

Getting Ready for Chapter 15

Take Home



We Carry On the Work of Jesus

Chapter 15 presents the New Commandment that Jesus gave us about loving one another. Children will discover how Jesus showed his love for people. They will also identify ways that they can show their love for others.

ACTIVITY

Choose One With your child's help, think of different tasks any family member could do, such as put away toys or fold towels. Together, write the tasks on slips of paper, fold them, and place them in a bowl. Then have each person take one slip from the bowl each day and complete the task.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

As you pray silently during the prayer after Communion, reflect on how you will love others as Jesus loves you.

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 Marianne of Molokai (1838–1918)

Barbara Cope was born in Germany. She took the name Marianne as a nun. She joined Father Damien on the Island of Molokai. Mother Marianne worked with young leper patients. She was beatified in 2005.

Patron Saint of: victims of leprosy, AIDS

Feast Day: January 23



A Prayer for the Week

Through her works, Lord, Mother Marianne shared your love with others. Help us carry on good works with acts of kindness, healing, and love. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Illness and Sin For centuries, the Israelites believed that illness or affliction was punishment from God for having sinned. The evil actions of groups were thought to bring about natural calamities, plagues, or misfortune. Jesus rejected such connections. However, Jesus often linked healing someone with the forgiveness of that person's sins to show God's power over both body and soul.

You can read of Jesus' healing powers in Mark 5:21–42.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Religious Life

Blessed Damien de Veuster Damien de Veuster was a holy person who risked his life caring for others. Born in Belgium in 1840, he joined the Sacred Heart Fathers as a young man. After ordination to the priesthood, he served in the Hawaiian missions. In 1866, a sickness known as leprosy spread across the Hawaiian Islands. Lepers were exiled to the Island of Molokai. Father Damien volunteered to minister to them. He took care of them, built houses, hospitals, and churches. He contracted leprosy in 1885 and died in 1889. Pope John Paul II beatified Damien de Veuster In 1995.