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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

The virtue of Love for Neighbor, or Charity, is a divinely infused virtue, that gives us the strength to love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.



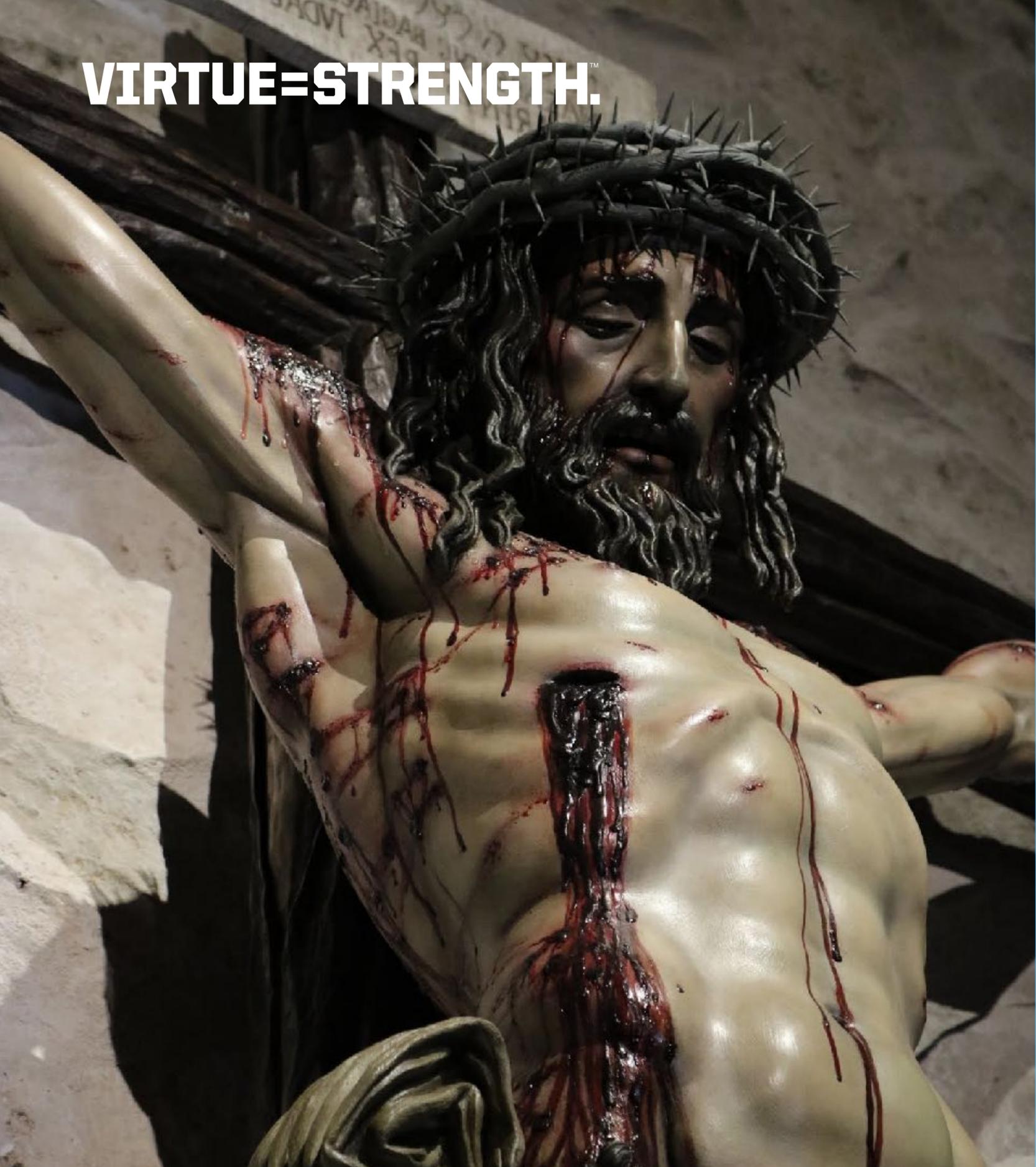
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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

“LOVING OTHERS AS WE SHOULD.”

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX

Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus,
I cast myself upon my knees in Your sight,
and with the most fervent desire of my soul I pray
and beseech You
that You would impress upon my heart lively
sentiments of Faith, Hope, and Charity, with true
repentance for my sins, and a firm purpose of
amendment,
while with deep affection and grief of soul I ponder
within myself
and mentally contemplate
Your five most precious Wounds;
having before my eyes the words which David in
prophecy
spoke concerning Yourself,
O good Jesus:
“They have pierced my hands and feet;
they have numbered all my bones.”

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DEFINITION

The virtue of Love for Neighbor, or Charity, is a divinely infused virtue, that gives us the strength to love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.

As Jesus said, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

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HOW TO STRENGTHEN

**How do we grow this virtue of
LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR?**

Prayer: Asking our Lord for the strength to see the good in our neighbor so we can love them more readily.

The Sacraments

Living the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

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CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Visit the imprisoned
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Bury the dead

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Admonish the sinner
Instruct the ignorant
Counsel the doubtful
Comfort the sorrowful
Bear wrongs patiently
Forgive all injuries
Pray for the living and the dead

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

OUR PURPOSE

God created us to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in HEAVEN in the next.

The virtue of LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR is a necessary strength which will help us achieve that goal.

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

CHALLENGE

Let's put our **LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR** into action!



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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

CHALLENGE

Before or after Mass one day, go as a family to light a candle and pray for one of your neighbors who is most in need.



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RESOLUTION

Extra effort to do something charitable each day: smile, hold door, speak positively ...

FAMILY RESOLUTION

Make a special effort to do something charitable for a neighbor.

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

WHAT DOES LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR LOOK LIKE?



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WORKSHEETS](#)



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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

WHAT DOES LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR SOUND LIKE?

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

SAINT STORY

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

February 8

For many years, Josephine Bakhita was a slave but her spirit was always free and eventually that spirit prevailed. Born in southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of 7, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means fortunate. She was re-sold several times, finally in 1883 to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan.

Two years later, he took Josephine to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Mimmina was being instructed, Josephine felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine.

When the Michielis returned from Africa and wanted to take Mimmina and Josephine back with them, the future saint refused to go. During the ensuing court case, the Canossian Sisters and the patriarch of Venice intervened on Josephine's behalf. The judge concluded that since slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885.

Josephine entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. In 1902, she was transferred to the city of Schio (northeast of Verona), where she assisted her religious community through cooking, sewing, embroidery, and welcoming visitors at the door. She soon became well loved by the children attending the sisters' school and the local citizens. She once said, "Be good, love the Lord, pray for those who do not know Him. What a great grace it is to know God!"

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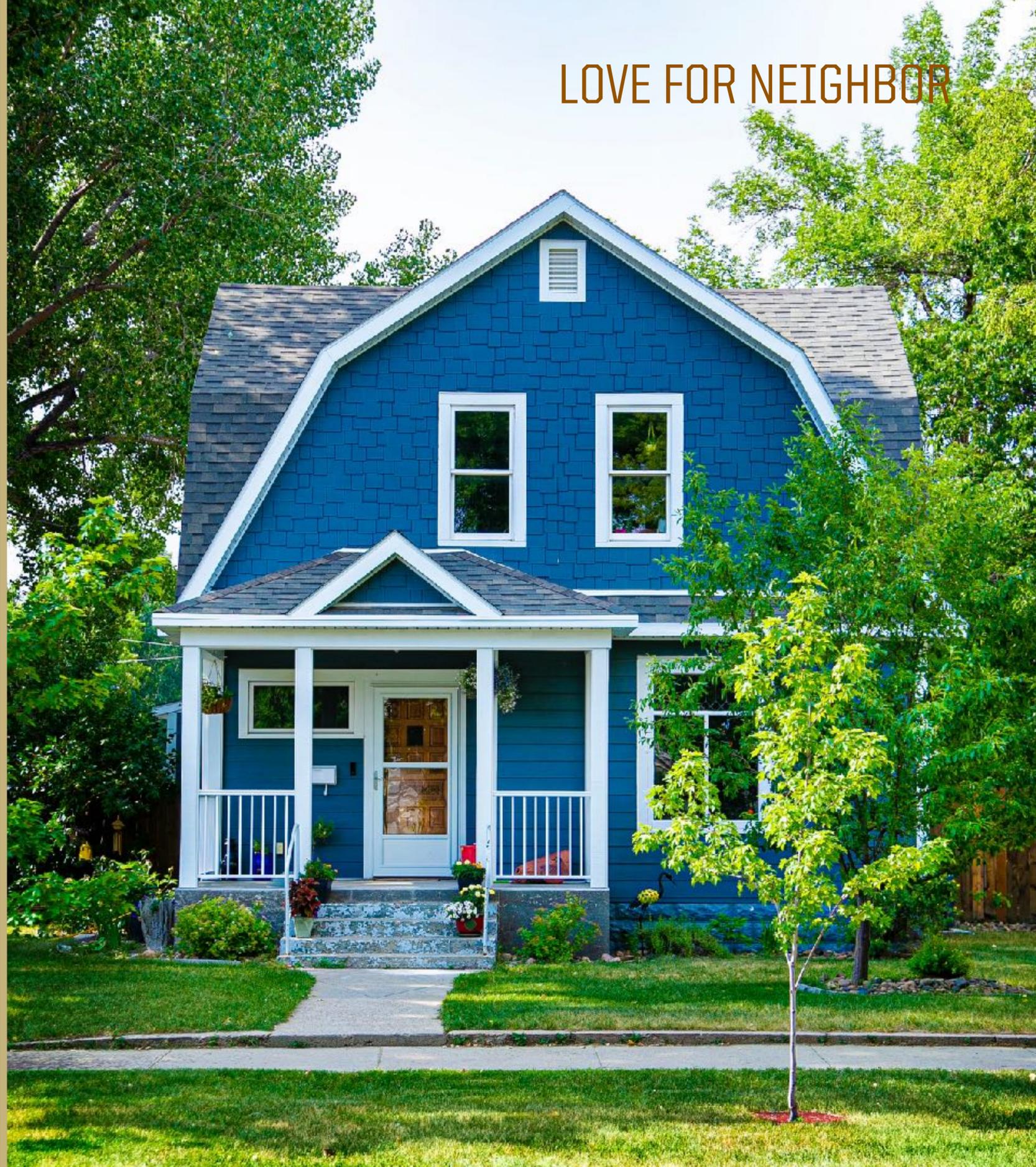
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SMALL GROUP DIFFICULT SITUATION DISCUSSION

Some new people move into the house across
the street.

They seem really private, never really look up or
anything.

What can you do to introduce yourself and welcome
them to the neighborhood?



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Luke 10: 25-37

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test him and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

He said in reply, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

He replied to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.” But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead.

A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.

But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn and cared for him.

The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, ‘Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.’

Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?” He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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**LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOUR**

LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

“I see in my neighbor the Person of Jesus Christ.”

- St. Gerard Majella

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*“All those who love the poor in life, will have
nothing to fear from death.”*

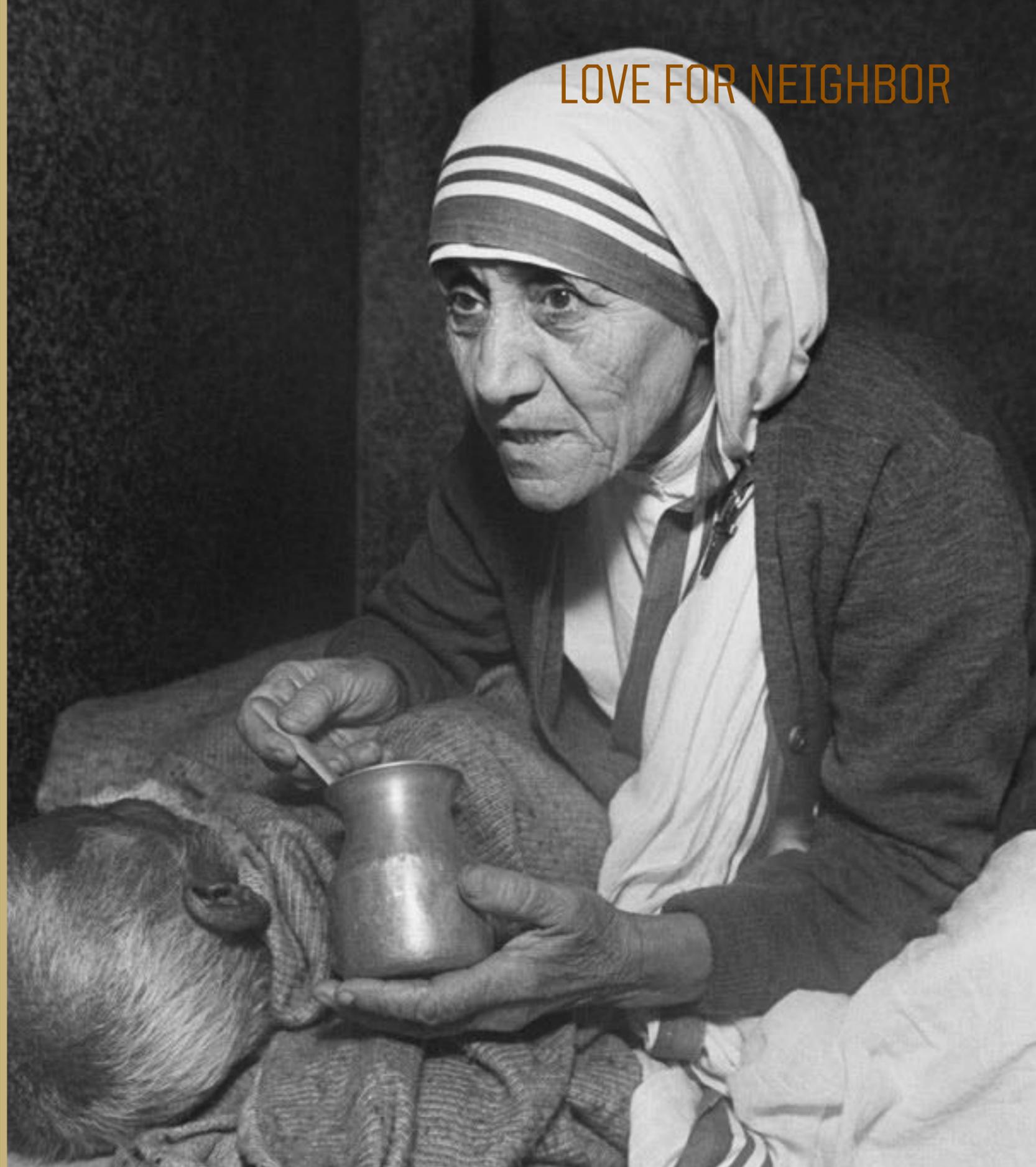
- St. Vincent de Paul

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“A life not lived for others is not a life.”

- St. Teresa of Calcutta



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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

“Let us practice many acts of kindness and gentle charity toward those we like the least.”

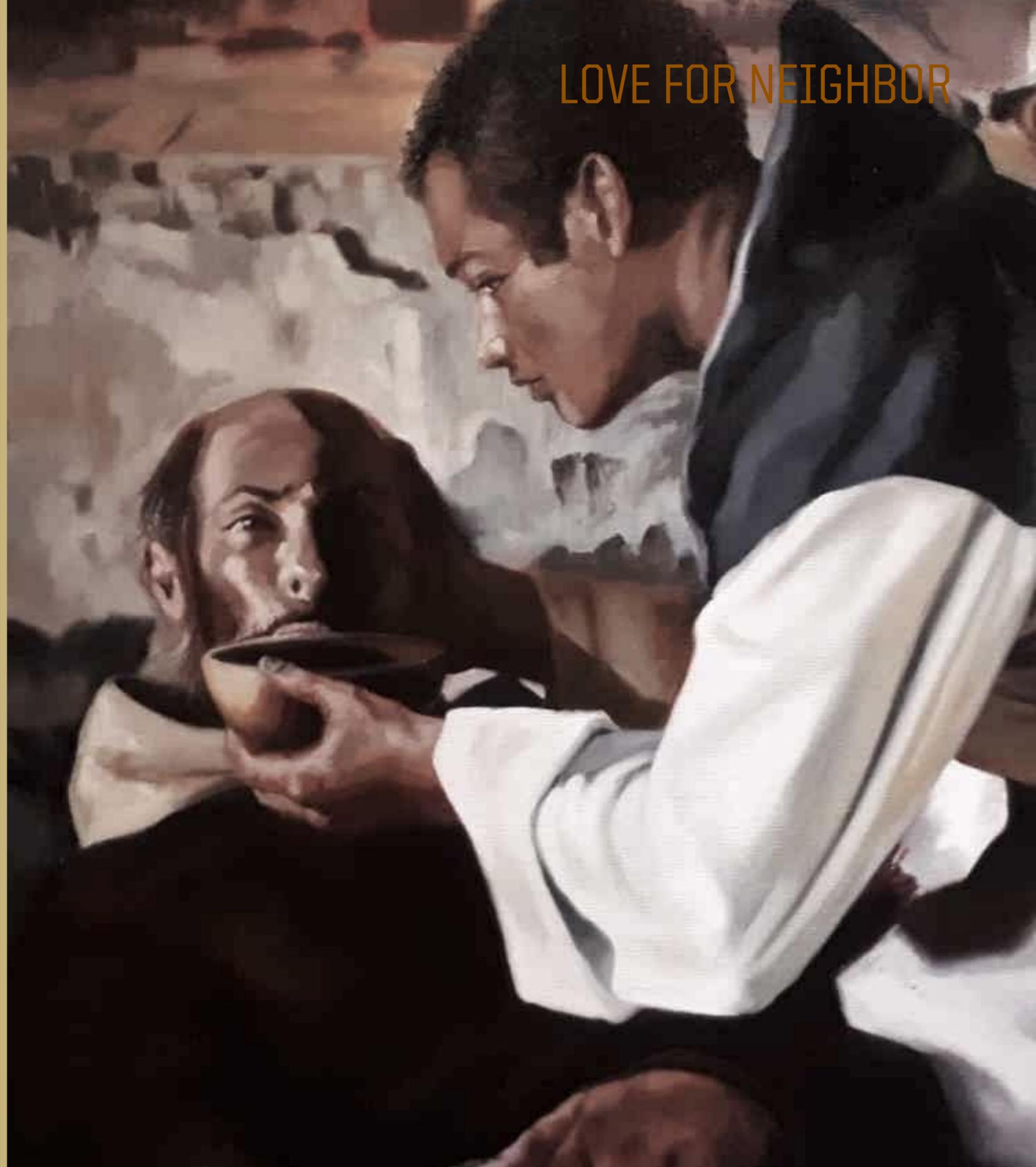
- St. Francis de Sales

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“Everything, even sweeping, scraping vegetables, weeding a garden and waiting on the sick could be a prayer, if it were offered to God.”

- St. Martin de Porres

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VICE

VICE



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MALICE

The weakness to intentionally harm others or do evil.



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MALICE

“HURTING OTHERS ON PURPOSE.”

MALICE IS HORRIFYING

Malice is one of the ugliest, most horrifying vices that exist.

It is the epitome of WEAKNESS.

- Wanting to hurt others.
- Tripping others intentionally to hurt or embarrass them.
- Lying about others to intentionally ruin their reputation or to make others think poorly of them.

Let us beg God for the grace to never fall into this horrifying vice.

And we always remember that the Sacrament of Penance, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful gift and blessing that God offers us to ask forgiveness for all of our sins and begin again.

“I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.”

Luke 15: 7

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

CLOSING PRAYER

ACT OF LOVE

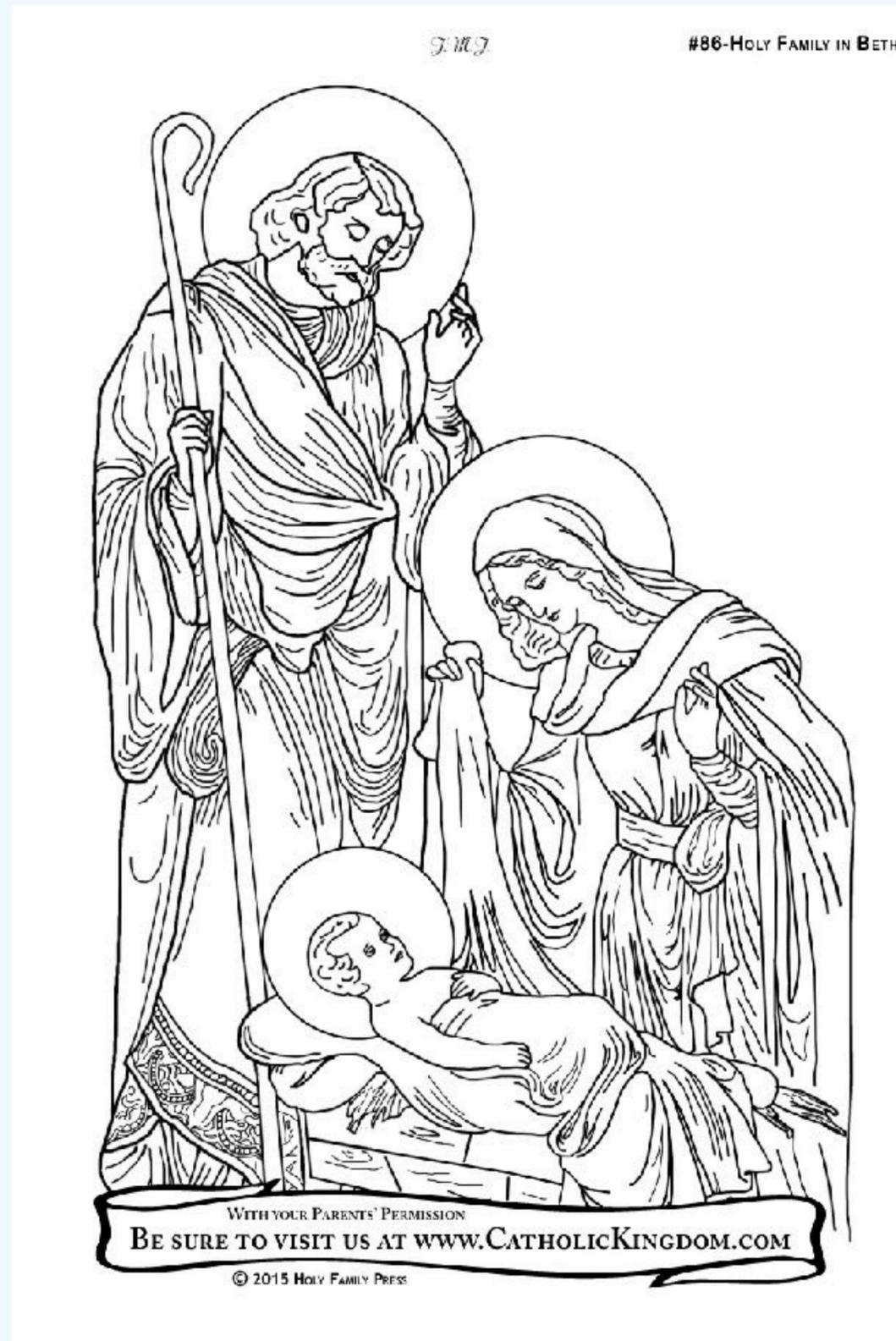
O my God, I love Thee above all things with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art all good and worthy of all love.

I love my neighbor as myself for love of Thee.

I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon for all whom I have injured.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



[CLICK HERE FOR THE COLORING PAGE](#)

In February we celebrate and remember
The Holy Family

The Holy Family is an earthly reflection of the
Holy Trinity.

By meditating on the Holy Family, we can learn
the meaning of love, obedience, and true
fatherhood and motherhood.

We are also reminded that the family is the
foundational unit of both society and the Church.

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LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

MONTHLY NOVENA

FEBRUARY 6-14

Monthly Intention: Let us pray that we may grow in the virtue of love for neighbor especially within our families.

THE HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

(Mention your request).

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.



FEBRUARY CEREMONY

FAMILY PRAYER PARTNERS

This ceremony is to help the students understand the importance of praying for those we interact with every day. This is an essential quality of the Love for Neighbor.

School families (within their classes or teams) will be paired up as prayer partners for the month of February. Reach out to your prayer partner family, get to know them and pray for their intentions.

Students will share at the end of the month what/how they did.

Some possible suggestions:

- **Set up a phone call, meet-up, email, or attend the same Mass on Sunday to ask the other family, each individual in the family, what intentions they have that they would like you to pray for this coming month.**
- **Pray the Rosary as a family where each decade is offered up for a different intention of the family or different member of the family.**
- **Offer up a material sacrifice as a prayer for the family.**
- **Get together with the other family for a rosary.**
- **Pray for the family by name during bedtime prayers.**
- **Do an hour of prayer or adoration at your parish or Adoration chapel and offer the hour for the intentions of the other family.**

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STUDENT LEADER VIRTUE AWARD
LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

This certifies that

Helped lead our school with their virtuous example.

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STUDENT LEADER VIRTUE AWARD

49
LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

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