

We Follow God

Psalm 23:1-6

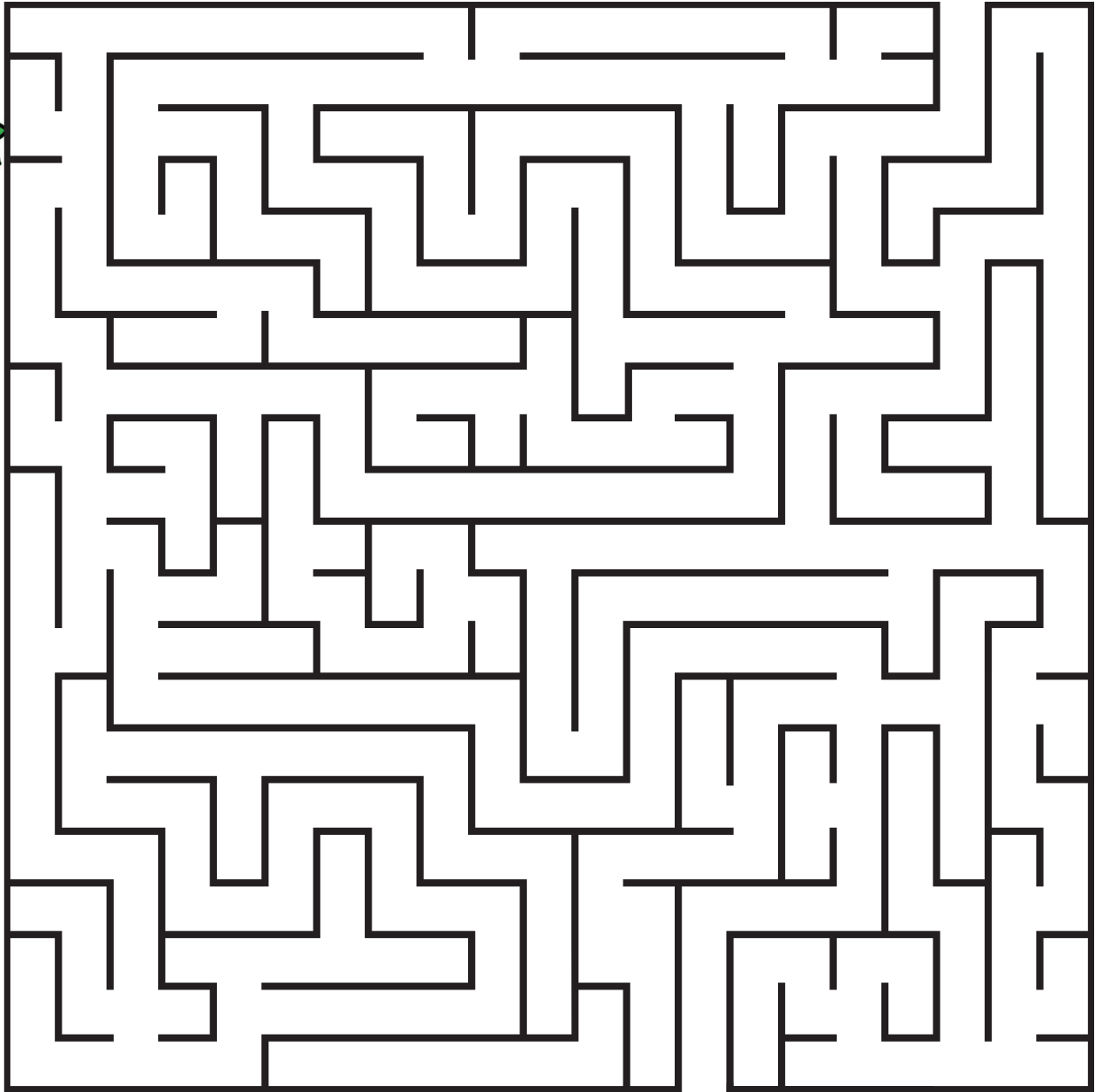
Prayer

○ Jesus, fill us with your love and allow us to show that love in our lives, with our families and friends, at our school, and in our communities. Bless us and protect us. Amen.



Help the shepherd guide his sheep to the green grass and pools of fresh water.

Start



Finish





All Saints' Litany



Leader: Let us begin our prayer with the Sign of the Cross. . . . Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

Leader: Each of us has gifts that we can use to serve God and other people. The saints show us many different ways of following God, our shepherd. We ask the saints to pray to God for us. Our response is: Pray for us.

Reader 1: Saint Peter, fisherman and Apostle of Jesus,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 2: Saint Mary, mother of Jesus,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 3: Saint Francis, follower of the Gospel,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 4: Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata, loving servant of the poor,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 5: Saint Isidore, patron of farmers,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 6: Saint Catherine of Siena, teacher and Doctor of the Church,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 7: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, teacher of children,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 8: Saint Ignatius Loyola, who saw God in all things,

All: Pray for us.

Reader 9: All holy men, women, and children, models of faith,

All: Pray for us.

Leader: We ask this in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Family Page

Background Reflection

On All Saints' Day, we honor all the saints of the Church, known and unknown. These people of great faith lived lives of holiness and can help us through their example and through their prayers for us.

God calls each of us to be a saint, whoever and wherever we are. This may seem to be a daunting prospect until we understand saints as normal people who struggled with many of the same things we do today. We often think of saints as always having perfect faith, but they were all human beings like us. They just grew to great faith and holiness by their reliance on and trust in God.

The saints knew God as the loving shepherd described in Psalm 23—the shepherd who loves, protects, and provides for us. This image reminds us too that if we ever feel weak or lost, God is always there to guide, care for, or carry us with his love and protection. May we ask the saints to pray that we may also follow the Good Shepherd, listen to his voice, trust in his care and love, and one day be called a saint ourselves.

Family Activities

- Invite your child to share what he or she learned about the Scripture passage for this chapter. Then read the Featured Story on page 854 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Psalm 23:1–6) together to learn about God, our shepherd.
- Spend some time together searching online for the stories of various saints. Then create a "Twenty Questions" game, where one person thinks of a saint and the other player(s) ask up to twenty questions to see if they can guess the saint the first person is thinking of.
- Watch the video "All Saints Day for Kids" (YouTube, 1:26) together. Discuss how the saints are our heroes and great examples of faith.

People of Faith

All Saints

Early Christians celebrated the faith of martyrs on the anniversary of the day each one died. Later, Christians dedicated one day of the year to celebrate all the martyrs and all believers who lived holy lives. We still celebrate this feast as All Saints' Day on November 1.

Prayer

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

O God, our shepherd, we give you thanks for all holy people. By their example and through their prayer may we become saints, showing your love and mercy to all we meet. Amen.

