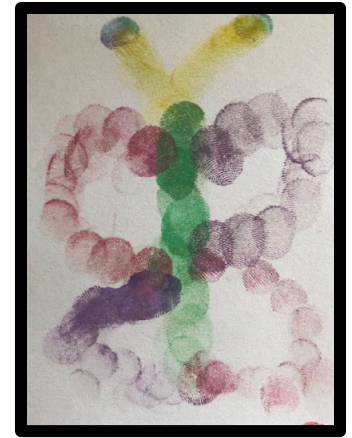


September:
Masterpieces of God-
Love One Another

Opening Prayer:

Let us pray...

Lord, in your infinite wisdom and love, You created each of us with unique purpose in Your plan. Help us all to know and live Your will and the life You have planned for us. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.



Spiritual Adoption: At Conception

Thank you for praying for me. God just created me inside my mommy! He already planned my eye color, my height, my hair color and every detail about me. My mommy doesn't know that I am in here growing. I can't wait until she finds out! Please remember to pray for me every day so that I can grow strong and healthy.

Spiritual Adoption Prayer:

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger."

- Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen



Objective: Each one of us is created in the image and likeness of God as His masterpiece and need to be treated with respect. We are called to love one another.

Bible Verse:

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." Jer. 1:5

"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35



Theme: Each one of us is created in the image of God as His masterpiece and should be treated with respect. We are called to love one another. All of us are important to God. We each have a place in the world. Everyone needs to be treated equally and with dignity. Bullying in any way is not part of God's plan. Prayer is vital to protecting all life, especially the unborn.



Remember:

YOU were created with a unique plan by God. Each of you have a unique identity (fingerprints, DNA, etc.).
YOU ARE LOVED!

Did you know?

Even identical twins have their own set of fingerprints?



Discussion:

- We are all unique and God has an individual plan for each of us.
 - Each of us is created exactly the way God intended.
 - God purposely created us different from others.
 - Through our humanity, He gave each of us our own personality, gifts, and talents so that we can serve Him and others.
 - He knows every detail of our lives and has GREAT plans for each of us.
-
- Bullying in anyway is not the way of God.
 - We cannot treat others differently because they appear different.
 - Bullying through computers, any electronic device or social media is just as harmful as bullying someone in person.
 - It actually can be worse because the harmful words and pictures can be easily shared with other.



Questions?

Write the answers in your journal.

- How many of you have siblings or close friends? What are some differences you notice about yourself and them? What are some similarities? Do these differences and similarities affect the way we treat someone?
- What are your gifts and talents? Based on those, what do you think God has planned for you?
- If someone looks or acts differently than you, do you treat them in an unkind manner?
- How does Jesus want us to treat others?
- This includes the way we treat people through social media. We never "say" harmful things to someone or about someone on any social media or texts. Why do you think that some people use social media to say harmful things to others?
- Jesus' 2nd Greatest Commandment - Love others as yourself. (Matthew 22: 37-39)



6th Grade- 8th Grade Additional Discussion:

- A deeper discussion of God's plan and how to live out God's will for us.
- Discuss bullying and cyber bullying in depth and the damage this can do to others.
- In some cases, children choose suicide because of the pain and devastation of being treated disrespectfully.

Activity: Fingerprint Cards

- The children will create pictures with their fingerprints. Have each student create a picture with the different color stamp pads or markers and their fingerprints.
- Encourage them to make a "masterpiece"- paying attention to detail and creativity.

Discussion:

God created us as His own masterpiece - these pictures are your masterpieces. None of the pictures can be exactly alike because each of us has our own set of fingerprints and ideas.

Although the pictures are all different, they are all masterpieces. Just as God created each of us as a masterpiece, we are all different in many ways. These differences are created by God and no one is to be treated differently because of those differences.

Fun Fact: Even identical twins have their own set of fingerprints .

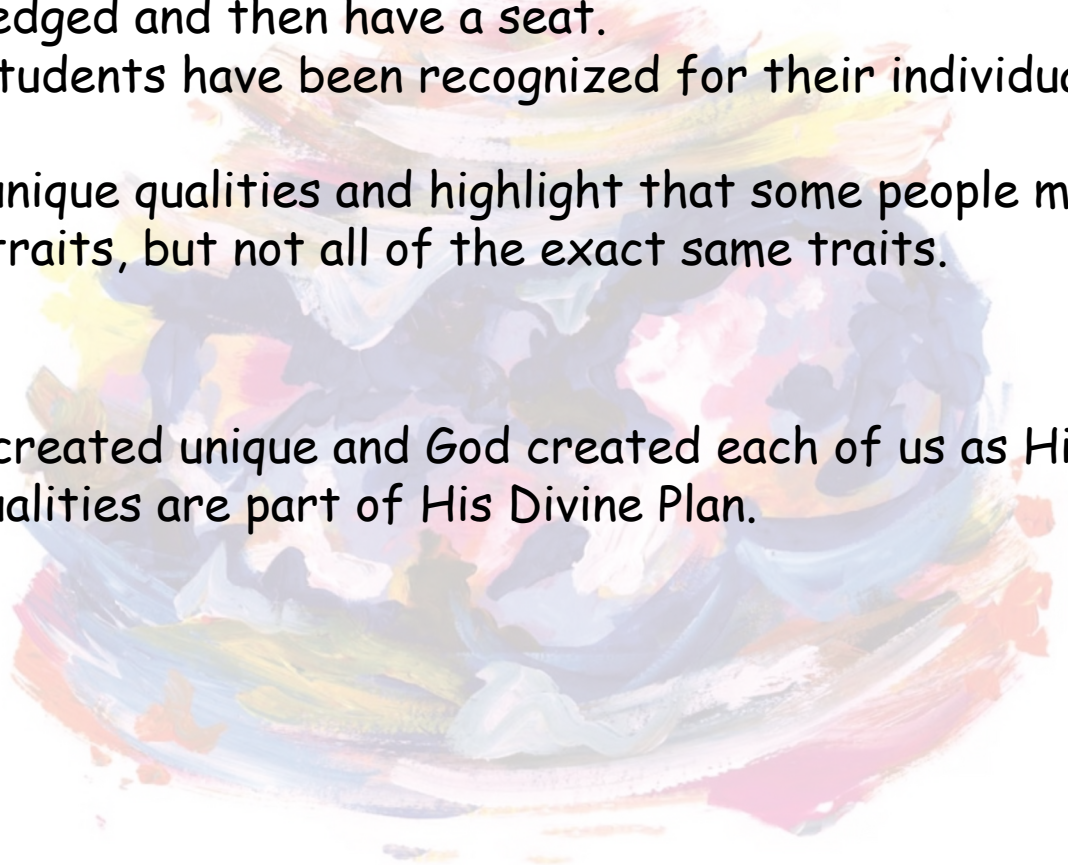


Activity: True Traits Activity

- Each of us is created uniquely by God. We are His masterpieces!
- Copy the cards onto cardstock or paper and cut them into individual cards.
- Have all students stand beside their desk.
- Place the cards in groups according to the specific traits- Hair Color, Height, Eye Color, Activity, Birthday.
- Choose a card from each group and have the student(s) that have all of those traits be acknowledged and then have a seat.
- Do this until all of the students have been recognized for their individual gifts from God.
- Discuss each student's unique qualities and highlight that some people may have many of the same traits, but not all of the exact same traits.

Discussion:

Emphasize that we are all created unique and God created each of us as His masterpiece. Our unique qualities are part of His Divine Plan.



6th Grade- 8th Grade Activity: Spiritual Adoption Posters

- The students will create the Spiritual Adoption Posters for each classroom as described on page 6.
- They will cut and paste the following on the poster board- a picture of an unborn baby (from the internet), the Archbishop Fulton Sheen Prayer (Appendix A), and the name of the baby chosen by the class or the words "Pray for the Unborn."
- Have them put their fingerprint on the poster board in some way.

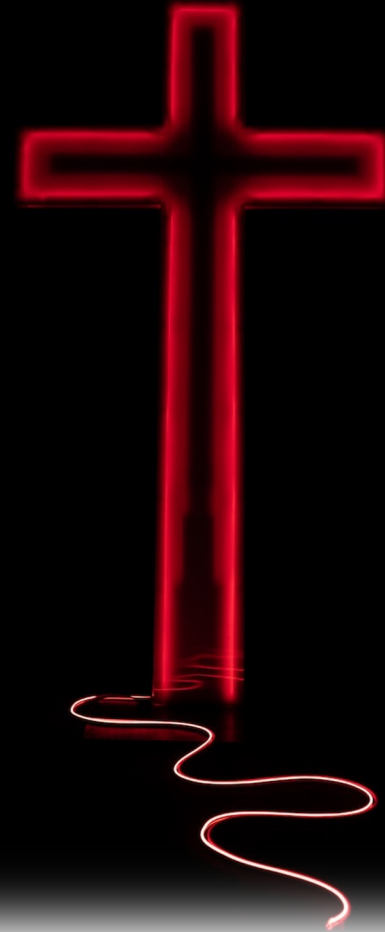
Discussion:

Once completed, have the students share the pictures with the class. Although all of the posters look different, they are just the way God planned. God created us as His own masterpiece- these posters are your masterpieces. None of the pictures can be exactly alike because each of us has our own set of ideas. We respect each other's uniqueness and treat each other with respect just as God commanded. After the discussion, have the students bring the posters to the appropriate classrooms.

Closing Prayer:

Glory be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit, as it was in the
beginning is now, and ever
shall be, world without end.

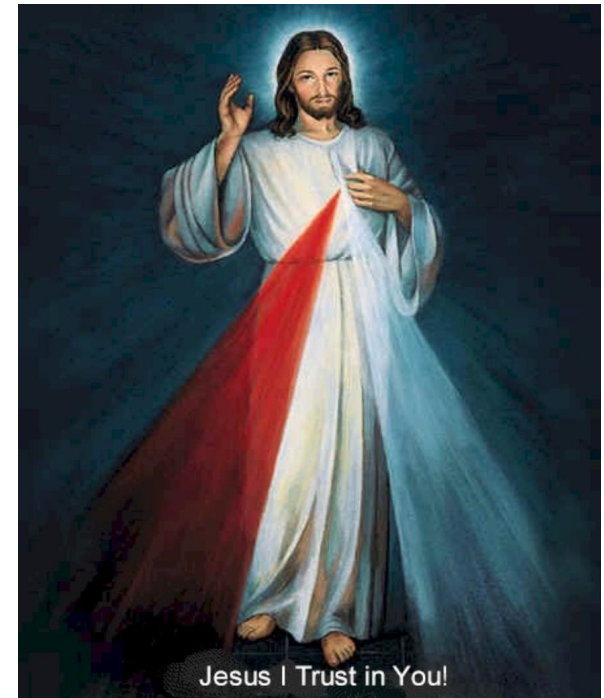
Amen.



Spiritual Works of Mercy Novena for September

Let us pray...

Dear Jesus, thank you for creating me and loving me from the moment I came to be as the very tiniest baby. Thank you for creating every single person just as you created me. May I always remember that every one of us is a special person who is very dear to You and loved by You. Help me to treat everyone I know just as You would treat them- with love. Help us all to love each other as you love us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



Virtue: CHARITY:

voluntary giving of help and kindness to those in need— with help, money, donations of food, clothing, etc.

By Charity, we love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves for love of God. Charity, the form of all virtues, "binds everything together in perfect harmony." (Col. 3: 14). (CCC 1844)

