

Together @ Home

Sunday 1st November

All Saint's Day



Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be learning about All Saints Day and also what God says about Heaven.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Isaiah 65:17-25

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

The other passages we might be thinking about at church this week are:

Matthew 22:23-33



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the saints in our lives who have taught us about You and who have shown us what it means to love and follow Jesus.

Help us to learn from their good examples, so that we might become Your saints as we choose to trust in and follow Jesus with our whole lives.

May all that we do and say be a blessing to those around us and bring glory and honor to You.

Amen.

Discussion

Questions for everyone to discuss:

What are the good things that are going to happen in the new world God will make?

Near the end of the story, God says the wolf and the lamb will eat together. What do you think that means (Hint: what do wolves usually eat?)

How do you think it would feel to live in a world where there is no sickness or violence--where no one hurt anyone else? Would there be any reason to be afraid?

Family Activity 1

All Saints Day is a good time to think about the blessings we have, and to think about the people who have been a blessing in our lives. When we share God's blessing with others, we are part of the whole community of saints.

What are some ways your family can be a blessing to others this week? Why not talk and pray together about who God would want to bless in your community.

Here are some ideas of ways you can bless others:

(Make sure to choose activities that comply with social distancing, etc.)

- Bake or cook something to share with a neighbor or friends.
- Write, draw, or film an encouraging message for somebody you cannot visit at the moment.
- Look through your wardrobes for something you could donate that you have outgrown or no longer wear.





A verse to remember

1 Corinthians 1:2b

You were called to be God's holy people - saints - with all people everywhere who call upon and trust in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours.

We sometimes think of saints as people who have a special holiness--who live perfectly and never make mistakes. But the Bible teaches us that anyone and everyone who calls upon Jesus and trusts (believes and follows) Him can be called saints.

Active Prayer

As we try to follow God's way and live Jesus' teachings, we need to take time and be apart to think and pray about such teachings.

One way to do this is to walk the path of a labyrinth to meditate and pray. Labyrinths are usually found outdoors, but some people like to use a finger labyrinth.

Using the labyrinth on the next page, begin at the opening near the bottom and move your finger along the path tracing into the middle of the labyrinth and then back out to where you began.

As you follow the path, think about the saints in your life, and ask God to show you ways that you can be a saint of God by following Jesus, too.

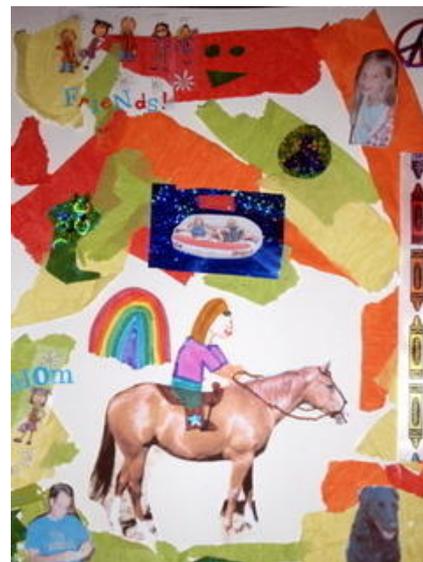


Family Activity 2

Create a Blessings and Beauty Collage

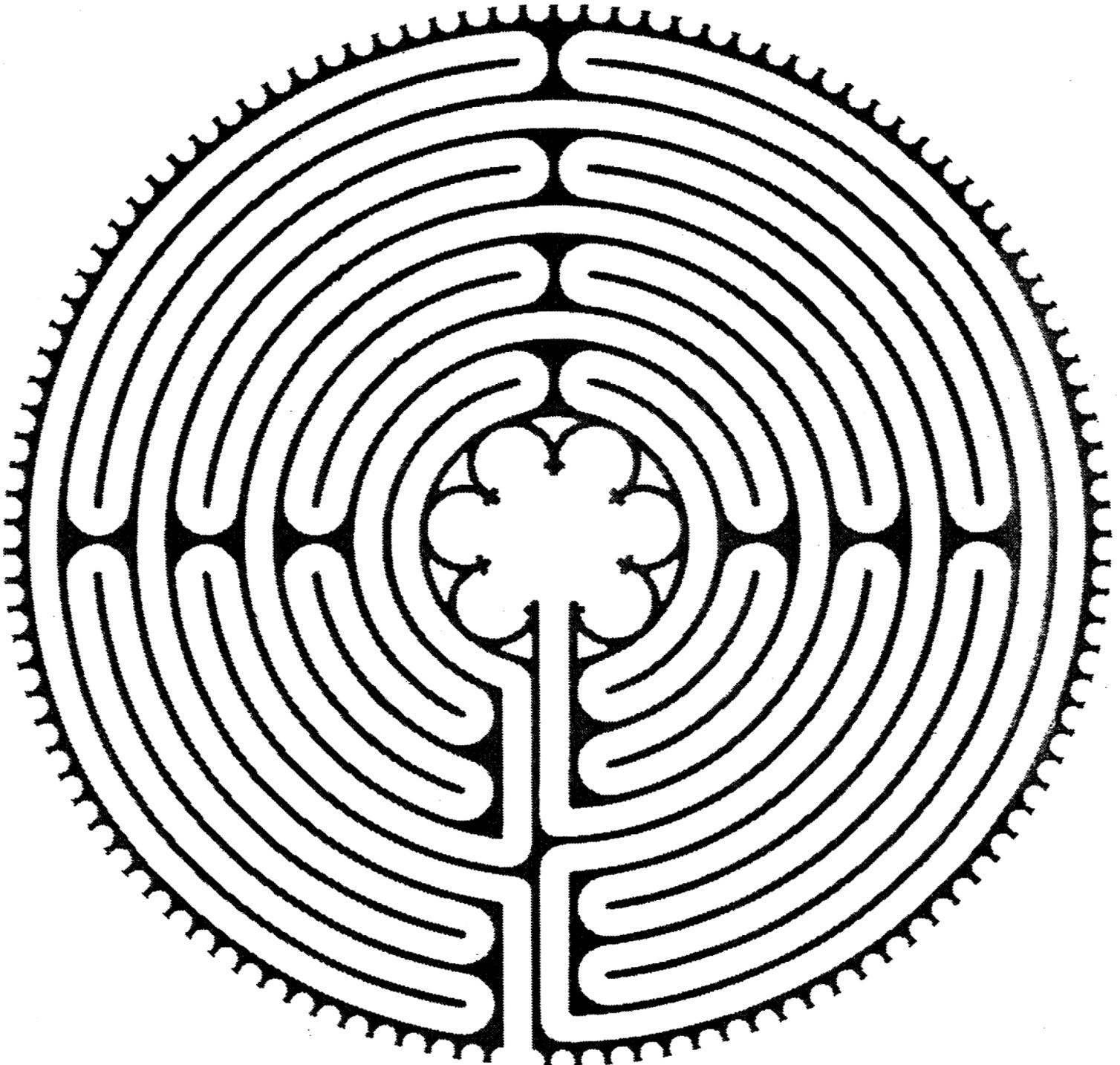
You will need: paper, old magazines, other craft materials (markers, crayons, etc.), scissors, glue/glue-stick or tape

Using paper, decorations, and old magazines, find or create pictures of things that make you unique and beautiful in God's eyes. Try to stay away from typical ads and images of "perfection" as the world sees, and instead chose things that remind you of what you can do for God and how you want to be remembered as a follower of Christ.





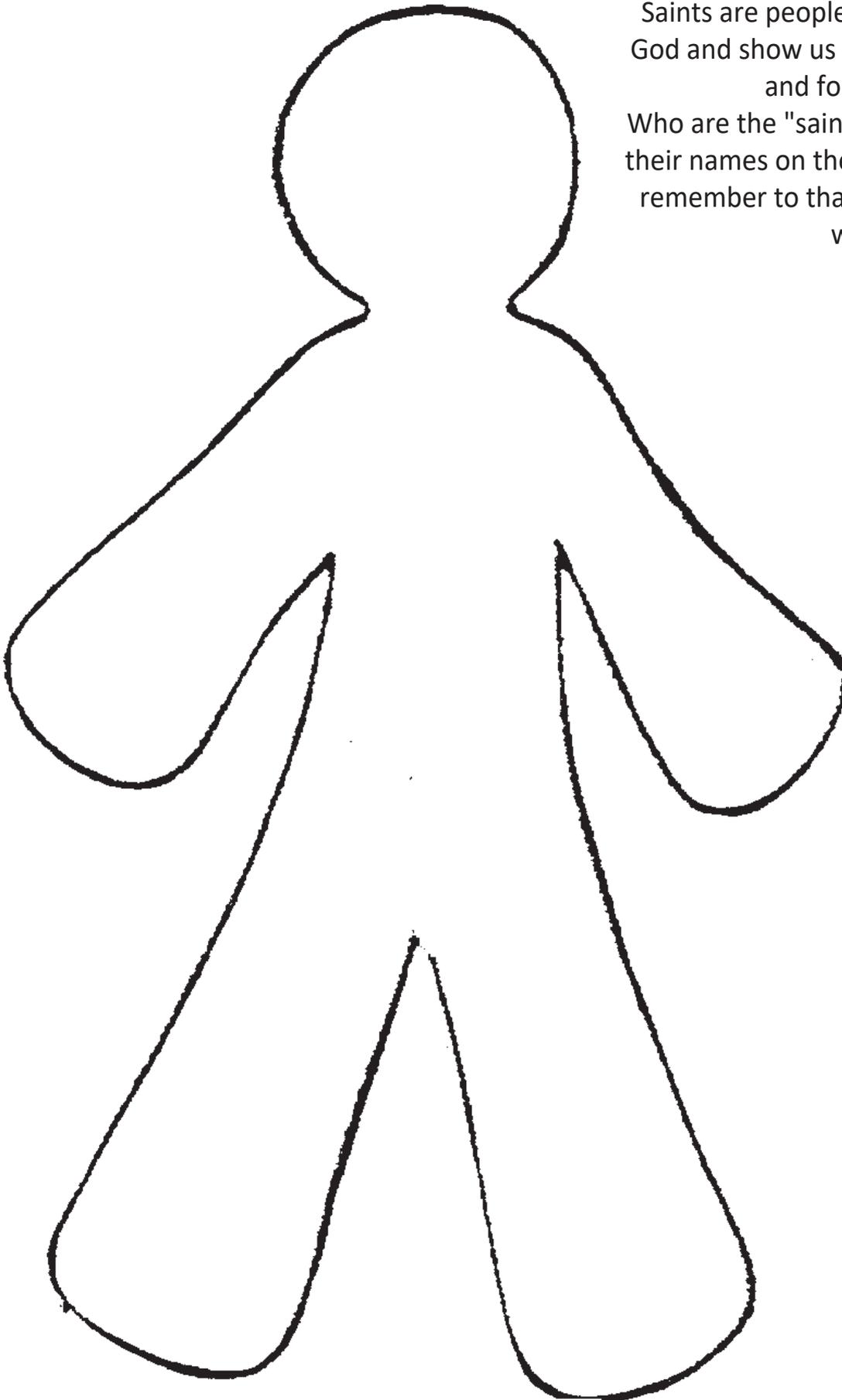
LABYRINTH



A Saint of God

Saints are people who teach us about God and show us what it means to love and follow Jesus.

Who are the "saints" in your life? Write their names on the figure to the left and remember to thank God for them this week.



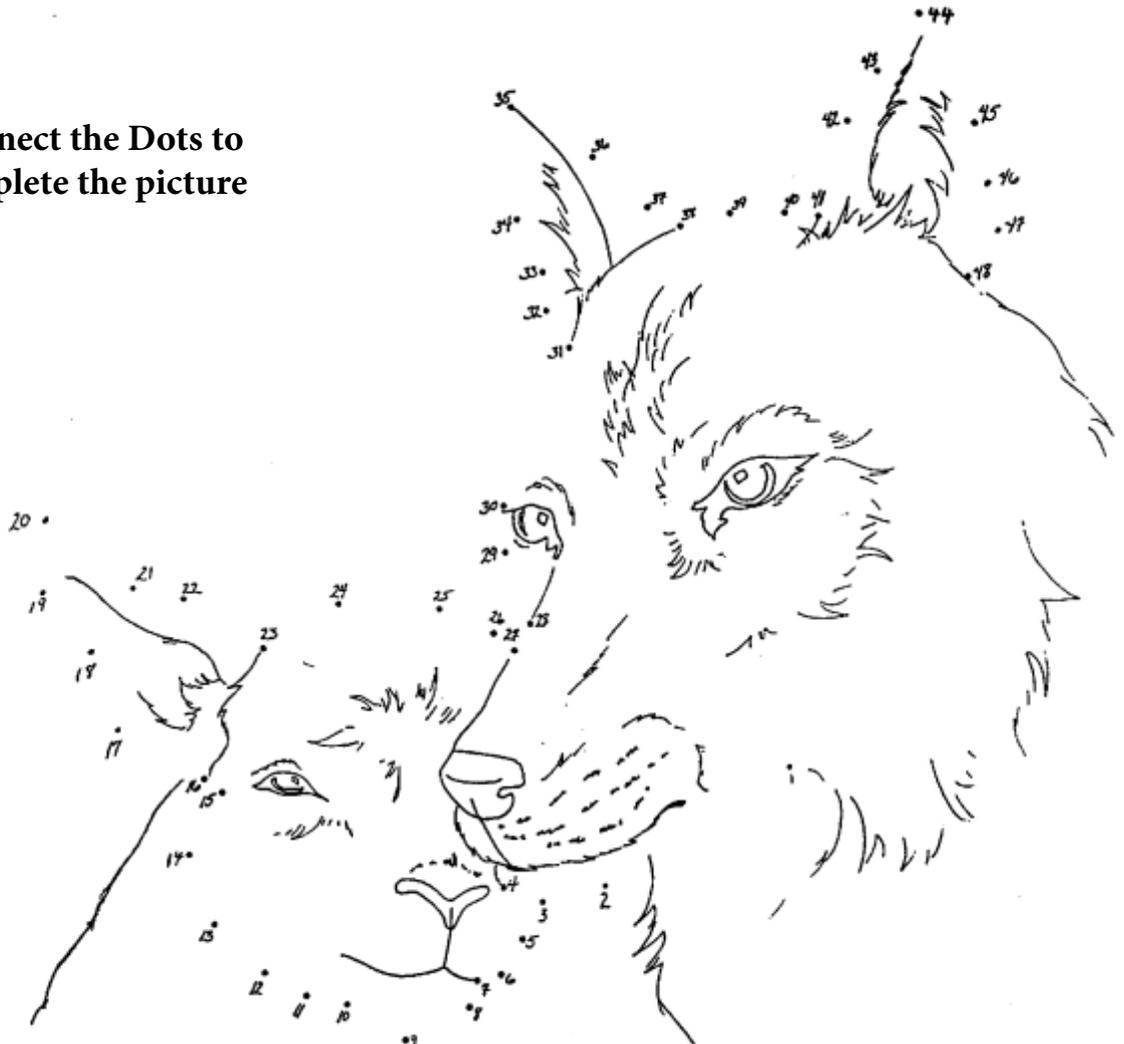
NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH

(ISAIAH 65:17-25)

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

CREATE LAMB
 EARTH LION
 FRUIT LORD GOD
 HEAVENS MOUNTAIN
 HOUSES OLD MAN
 CHILD REJOICE
 JERUSALEM REMEMBERED
 JOY

Connect the Dots to complete the picture



For I am about to create new heavens....The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent--its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.