

We Celebrate Reconciliation and Healing

ACTIVITY

The small band of believers who comprised the early Church were on fire with God's love. "See how these Christians love one another" said those who observed them. When we need healing and forgiveness, we continue to be a sign of God's love. This sign is made evident when others see us participating in the Sacraments of Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick.

If I Had the Time Often we resolve to spend quality time with our families, but are prevented by a busy schedule. Still, we must make the time. Place a star on your family calendar to mark the day you decide to spend together.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

What signs of God's love do you see? What are the messages they give?

On the Web www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Blessed Jeanne Jugan (1792–1879)

Jeanne, one of eight children in a poor family, lived in France. As a young woman she worked in a hospital and cared for the sick. Then, she helped care for the poor. She and other women formed the Little Sisters of the Poor to serve others.



Oh God of mercy and love, help us to be guided by the Sprit of Jesus as Blessed Jeanne Jugan was. Let her actions inspire us to comfort, and care for the poor and the sick. Amen.

Getting Ready for Chapter 6

Scripture Background

Before the Time of Jesus

Day of Atonement Once a year, Jews observed the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, by fasting and praying. The high priest performed sacred rituals in the Temple to atone for the sins of all Jewish people. He sacrificed a bull and a male goat. He then sprinkled the animals' blood in the Holy of Holies, the innermost room of the Temple that only he could enter. Afterwards, he sent a second goat, the "scapegoat," into the wilderness to carry away the sins of the people. Yom Kippur continues to be the holiest day of the year for Jews.

Read of the Jews' responsibility in Leviticus 16:29–34.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Social Teaching

Catholic Relief Services Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is an international organization that seeks to alleviate suffering in places beset by war, injustice or natural disasters. Founded in 1943 by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops, CRS began its work among the poor and marginalized when it helped to resettle European refugees at the end of World War II. By providing hundreds of thousands of people each year with food, clothing, medicine, and education assistance, CRS strives to fulfill its mission in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For more info go to their Web site at *www.catholicrelief.org*.