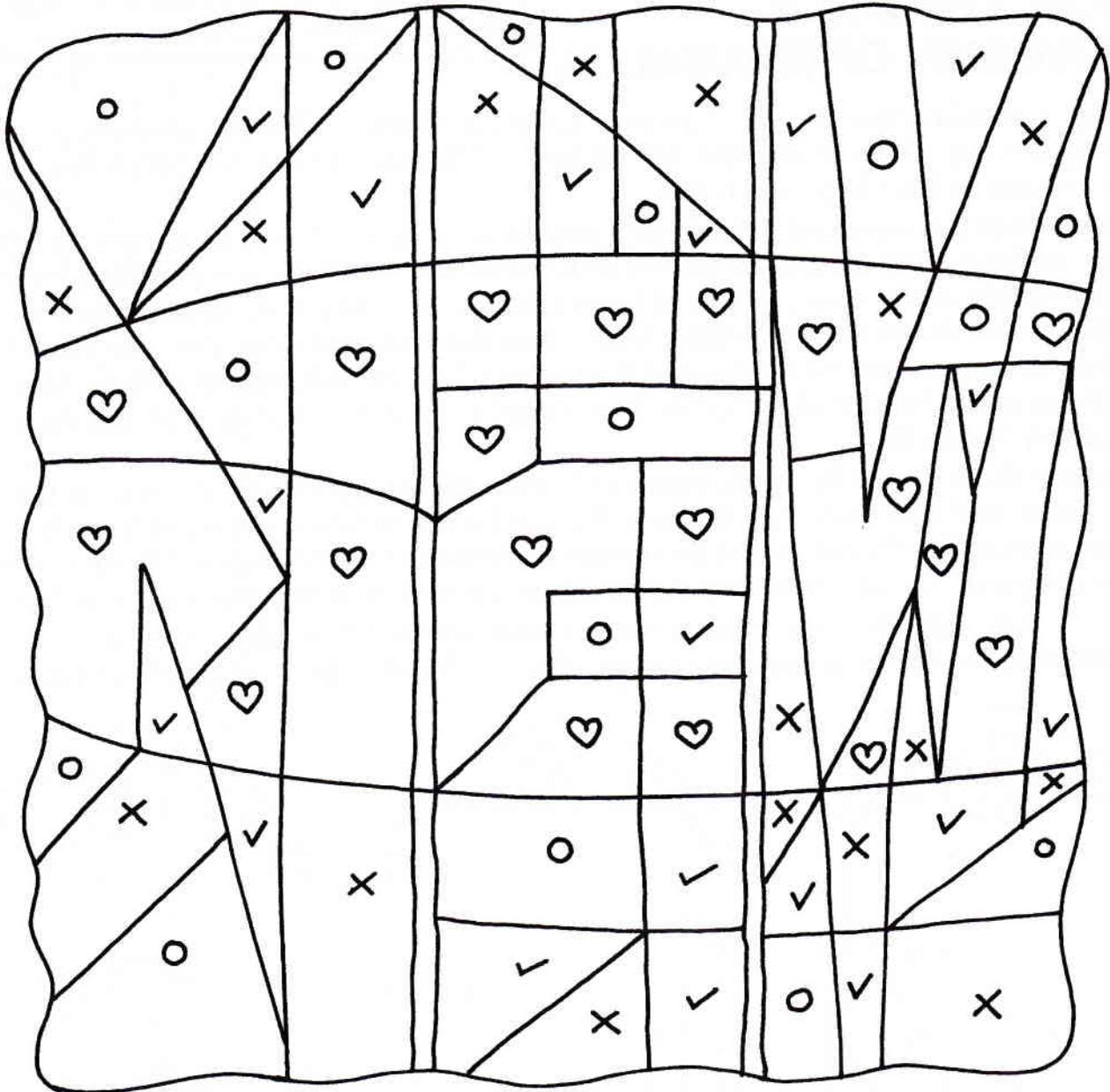
One day this week, make a visit to church and find these three stations.

Stand before each one and say a prayer. Think of friends who need your help today.



Jesus came to show people a new way to live.
When our hearts are filled with God's love,
it changes our thoughts and actions.

We become different—kinder, more loving and trusting.
Color only the spaces below that have a heart.
They will show what we become because Jesus loves us.



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