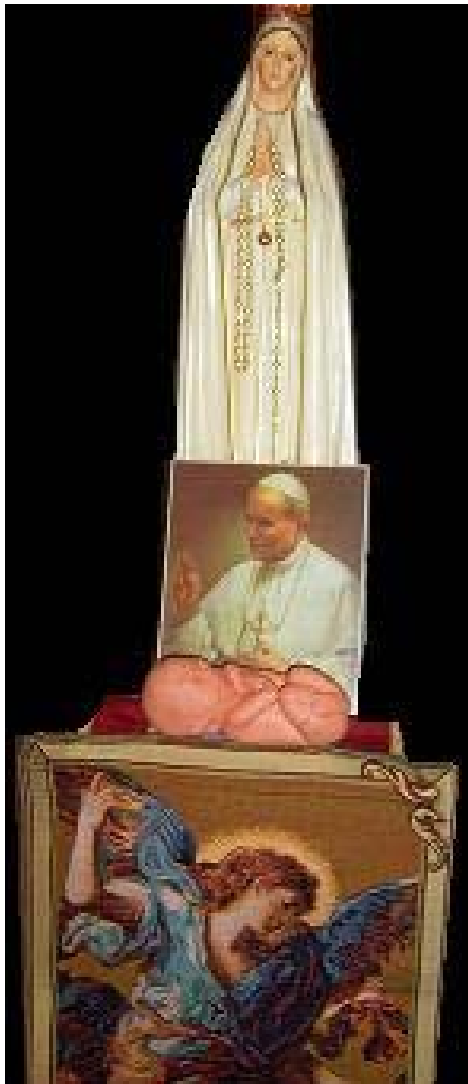


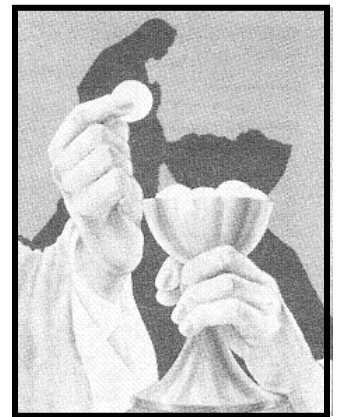
Armata Bianca The White Army

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December 8th is a very special day in the Church because we honor the Blessed Mother as “**The Immaculate Conception**”. What does Immaculate mean? It means clean, without stain, sparkling white, perfect.

Mother Mary is perfect without sin. Mary is not God, she is a human creature just like you and me except she was given a very special grace. She was born without original sin. God is perfect and Mary is the mother of God, so it is important that she was without sin in order for Jesus to be born through her. What is the Tabernacle? It is where Jesus’ body, blood, soul and divinity is kept. **Mary was the first human Tabernacle when she carried Jesus in her womb. “Blessed is the fruit of your womb.”** It was Mary who laid the baby Jesus in the Manger. The Manger is the place where they put the food for the animals. Jesus is the bread of life, he is the food for our souls. **The word “Bethlehem” means “house of bread”.**



Notice the shadow
in this picture!!

Dr. Sheila showed all the children a replica of what an 8 week old baby looks like while in the womb. The baby is about 3 inches long and looks like a very small human being. At this age the baby’s heart is beating and it can suck its thumb. Then she showed all the children a replica of what a full term baby looks like while in the womb.

Dr. Sheila pointed out to the children that the baby Jesus looked like this too before he was born and became God Man. Where ever the Blessed Mother is, St. Michael is here. St. Michael the Archangel crushes the head of Satan. St. Michael protects Mary just like St. Joseph did. **St. Michael the Archangel is the protector of life and that is why we say prayers to him.**

This is the season of Advent when we wait for Jesus to come.

What is the best Christmas present for all of eternity? For Heaven to come to us! In a certain way, Jesus is Heaven. It’s true that Jesus will come again at the second coming sometime in the future but during this season of Advent we wait for Jesus to be born in our heart. Let’s think about how Heaven can visit us. The Kingdom of God is at hand. God’s Kingdom is Heaven. We can experience Heaven in a certain way here on Earth. How can we make a

Pictured above are Our Blessed Mother Mary, Pope John Paul II, a full term baby when it is in the womb and St. Michael the Archangel.

Manger in our hearts? Jesus came in a very cold, dirty, rotten, stinky, smelly, non-fancy stable. Animals of burden were there, oxen, pigs and animals that work for human beings. They laid all their droppings in there. There were flies, fleas, and everything smelly was in there. Jesus was born there. Jesus was born out of love for us. Jesus came to suffer for us. Jesus' suffering started the day he was born.

Christopher asked Dr. Sheila, "If Mary had said no to the Angel Gabriel, would Jesus have not been born? Dr. Sheila said that was a very good question and that she had asked Father Ray that same question in the past. Father Ray told her that because Mary was given virtue, she would have never said no.

Even though she has free will, grace was operating in her. She was without sin. Peter asked, "How old is Jesus?" Dr. Sheila said that Jesus has no age anymore. When Jesus came on the Earth he died at the age of 33 but



Santino won the Manger!!

remember that Jesus is the Alpha



Here are the Armata Bianca children who pray for everyone this Christmas Season to have Jesus born in their hearts.

and the Omega, so he does not have an age now, he is eternal.

Dr. Sheila wanted to give away a Manger globe set to some lucky child. She asked Ms. Cathy to pick a name out of the box. Santino was the lucky winner! A little girl made a comment and said, "I know why **they had to go into the stable, because there was no other place that they could stay.**" When Joseph, Jesus' stepfather, took Mary to Bethlehem, he had relatives there. Joseph thought that they would have a place to stay, but when he asked his relatives they all said, go away, go away, go away. He had to say to Mary, I'm sorry. How do you think this made Joseph feel, that he couldn't keep her warm, or feed her, etc. This made Joseph very, very sad. **It had to be this way because Jesus was teaching us about suffering, very early on. Dr. Sheila asked the children, don't we have people that are very poor and don't have houses? They have to live on the streets because there is no one to love them and take care of them. All over the world this happens. So Jesus is showing the World that he takes part in the very same sufferings.** Jesus

experienced sadness in his life. St. Joseph died before Jesus did. Don't you think that he was sad when his Dad died? Jesus died on the cross and many did not believe that he was God. He healed people and performed many miracles for people and what did the people do to him in the end? They crucified him. **So we have to remember that Jesus teaches us about suffering very early on in the Manger.** Jesus chose to be born in Mary's womb, because Mary's womb and Mary's heart were completely perfect. It wasn't attached to anything, she didn't have a lot of clutter in her soul and in her heart. She didn't have worries or sin, she wasn't absorbed thinking about other things like we get stuck with. So Mary's heart was completely open and ready to receive the Savior.



Dr. Sheila talked about her own heart. She is a mom and sometimes her heart gets really sad. Sometimes mommies worry. Sometimes we fill our hearts with things that are not good. When we fill our hearts with worries we fill our heart and soul with things, things that are keeping Jesus from living fully in us. When we sin, our heart and soul gets darker and darker and darker and more cluttered. This pushes away space for Jesus. **Everytime we say a bad word or are mean or we disobey, we are pushing Jesus out of the Manger of our hearts. So we need to prepare a place for Jesus in our heart. THE BEST GIFT THAT YOU COULD EVER WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS TO RECEIVE JESUS FULLY IN YOUR HEART.** To ask baby Jesus to come and live fully in your heart. The way to do that, Jesus is going to say to you, O.K. I can't wait to come, but I can't come yet. Because when you open the door to your heart, all this stuff is in there that's got to get out. So what are the things that we do in Advent to prepare our hearts for Jesus? How can we clean out the house? **How can we clean out our Manger? There's one big thing that we can do and that is to go to Confession. There is also prayer and penance. Every day there is a chance to do a good deed.** Hold the door open for someone, you can be nice and offer to clean the table for your Mother, you can say a kind word to someone in your classroom that has no friends that nobody wants to hang out with. Guess what, that can change the world when you do that. One act of kindness and goodness cleans out that dirty Manger so much that Jesus can't wait to come. He can't wait to come into a heart that is clean. Jesus wants to live in you. When we were baptized, the Holy Trinity came to live in us. The Holy Spirit came down and put a mark right on your heart and the mark says, you belong to God. Once you are baptized, you never lose that mark. **At baptism original sin is taken away.** There is a stamp that says, you belong to me says Jesus. You belong to me. **But, we also have a job to do in keeping ourselves clean and away from sin.** So the Manger that Dr. Sheila is talking about is the Manger of our heart. Advent is still going on and we have a couple of weeks left to get it straight. John the Baptist said, **"Repent and make straight the path."** What is a crooked path? Sin. Sin takes us off the path. So how do we get back on the path? Confession and following the Ten Commandments and staying in God's grace.

Dr. Sheila handed out to each child a Christmas card. She asked them to do a good deed by writing a letter and then send it with the card to someone who could use some cheering up. This is called a **joyful act of charity.**

Before starting the Rosary, Dr. Sheila's intentions were to offer the Rosary up and ask for the end of abortion, pray for life and to end all sins committed against life, also to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for Angela's Mom, for Mrs. Feist who's also still recovering, for all of St. Pius X School, for all of our Pastors-Father Perkins, Father Ray, Father Ken, Father Paul, all of our beautiful Priests. This is the year of the Priests. Also, if you have any quiet intentions, something special on your heart, you can ask Jesus right now quietly for that intention. We lift these prayers up to Mary to bring to Jesus.

Oh come let us adore him, oh come let us adore him, oh come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

GOD SENT US A SAVIOR

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator.

If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist.

If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer.

But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Savior.

This is a message from Our Lady of Medjugorje through the visionary Mirjana, December 2, 2009...

"Dear children. At this time of preparation and joyful expectation, I as a mother, desire to point you to what is the most important, to your soul. Can my Son be born in it? Is it cleansed by love from lies, arrogance, hatred and malice? Above all else does your soul love God as your Father and does it love your fellow brother in Christ? I am pointing you to the way which will raise your soul to a complete union with my Son. I desire for my Son to be born in you. What a joy that would be for me as mother. Thank you."



"Families that pray together, stay together."