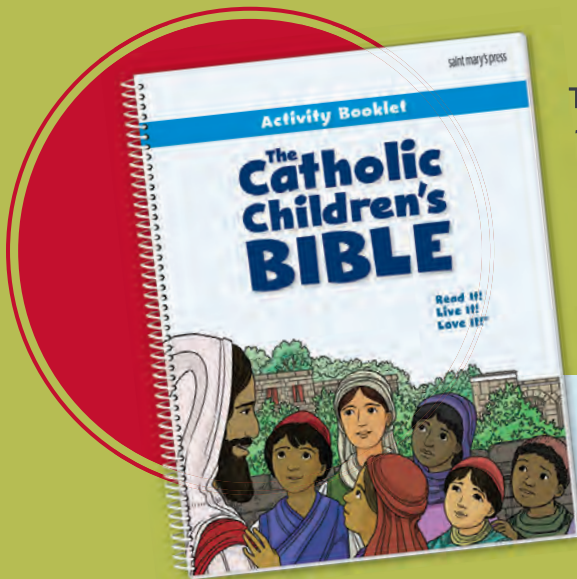


TRY THIS!



This activity is taken from
The Catholic Children's Bible Activity Booklet.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S BIBLE
AND ITS COMPONENTS,

visit smp.org/ccb

Answer to puzzle (in order): Jesus, love,
faith, saved, new life. Answer to Seek and
Find: green with red and yellow stripes

Name: _____

Connecting to Jesus

This activity page covers Matthew 27:32–56 in *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

Connect dots 1–13 to find a sign of our faith. Then find the answers to the questions by connecting the other dots.

Who died for us?

1, 13 ● ● 2

love

What word describes the feeling God has for us?

11 ● ● 12 ● ● 3 ● 4 ●

faith Jesus saved

10 ● ● 9 ● ● 6 ● 5 ●

What word means "to believe"?

new

life

What word is missing? Jesus ____ us from sin and death.

8 ● ● 7 ●

What does Jesus' death bring us?



Seek and Find: Look at pages 1516 and 1517 in *The Catholic Children's Bible*. Find the picture of the torn Temple curtain. What color is it in the drawing?

Jesus Gives His Life for Us

Matthew 27


STORY



Matthew 27:50-54 (For the full story, read Matthew 27:32-56.)

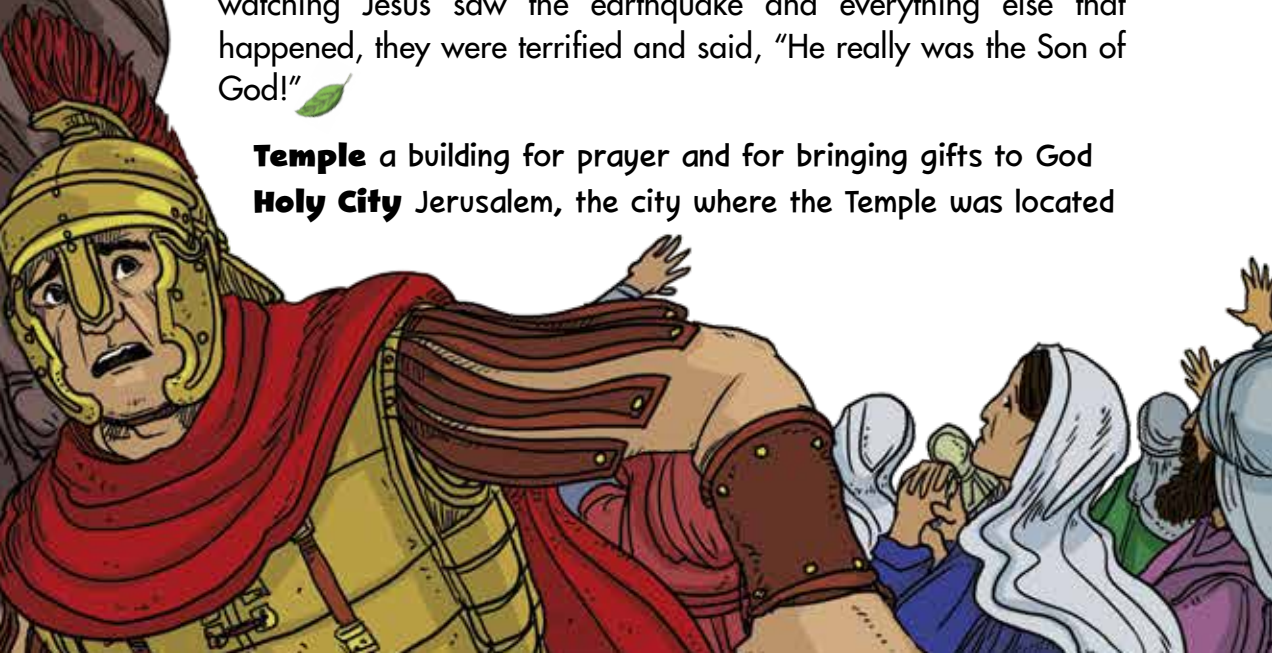
 **50** Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

51 Then the curtain hanging in the **Temple** was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split apart, **52** the graves broke open, and many of God's people who had died were raised to life. **53** They left the graves, and after Jesus rose from death, they went into the **Holy City**, where many people saw them.

54 When the army officer and the soldiers with him who were watching Jesus saw the earthquake and everything else that happened, they were terrified and said, "He really was the Son of God!" 

Temple a building for prayer and for bringing gifts to God

Holy City Jerusalem, the city where the Temple was located



Understand It!

The cross is a sign of the Christian faith. We treasure it because by dying on the cross Jesus saved us from sin and death. This Bible story from Matthew paints pictures in our mind. These pictures show us how important Jesus' death was.

The Temple curtain is torn to show us that because of Jesus' death something new is now happening. The earthquakes show that Jesus' death shook the whole world. The dead people walking around show that Jesus' death brings us new life. We will now live forever with God! But the most wonderful thing about the death of Jesus is that it shows how great God's love is. He loves us so much that he sent his Son to save us.

We especially remember Jesus' suffering and death on Good Friday. We honor and thank Jesus for giving his life for us on the cross.

Live It!

Look at the picture on the opposite page. Think about how Jesus loves you so much that he would die on the cross. Thank Jesus for loving you so much. Tell him that you love him back. Promise to do something kind to show your love for him. End your prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

Tell It!



1



2



3



4

Using the pictures above, retell this story in your own words.



whole company gathered around him. **28** They stripped off his clothes and put a scarlet robe on him. **29** Then they made a crown out of thorny branches and placed it on his head, and put a stick in his right hand; then they knelt before him and made fun of him. "Long live the King of the Jews!" they said. **30** They spat on him, and took the stick and hit him over the head. **31** When they had finished making fun of him, they took the robe off and put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Jesus Is Crucified

32 As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene named Simon, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. **33** They came to a place called Golgotha, which means, "The Place of the Skull." **34** There they offered Jesus wine mixed with a bitter substance; but after tasting it, he would not drink it.

35 They crucified him and then divided his clothes among them by throwing dice. **36** After that they sat there and watched him. **37** Above his head they put the written notice of the accusation against him: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." **38** Then they crucified two bandits with Jesus, one on his right and the other on his left.

39 People passing by shook their heads and hurled insults at Jesus: **40** "You were going to tear down the Temple and build it back up in three days! Save yourself if you are God's Son! Come on down from the cross!"

41 In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and the elders made fun of him: **42** "He saved others, but he cannot save himself! Isn't he the king of Israel? If he will come down off the cross now, we will

believe in him! **43** He trusts in God and claims to be God's Son. Well, then, let us see if God wants to save him now!"

44 Even the bandits who had been crucified with him insulted him in the same way.

The Death of Jesus

45 At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted for three hours. **46** At about three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?"

47 Some of the people standing there heard him and said, "He is calling for Elijah!" **48** One of them ran up at once, took a sponge, soaked it in cheap wine, put it on the end of a stick, and tried to make him drink it.

49 But the others said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah is coming to save him!"

50 Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

51 Then the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split apart, **52** the graves broke open, and many of God's people who had died were raised to life. **53** They left the graves, and after Jesus rose from death, they went into the Holy City, where many people saw them.

54 When the army officer and the soldiers with him who were watching Jesus saw the earthquake and everything else that happened, they were terrified and said, "He really was the Son of God!"

55 There were many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee and helped him. **56** Among them were

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the wife of Zebedee.

The Burial of Jesus

57 When it was evening, a rich man from Arimathea arrived; his name was Joseph, and he also was a disciple of Jesus. **58** He went into the presence of Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate gave orders for the body to be given to Joseph. **59** So Joseph took it, wrapped it in a new linen sheet, **60** and placed it in his own tomb, which he had just recently dug out of solid rock. Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb and went away. **61** Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there, facing the tomb.

The Guard at the Tomb

62 The next day, which was a Sabbath, the chief priests and the Pharisees met with Pilate **63** and said, "Sir, we remember that while that liar was still alive he said, 'I will be raised to life three days later.' **64** Give orders, then, for his tomb to be carefully guarded until the third day, so that his disciples will not be able to go and steal the body, and then tell the people that he was raised from death. This last lie would be even worse than the first one."

65 "Take a guard," Pilate told them; "go and make the tomb as secure as you can."

66 So they left and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and leaving the guard on watch.

The Resurrection

28 ¹ After the Sabbath, as Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went

to look at the tomb. **2** Suddenly there was a violent earthquake; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it. **3** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. **4** The guards were so afraid that they trembled and became like dead men.

5 The angel spoke to the women. "You must not be afraid," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. **6** He is not here; he has been raised, just as he said. Come here and see the place where he was lying. **7** Go quickly now, and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from death, and now he is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him!' Remember what I have told you."

8 So they left the tomb in a hurry, afraid and yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Peace be with you." They came up to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. **10** "Do not be afraid," Jesus said to them. "Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

The Report of the Guard

11 While the women went on their way, some of the soldiers guarding the tomb went back to the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. **12** The chief priests met with the elders and made their plan; they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers **13** and said, "You are to say that his disciples came during the night and stole his body while you were asleep. **14** And if the Governor should hear of this, we will convince him that you are innocent, and you will have nothing to worry about."