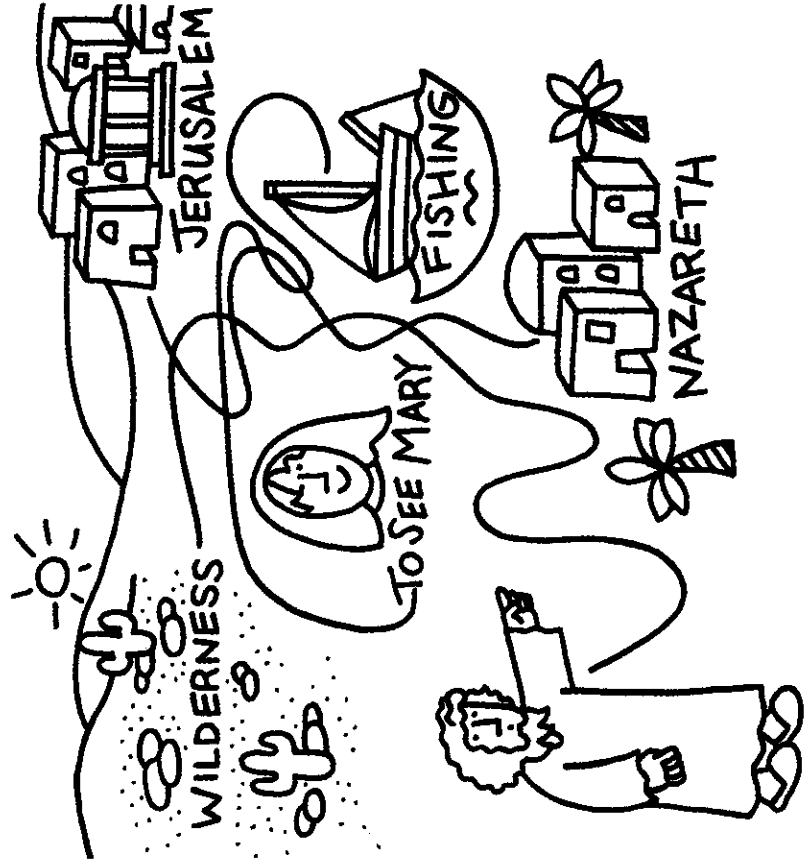


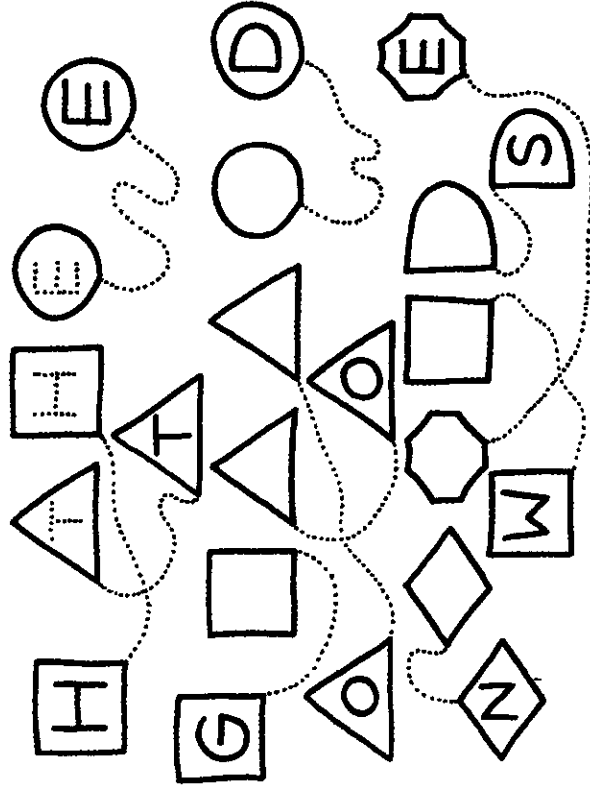
Where did Jesus go
for forty days?

After John the Baptist
was arrested, Jesus began to
preach to the people.
What did he tell them?

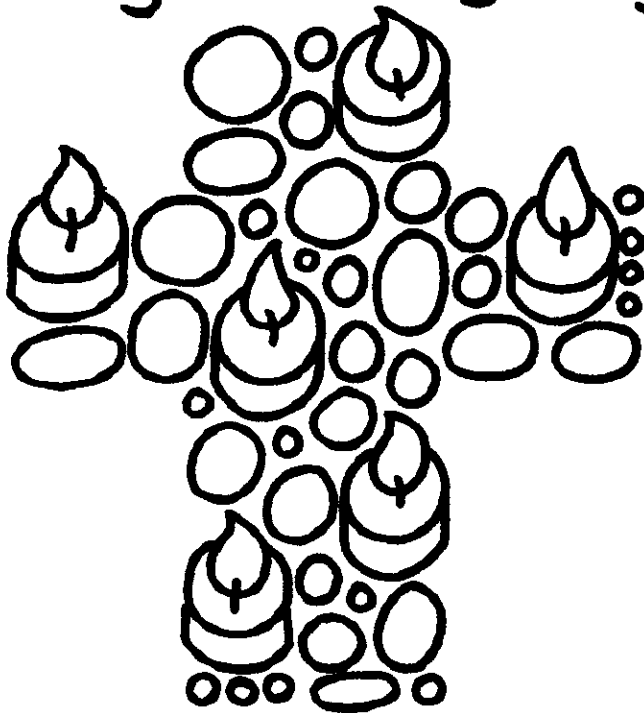
Follow the path and see where it leads!



Match the shapes and copy the letters



Lent is a time for...
Loving God more,
Saying sorry,
finding hope and
forgiveness,
cleaning up our lives
making new beginnings.



THINK and LOOK ahead

Next Sunday Jesus is
transfigured on the mountain.

Which two people appear next to Jesus?

Write in the box the letter that is
missing from the sequence

J K L N O	
M N P Q R	
R T U V W	
C D F G H	
P Q R T U	

and

A B C D F	
I J K M N	
H J K L M	
G H I K L	
X Y Z B C	
E F G I J	

Jesus in the wilderness

MARK 1:12-15

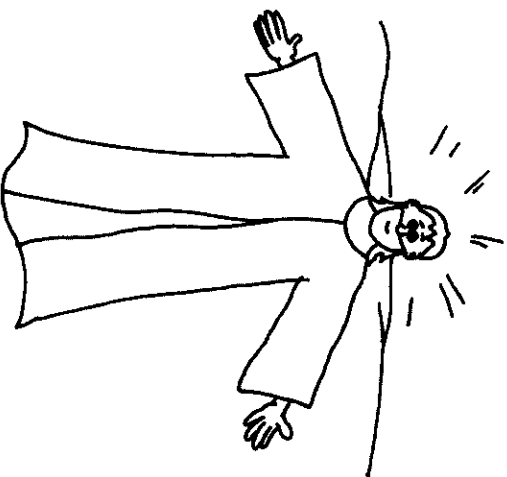
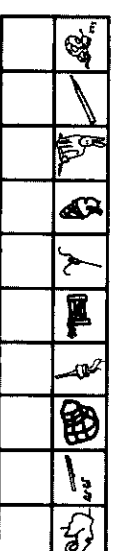
Today is the First Sunday of Lent.
For forty days before Easter we think about the
life of Jesus—and also our own lives.

Use the clues below to help you to answer the questions

1. When does Lent begin?



2. What does "Lent" mean? (Write the first letter of each picture)



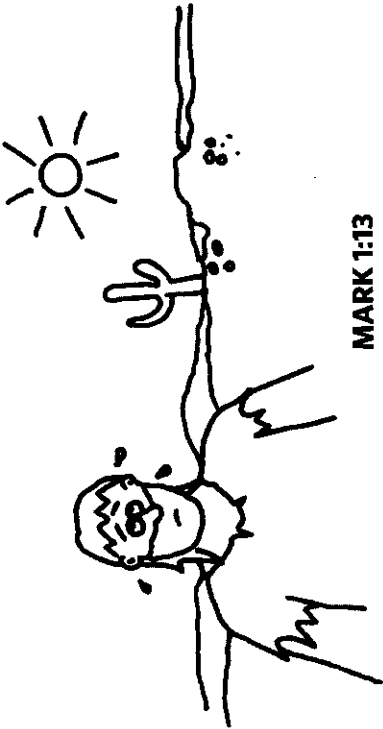
MARK 9:4

Jesus went into the wilderness
for forty days.

What happened to him there?

Use the code cracker to find out

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A



MARK 1:13

19	22	4	26	8				
7	22	14	11	7	22	23	25	2
7	19	22	23	22	5	18	15	

After John the Baptist
was arrested, Jesus began to
preach to the people.

Find and circle his words in the word search

Repent and believe
the Good News!

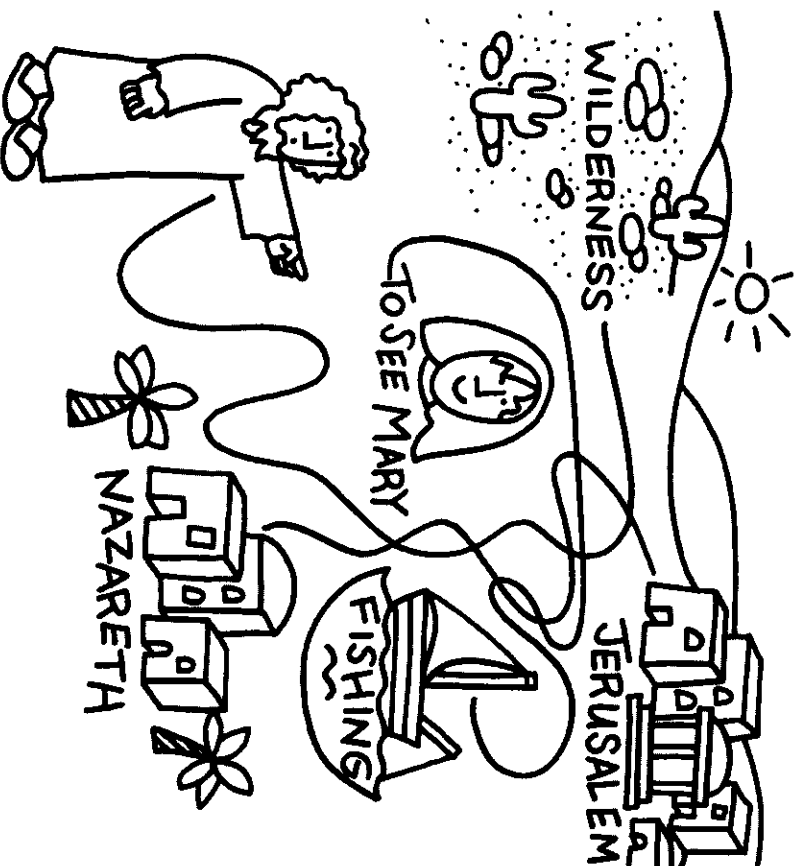


D	N	A	B	U	R	R
S	D	L	G	S	P	E
E	E	O	Q	W	V	P
O	O	M	S	E	R	E
D	G	J	I	N	K	N
A	F	L	P	Q	R	T
C	E	S	J	D	H	B
B	A	S	P	E	K	E

REPENT
AND
BELIEVE
THE
GOOD
NEWS

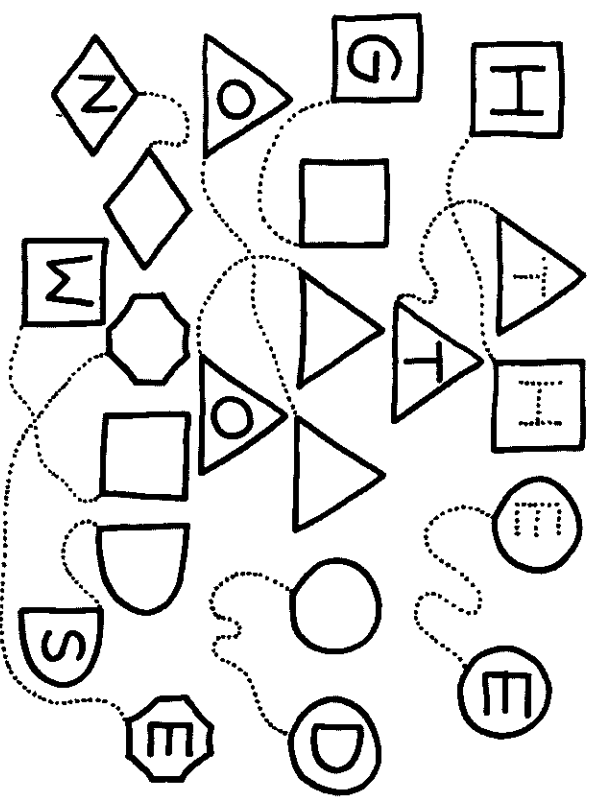
Where did Jesus go
for forty days?

Follow the path and see where it leads!



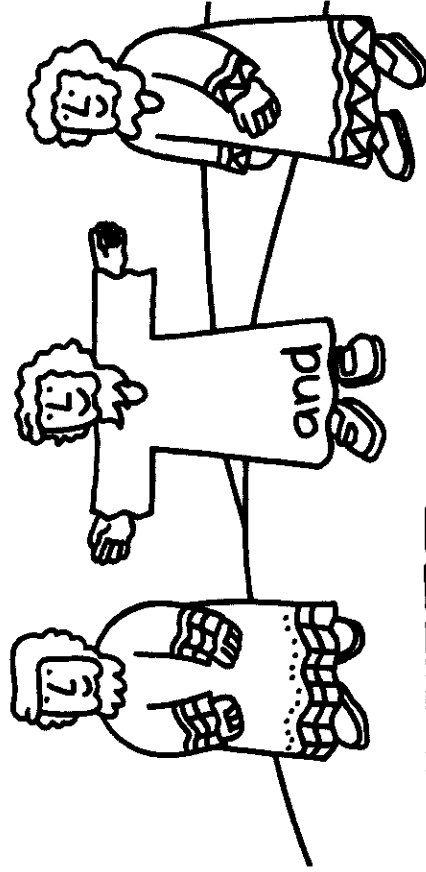
After John the Baptist
was arrested, Jesus began to
preach to the people.
What did he tell them?

Match the shapes and copy the letters



THINK and **LOOK** ahead

Who appears on the mountain
next to Jesus in next Sunday's gospel?



7 8 9 2 9

2 6 4 5 1 3

Use the code to find out

A=1 E=2 H=3

I=4 J=5 L=6 M=7 O=8 S=9

• STEP BY STEP •

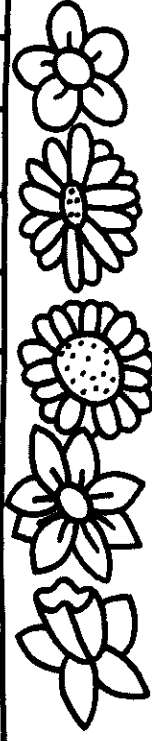
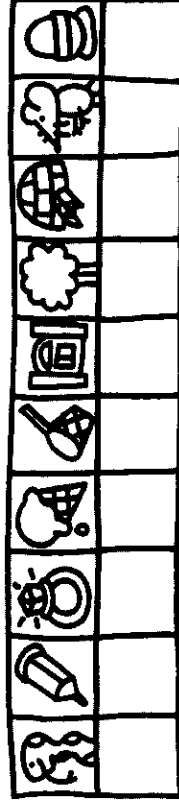
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

Jesus in the wilderness

MARK 1:12-15

Today is the First Sunday of Lent.
Lent lasts for forty days before
we celebrate Easter.

Write the first letter of each picture in the boxes
to find out what the word "Lent" means



First Sunday of Lent

Focus

A Bible open at today's Gospel and surrounded by an assortment of unwashed or muddy stones (see *Activity*).

Introduction

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday when ashes were blessed and used to mark us as a sign of repentance and a reminder of the dust from which we are created and to which we will one day return. It is a time of renewal, of new beginnings and fresh opportunities for drawing closer to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Light the Gospel candle and sing Acclamation 6.

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of St Mark (1:12-15)
(See page 379.)

Reflection

When you hear the word 'desert', what do you picture in your mind's eye?

A traditional desert image is one of sand and heat, with tall dunes, few plants and little obvious sign of life. A desert is somewhere inhospitable and unfriendly, where living things find it difficult to survive.

Why do you think the Spirit led Jesus out into the desert to be alone for forty days and nights?

Jesus was preparing himself to begin his mission of sharing God's Word with the people. By going into the desert, Jesus found himself in a simpler place stripped of everyday distractions and surrounded by peace and stillness. Spending time alone with God in prayer gave Jesus the strength and faith he needed to begin preaching to the people.

Who came to tempt Jesus while he was there?

The devil came to tempt Jesus to sin against the great Commandment to 'love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might' (Deuteronomy 6:5).

Can you remember the three temptations the devil used to tempt Jesus?

Knowing that Jesus was very hungry, the devil first tempted him to use his power to turn stones to bread. Then he offered to give him power if Jesus agreed to worship him. Finally the devil tried to make Jesus test God but Jesus resisted this temptation too.

Jesus spent forty days in the desert to be closer to God. During Lent, what ways can we find to do the same?

Encourage the children to share their various 'resolutions' for Lent. Emphasise the value of doing something new as well as going without during Lent.

Activity

Each child chooses a stone from the focus. They find a space where they can sit comfortably, or lie down (if space allows). Play some music quietly. Holding

their stones loosely in their hands, ask the children to close their eyes, take a deep breath and relax.

(Read the following reflection slowly, pausing at full stops for five seconds. Your voice should be calm without too much intonation. Make sure that the children understand that you do not expect them to answer the questions – they are simply to help them to think about things for themselves.)

Close your fingers around the stone in the palm of your hand. Slowly begin to turn it in your hand. How does it feel? Is it clean and smooth all over? Is it dirty and in need of a wash? Does it have edges that are sharp or rough? These stones are like our lives. They have rough and smooth bits. Each one is unique and different from the next. They could do with being washed clean, so that their natural beauty can be clearly seen. God does not notice our rough, sharp edges. He does not see the grubby parts of our lives. He only sees and loves the beauty of his creations.

(Pause for a few moments of silence before reading the following prayer.)

Lent is a time for . . . loving God more, saying sorry, finding hope and forgiveness, cleaning up our lives, making new beginnings.

Now invite the children to wash their stones in washing-up bowls, before drying them and taking them home with a copy of the prayer to remind them of the aims or goals they have chosen for Lent.

Intercessions

As brothers and sisters in one loving family, together let us pray to our heavenly Father:

We pray for all of God's people;
that we may love one another as brothers and sisters.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are preparing for baptism
that they may joyfully receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick and suffering;
that they may find healing and peace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for ourselves and our families; that this Lent
may bring us closer than ever to God's forgiving love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing that our heavenly Father is listening,
in the silence of our hearts
let us share our own unspoken prayers with him.

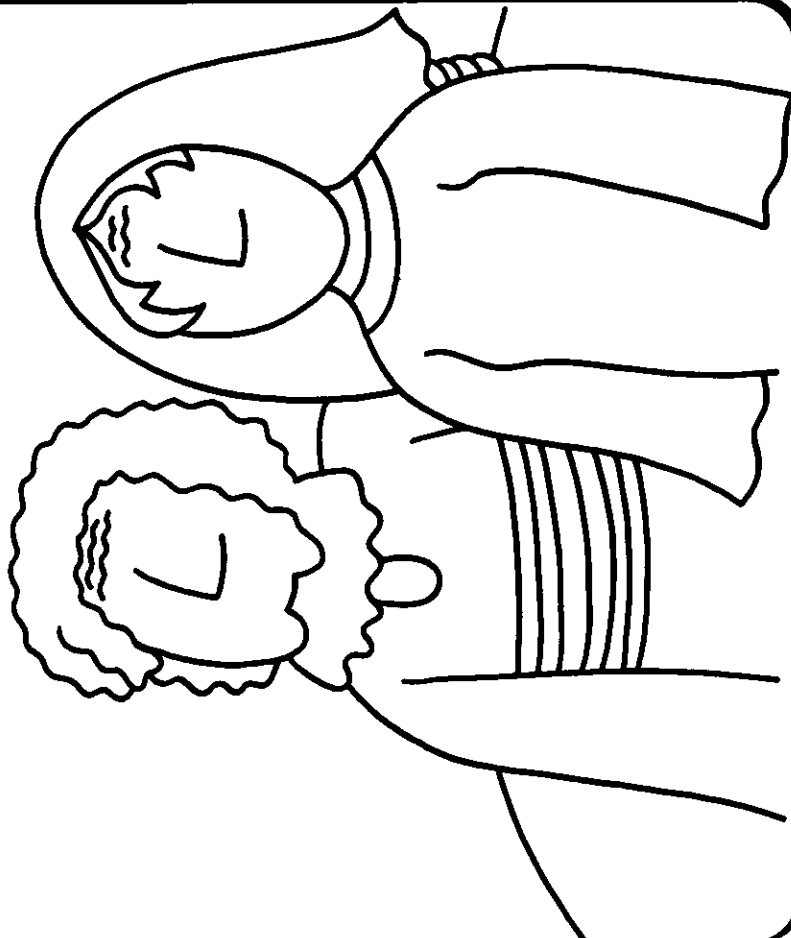
Silence

Loving Father,
help us to choose right instead of wrong,
to say yes to you instead of no,
so that we may know and love you more.
Grant this through Christ your Son.
Amen.

NOT TO USE FOR LENT

Simeon and Anna
were very pleased to
see Jesus!

Give them
faces



The prophetess
Anna was also in the
Temple. When she saw
Jesus she began to
praise God!

Can you spot ten differences in the bottom picture?

