

God Wants Everyone to Come Back to Him



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

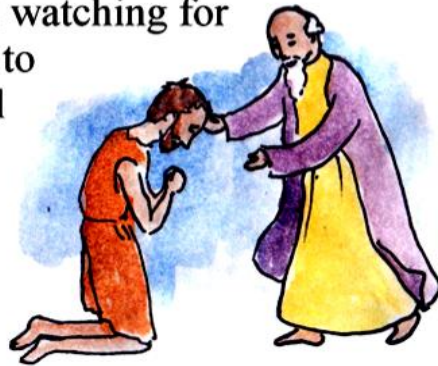
Sunday 11th September



In today's Gospel we hear three parables. In the first Jesus tells about the shepherd who lost one of his hundred sheep. But even though he had so many, he still cared about the one that was lost and went out to find it. God is like that too: even though He has so many people to look after He still cares about you in particular.

The next parable is similar, with the woman searching all over her house when she loses one of her special coins. She rejoices when she finds it, just like the angels rejoice in Heaven when a sinner turns back to God.

The last parable that Jesus tells is the story of the prodigal son. We are like the son in that story when we run away from God by sinning. But like the father, God is waiting and watching for us to be sorry and come back to Him. All we have to do is tell Him we are sorry for our sins in Confession and He will be so happy to have us back!



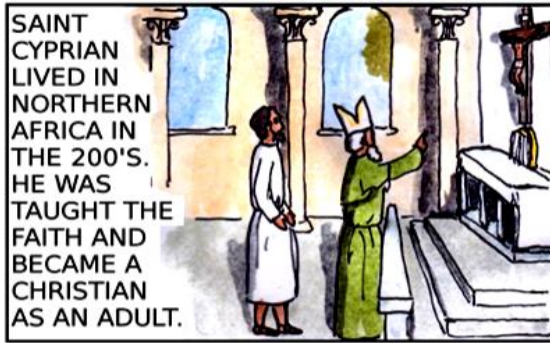
Jesus told us that God is like a shepherd that cares for every one of His sheep. There are some sheep lost in this picture. Can you find them?

Then you can colour in the rest of the picture.

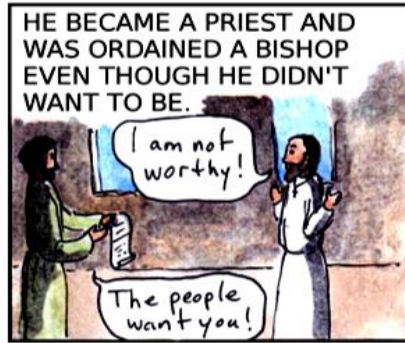
Answers: Front page: there are 5 sheep.
Fill in the blanks: loses, found, have, tell, sinner.
LOVES

Saint Cyprian

September 16

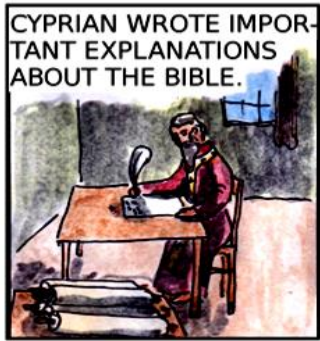


SAINT CYPRIAN LIVED IN NORTHERN AFRICA IN THE 200'S. HE WAS TAUGHT THE FAITH AND BECAME A CHRISTIAN AS AN ADULT.



HE BECAME A PRIEST AND WAS ORDAINED A BISHOP EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE.

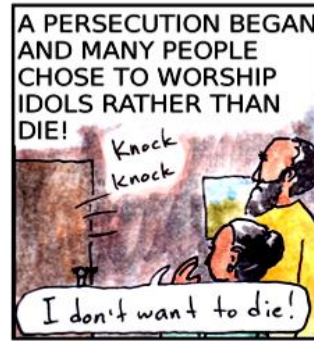
I am not worthy!
The people want you!



CYPRIAN WROTE IMPORTANT EXPLANATIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE.

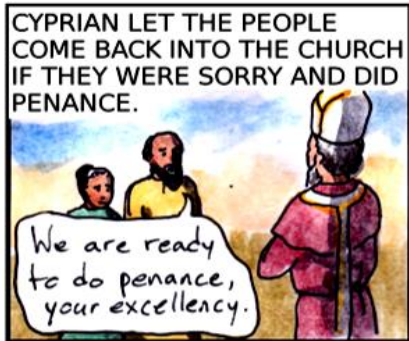


We're not making enough money--
IN THOSE DAYS MANY IN THE CHURCH BECAME WORLDLY AND MATERIALISTIC.



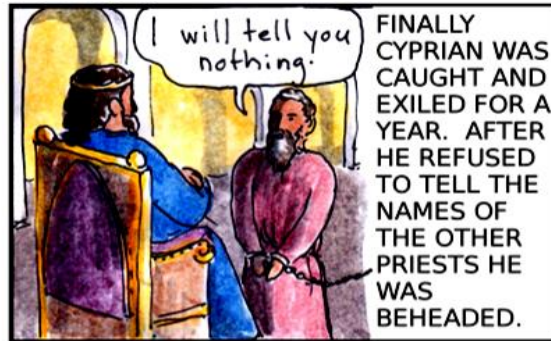
A PERSECUTION BEGAN AND MANY PEOPLE CHOSE TO WORSHIP IDOLS RATHER THAN DIE!

Knock knock
I don't want to die!



CYPRIAN LET THE PEOPLE COME BACK INTO THE CHURCH IF THEY WERE SORRY AND DID PENANCE.

We are ready to do penance, your excellency.



I will tell you nothing.

FINALLY CYPRIAN WAS CAUGHT AND EXILED FOR A YEAR. AFTER HE REFUSED TO TELL THE NAMES OF THE OTHER PRIESTS HE WAS BEHEADED.

SAINT CYPRIAN TAUGHT MANY PEOPLE WITH HIS LETTERS AND EXPLANATIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE. THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD, SO WE CAN LEARN A LOT ABOUT HIM BY READING IT. TRY TO READ SOME OF THE BIBLE EVERY DAY. PRAY TO ST. CYPRIAN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD IS TEACHING US IN IT.

Fill in the Blanks: The Lost Coin

Here is part of today's Gospel reading. See if you can fill in the blanks and use the marked letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she _____ one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

And when she has _____ it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I _____ found the coin which I had lost.'

Just so, I _____ you, there is joy before the angels of God over one _____ who repents."

This parable helps to show us how much God _____ each of us.

1 2 3 4 5

