

St Therese's Parish Essendon

5 & 6 Sept – Season of Creation - Forest Sunday
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



First Reading [Ez 33:7-9](#) - A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Gospel [Mt 18:15-20](#) - A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR OUR DADS

Happy
Father's
Day

Lord, bless all the fathers in the world.

Guide them to be good role models and loving to their children. Help them to be a father like You are and give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.

Lord, please take care of our dads and help us to let them know how much we love and appreciate them.

Let us also pray for all the Dad's that have passed away and may we have joy with our memories.

Amen

FATHER'S DAY PRIEST'S RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL *Supporting those who served.* This weekend is the annual collection for the support of our sick and retired clergy. Archbishop Comensoli invites us to share with him the responsibility of caring for those men who have faithfully and generously served our Archdiocese. Donations can be made to the Foundation online <https://www.cam1.org.au/foundation/> Contact the Foundation by email foundation@cam.org.au or call 9926 2472.

INTERCESSIONS

6 September 2020

Standing before the Lord with open and humble hearts, let us bring before him our own needs, those of the church and of the world. Let us pray to him now with confidence.

For the Church: that we may recognise in ourselves our constant need of God, and may we open ourselves to the gifts that God has given us for our good and the good of our sisters and brothers. **Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for fathers and all the important men in our lives who have faced the challenges of parenthood and guardianship and who have nurtured us. May they be strengthened and guided in their parenting role and may they always demonstrate their love and care. **Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

That those who find it hard to trust their neighbours will work toward a dialogue of mutual respect. **Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

For all who are in need within our community: for those who are poor, sick, or homeless: that God will open our eyes and hearts to recognise and respond to their needs. **Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

God gave water as a sign of refreshment and the baptismal sign of new life in Jesus. That our Church promote the UN resolution that clean water be recognised as a human right **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

For the staff and residents of aged care facilities, that they will draw strength from the loving support of the whole community. **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

For those on the frontline of work against Covid. May they and their families remain safe and inspired as they continue their efforts. **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for our own special intentions: **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are ill, especially Jorge Arenivar, Jacinta Hyland, Marty O'Donnell, Lolita Fajardo, Marg Kovacs, Jane Phelan, Joan Kennedy

For those who have died recently, Angelo Iacobacci, Alirio Sanchez, Isabella Campo, Dominico Germano, Kevin Carmody, Majella O'Donnell and Fred Whitty

And those whom we remember at this time especially Morris Quinlan, Guido Chierici, Antonetta Crisara, Peter McCormack, Annie O'Sullivan, Johannah O'Dwyer, John Edward Sweeney, Rees McCarthy

Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer

Merciful God, fill our hearts with love. Give us the grace to rise above our human weakness and keep us faithful to the Gospel of your Son. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen



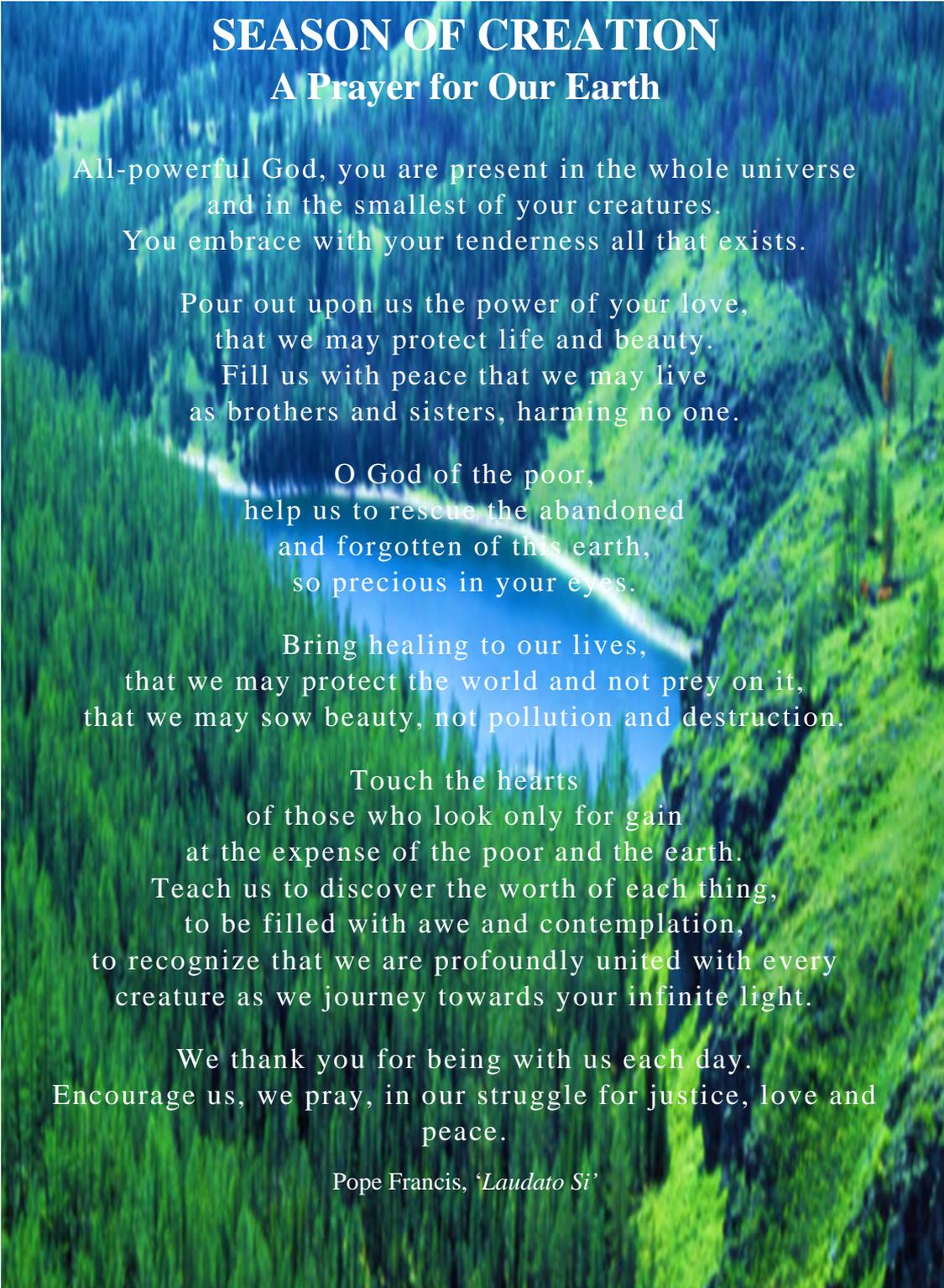
[derekdevault/Instagram](#)

FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THE SICK

Father of mercies,
we thank you for all who care for the sick.
When they diagnose, give them patience.
When they protect the vulnerable, give them your protection.
When they work to heal, give them strength.
When they comfort, give them consolation.
When they are tired, give them rest.
When they are discouraged, bring them your hope.
May we welcome and respect them as we support one another in this time of trial.

SEASON OF CREATION 1 SEPTEMBER TO 4 OCTOBER The theme for the 2020 Season of Creation is "Jubilee for the Earth: New Rhythms, New Hope." This year, amid crises that have shaken our world, we're awakened to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and each other. During the season we enter a time of restoration and hope. This year's Season of Creation is a time to consider the integral relationship between rest for the Earth and ecological, economic, social, and political ways of living. This particular year, the need for just and sustainable systems has been revealed by the far-reaching effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic. As followers of Christ we share a common role as caretakers of God's creation.

This Sunday is Forest Sunday. *'All the trees of the forest sing for joy'*. Psalm 96:12



SEASON OF CREATION

A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

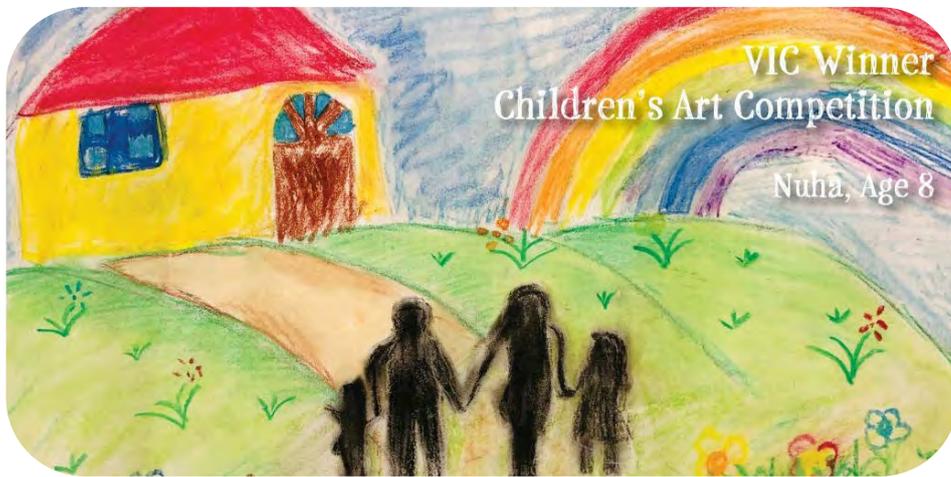
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every
creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and
peace.

Pope Francis, *'Laudato Si'*



PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST: CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2020

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Child Protection Week (6-12 September). The theme for 2020, 'Putting Children First', was chosen by the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) and underscores the need to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children in all aspects of our community and family life.

Child Protection Week is of great significance for the Catholic Church in Australia as it emphasises the need for a continuous commitment to effectively safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Partnered with the commitment to safeguard those most at risk, the Church also acknowledges the devastating harm caused by the sexual abuse of children by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic settings.

'Although the Pandemic has changed the way we are all living and working, it doesn't change what is most important,' said Archbishop Peter A Comensoli. 'For Christians, the Lord Jesus shows us that at all times, the most vulnerable among us are those requiring our greatest care. Our priority is to ensure the safety and the protection of children at all times. I am sad and angered that the Church has not always been a place that has put children first. We continue to address the horror of abuse, and I will continue to meet with survivors of abuse, hearing and trusting them, and helping our Church be continually converted.'

Religious communities have a role in protecting and caring for children and young people in their community by supporting families and promoting children and young people's health and wellbeing.



NAPCAN asks all religious communities to play our part by:

- Being positive role models.
- Facilitating a youth friendly environment by creating opportunities for children and young people to engage in and be heard.
- Becoming informed on the indicators and risks of child abuse and neglect as well as preventative measures.
- Developing means for family networking and support groups
- Developing child related policies and procedures.

Further resources:

- [Encouraging the Participation of Children and Young People in Decision making](#)
- [Empowering Children and Young People](#)
- [Code of Conduct Explanation for Children](#)
- [Code of Conduct Explanation for Young People](#)
- [Ways to Support and Encourage A Child's Right to Speak and Be Heard](#)
- [Play Your Part – Religious Communities](#)

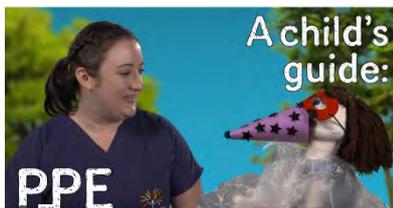
NAPCAN have organised a series of webinars during Child Protection Week. You can find out more at their website: <https://www.napcan.org.au/official-program-webinars-events/>

PARISH LIFE IN ISO

A message from our Tiny Ts Playgroup organisers Antarcia and Olivia: *“We hope you’re doing ok through these Stage 4 restrictions. We’ve been here before but this time we could be feeling a range of new emotions, including missing our lovely playgroup catch ups! As we near the end of this isolation it might feel familiar but different too and you are probably running out of ideas to keep the little ones busy. So we thought we’d share a range of resources provided by Playgroup Victoria, some for babies and children, and some just for you.”*

A new world of masks and germs For young children, masks can seem a bit odd.

[Here is a video](#) from the Royal Childrens Hospital to help explain what it’s all about.



If you need to take a child for COVID-19 testing, you can [watch this video](#) to help them understand what to expect.

Storm makers The sounds of wild weather are all around us at this time of year. Snuggle up on a rug together and create your own soundscape with this [Incinerator Gallery session](#). It was created for babies and carers but is perfect for toddlers too. *Tip: Before you begin, grab some household items to make tapping sounds, balls to drop for hail and maybe a branch of leaves to ‘swish’ like the win*

Play guide Unpredictable Spring weather can still mean many days of indoor play. The ultimate list of Winter play ideas is in an [activity guide from Playgroup Victoria](#). Take a look at their baking, craft, songs and stories.

Whatever the weather Looking outside, it can seem a bit off-putting to venture out to play. The extra clothes, the wind, the heavy sky. However it can be a lovely way to develop your inner meteorologist! [Check out this short video](#) from Raising Children to find out more.

Playgroup, live in your living room Join live, half-hour sessions at 10am on Tuesdays and Fridays (repeat session) with Playgroup

Victoria. Bookings are essential, and you [can do that here](#) (up to 8am on the day).

Catch up on library story time In case you missed the live sessions, Moonee Valley Library is hosting story time on Facebook [click here to access videos](#), scroll down to find age-appropriate session for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Pandemic Play, a record for the future what play have you and your children been enjoying at home? If you have any activities or observations to share, [this project](#) is run by Australian folklore and play researchers.

Acts of Kindness workshops Moonee Valley Council is running free workshops that anyone in our community can attend. Sessions coming up include photography and Kokedama making. To find out more and register [click here](#).

Working from home as a new parent The layers of challenges for parents and carers during this time can mean some support is a good idea. Take a look at [PANDA's checklist and resources](#) for some ideas and next steps.

[The Raising Children](#) site has a comprehensive COVID19 guide and is a great resource for families. The articles, videos and interactive resources are tailored to different ages and stages, – and help you to look after yourself as a parent too.



Hope these tips are useful and here's hoping we can all get together again, at least in 2021!

Stories, reflections, recipes, ideas, videos or photos to share? We'd love to hear what you've been up to in ISO. Email jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au to contribute to Parish Life in IS



REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER GROUP ANNUAL APPEAL

Any contributions should go to the church account

Name: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

Account number: 67640 1701

For your deposit reference please use: **RAASG**

You can also place (cash or cheque) donations in an envelope into to the parish office drop box. If you need receipt please email essendon@cam.org.au a screen shot of your internet banking acknowledgement.



STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS AT ST THERESE'S

CHURCH IS CLOSED. No religious services are permitted except for funerals. **FUNERALS** are limited to 10 mourners plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral.

VISITATIONS to homes are not permitted unless for grave reasons.

MASS ONLINE is celebrated Wednesday to Friday along with our weekend Mass.

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED but you can call us weekdays 9am until 3pm or send us an email. For those needing to speak to Fr John, appointments can be made over the phone or via email. Onsite meetings are not permitted.

EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS contact number for Fr John: 0490 956 610

For the full details of Stage 4 restrictions you should visit the [DHHS website](#).

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE provides regular pastoral updates on the COVID-19 situation on the CAM website: www.cam.org.au

ASSISTING ISOLATED PARISHIONERS If you know of a parishioner, or if you are a parishioner who could use our help, please contact the office confidentially.

PARISH PSP GIVING DURING COVID19

Contributions to the church account:

Name: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

Account number: 67640 1701

Contributions towards supporting the clergy:

Account Name: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

A/C number: 67616 4988

Any deposit should be referenced with your FIRST INITIAL and SURNAME.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: John Hannon john.hannon@cam.org.au

Baptism – Pastoral Outreach: Leanne Torr leanne.torr@cam.org.au

Business Manager: Kathy Gilmour kathy.gilmour@cam.org.au

Function Manager: Jac Radcliffe jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au

Bookkeeper: Irene Fritsche irene.fritsche@cam.org.au

Parish Leadership Team: essendon.plt@cam.org.au

Child Safety Officer: Olivia Metcalf essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au

Office opening hours - Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 – after hours Fr John: 0490 956 610

Office email: essendon@cam.org.au Website: www.stthereses.org.au

School email: principal@stessendon.catholic.edu.au

St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10am–3pm

Tiny T's Playgroup: stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We commit to making our Church a safe place for children and young people and protecting them from harm.

You are special and will always be welcome in our Church.

What you think and feel is important to us.

We will make sure our leaders and helpers understand their responsibilities to keep you safe.

We respect you just the way you are.

If you feel unsafe or are worried about someone else's safety, we will listen and take this seriously.

We will help you to be safe. This means that if you are being hurt or are in danger of being hurt, we will speak to the Police or another person who can help you.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

Phone: 9926 5621 Email: psu@cam.org.au



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE



Talk to those who do wrong by you



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Gospel

Mt 18:15-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'



How did Jesus treat sinners?

Matthew was a tax collector and was disliked by many people. Jesus shared a meal with him and other sinners. Matthew became a disciple of Jesus. *Mt 9:9-13*



Draw Jesus sharing a meal with Matthew and his friends

A woman who had sinned was brought before Jesus. The pharisees wanted Jesus to condemn her, but instead Jesus forgave her sins. *Jn 8:2-11*

Write a short prayer asking God to forgive our sins

Dear Lord, _____

_____ *Amen.*

Jesus wants us to be peacemakers

When someone does wrong things against me, I can be a peacemaker by...

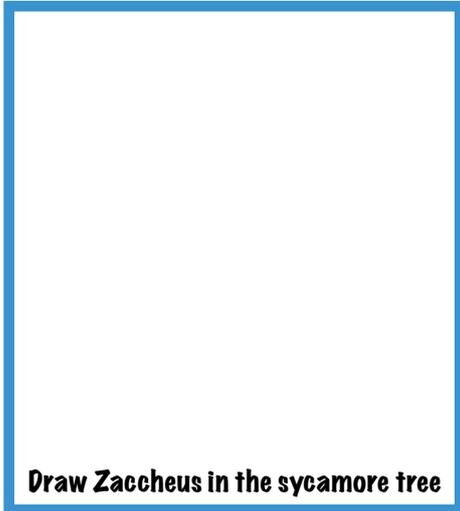


When I do wrong things against someone, I can be a peacemaker by...



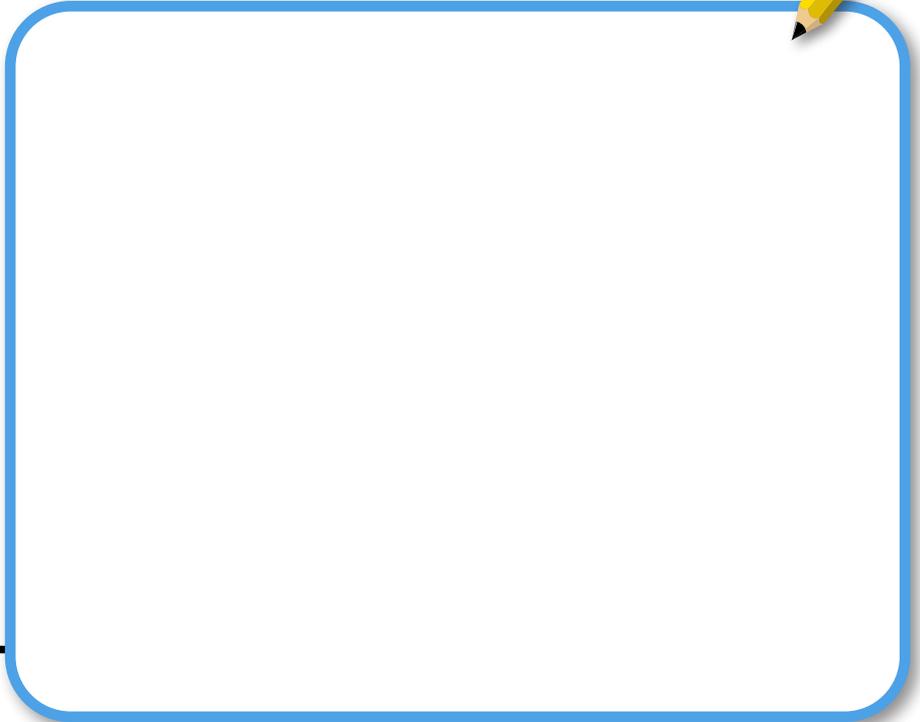
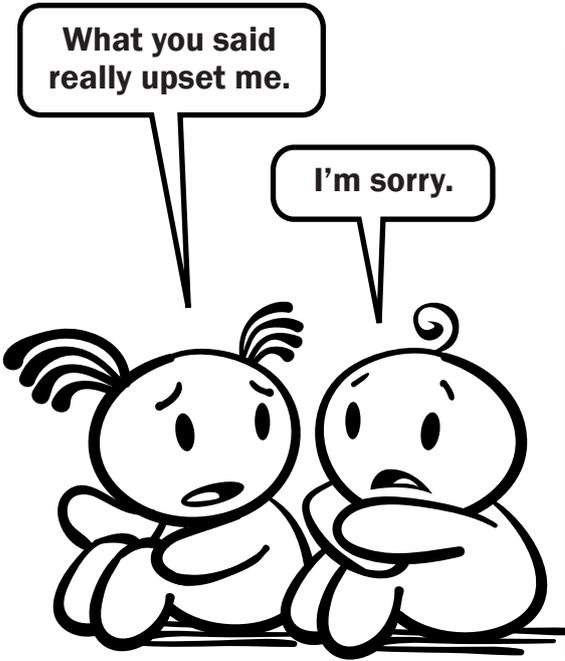
A rich man named Zaccheus climbed a tree to get a better view of Jesus. People became upset when Jesus decided to be a guest at Zaccheus' house, but Zaccheus was so happy he gave half his possessions to the poor. *Lk 19:1-10*

Draw Zaccheus in the sycamore tree



Talk to those who do wrong by you

Jesus wants us to be peacemakers when someone does wrong things against us.
Draw a picture of you being a peacemaker with someone who has done wrong by you.



Colour in each shape that contains a dot ● to discover the hidden word.

