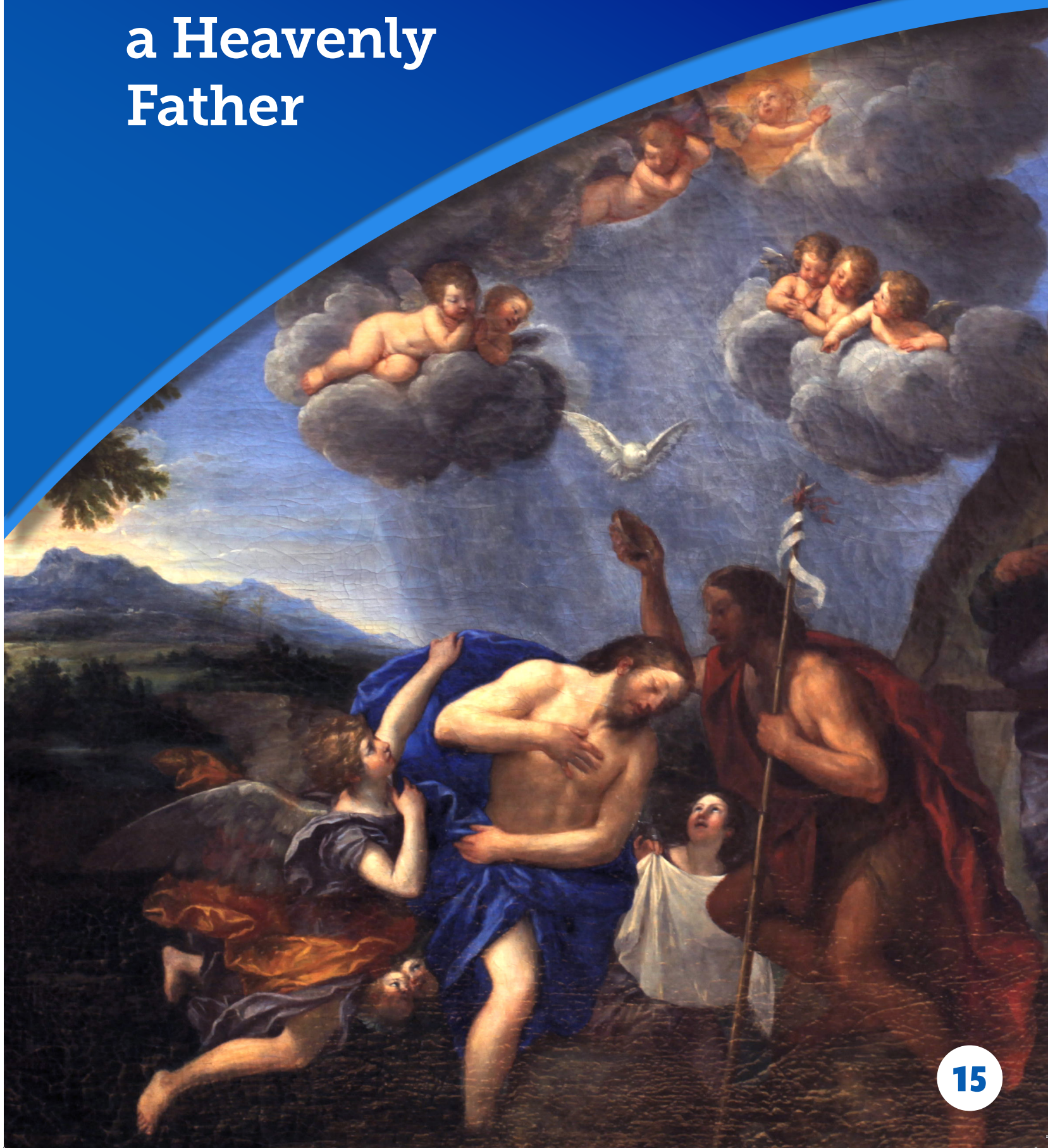


Lesson 2

Jesus Has a Heavenly Father



Jesus Has a Heavenly Father

Lesson 2 at a Glance

Day 1

Warm-Up

- A.** Begin by asking your students to stand up and raise their right hands high into the air.
- B.** Next, ask your students to use their right hand to touch their heads. Then, ask your students to touch their chests. Ask them to reach across their shoulders and touch their left shoulder. Finally, ask students to touch their right shoulder, the one that's connected to their right hand and arm.
 - When you do these movements, do them largely and dramatically, and ask students to copy you.
 - Repeat these motions at least five times as a group.
- C.** Then, ask students if making these motions reminds them of anything. *Accept reasoned answers. Hopefully, someone will mention doing the Sign of the Cross.* Say, "Yes, you're correct! This is how we do the Sign of the Cross when we begin every prayer that we say."
- D.** Ask your students to recall how they practiced this prayer for the first time last class. Now practice it once more with them:



- *Touch forehead:* In the name of the Father
- *Touch chest:* And of the Son
- *Reach across your chest and touch your left shoulder:* And of the Holy...
- *Touch your right shoulder:* ...Spirit. Amen. (fold hands)

Activity

- A.** First, ask students to close their eyes and picture their father. If they do not know their father or he is not in their lives, then they may picture a grandfather, their priest, an uncle, or another man who cares for them.

Ask them to picture this father figure doing something fun with them. Maybe they are playing a sport or reading a book or praying together. Perhaps they are taking a walk or pretending to shave or watching a show together.

- B.** Next, ask students to open their eyes and have them pretend to do the activity that they just pictured. If they were playing basketball when they closed their eyes, they should pretend to shoot a ball. If they were reading a book, they should pretend to be reading.
 - Allow students time to show you (all at once) what they were doing to enjoy time with their father (figure).
 - Try to guess the activities and allow the students to correct you when you guess incorrectly.

- C. Then, facilitate a discussion about what makes a father good. Ask your students to name some things that make fathers good. *Accept reasoned answers.*



Teacher's Note

This could be a very difficult or confusing discussion for some students, as not every child has a father in their lives. Or, they may have one, but he is not especially good.

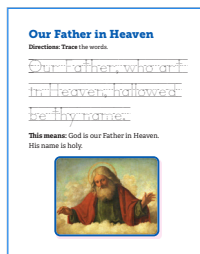
- Be prepared to give some examples like: loving, caring, strong, always there for you ...
- Write these down on the board for your reference for the **Formative Assessment**

- D. Next, explain to your students that Jesus has a Heavenly Father, and He wants to share His Father with us. Everything Jesus said or did was to show us what His Father was like. Ask the students to think back to the last lesson, “Jesus Is the Good Shepherd.”

- E. Ask your students what the Good Shepherd does. *He calls His Sheep, He guides them, He protects them.*

- F. Explain to your students that Jesus reveals to us God the Father. Explain that sons are like their fathers. You may want to add an example, such as your brother is tall or short like his father. Ask them if they know someone who is like his father. *Accept reasoned answers.* Continue to explain that Jesus wants us to know His Heavenly Father by knowing Him.

- So, if Jesus the Good Shepherd knows and loves us by name, His Heavenly Father knows and loves us by name.
- If Jesus the Good Shepherd protects us, His Heavenly Father protects us.
- Add any points here as necessary especially in response to your students' insights.



- G. Finally, explain that Jesus wants to share with us His Heavenly Father. We know this because this is how He taught us to pray. Have your students turn to **Our Father in Heaven** on **pg. 9** in the Student Workbook. Jesus' friends noticed that His favorite thing to was pray, and they wanted to learn how to pray. **Read aloud** what Jesus said to them in **Matthew 6:9**:

This is how you are to pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

- H. Ask your students if they have heard these words before. *Possibly at Mass or at school prayer time, adding in the “who art.”* Slowly repeat the words a few times: “Our Father in heaven.” Ask the students why Jesus says “Our Father” instead of “My Father.” *You may have to make an analogy to help: What is the difference between saying “my classroom” and “our classroom”? Eventually they should see that Jesus' Father is their Father too. They have a Father in Heaven who loves them better than anyone.*

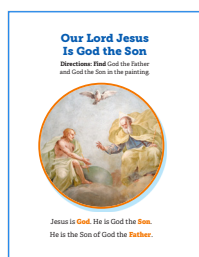
- I. Continue on to say the second part of the verse, “hallowed be your name.” Explain that *hallowed* means *holy*. The word *holy* means *set apart* and that it belong to God. Our school chapel or church is holy because it is a place that is set apart and belongs to God. We can love the Father with Jesus by saying “hallowed be your name.” Then, have your students trace the words to the verse on **Our Father in Heaven**.



Teacher's Note

The rest of the prayer will be introduced this year, but the goal of this activity is to help them to begin to understand the beauty of Jesus, His Heavenly Father, and that they have a Heavenly Father.

DAY 1 > Formative Assessment



- A. Finally, ask students to look at the image on **Our Lord Jesus Is God the Son** on **pg. 10** in the Student Workbook. Ask them to look at this picture of the Father and the Son. Tell students that God is Jesus' Father, and He is the best example of a Father that any of us could ask for.
- B. If the students notice and ask about the dove signifying the Holy Spirit, you can tell them that there are three Persons in this picture: God the Son, God the Father, and God the Holy Spirit. They will learn more about the Holy Spirit later this year.
- C. Also point out that, whether or not we have a good father here on earth, God is a good Father to every one of us. We can call upon Him at any time for love, strength, courage, acceptance, or an ear to listen, because He loves us more than even our own earthly father ever could!



Teacher's Note

If you choose, you may share with your students that the dove in the painting is the Holy Spirit, whose name we have been saying in the Sign of the Cross each day. We will learn more about the Holy Spirit later in the year!

Activity Worksheet

(page 9 in the Student Workbook)

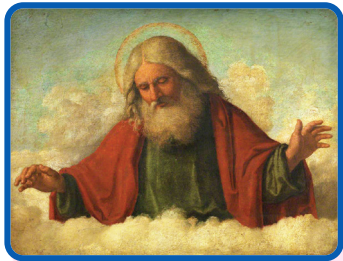
Lesson 2 • Day 1

Our Father in Heaven

Directions: Trace the words.

Our Father, who art
in Heaven, hallowed
be thy name.

This means: God is our Father in Heaven.
His name is holy.



Jesus Is the Good Shepherd 9

Formative Assessment Worksheet

(page 10 in the Student Workbook)

Lesson 2 • Day 1

Our Lord Jesus Is God the Son

Directions: Find God the Father
and God the Son in the painting.



Jesus is **God**. He is God the **Son**.
He is the Son of God the **Father**.

10 © Sophia Teachers

Day 2

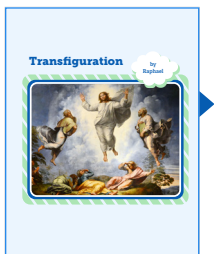
Warm-Up

- A.** First, ask students to stand up and stretch.
 - Stretch their arms up to the ceiling. Stretch them down to the ground.
 - Touch their toes.
 - Stand on tiptoes.
 - Stand on one foot.
 - Etc.
- B.** Next, ask students to stand still but raise their right hand, just like yesterday.
- C.** Then, have students follow you by making the movements of the Sign of the Cross, first without any words. Say, “Touch your forehead, then your chest, followed by your left shoulder, and finally your right.”
- D.** Finally, have students make the Sign of the Cross with you, using the words this time.



- *Touch forehead:* In the name of the Father
- *Touch chest:* And of the Son
- *Reach across your chest and touch your left shoulder:* And of the Holy...
- *Touch your right shoulder:* ...Spirit. Amen. (fold hands)

Activity



- A.** Ask students to remind you what makes God a Good Father to us and to Jesus, His Son. *Accept reasoned answers.* Next, have students turn to **Transfiguration by Raphael** on **pg. 11** in the Student Workbook. **Project**  an image of the painting found at **SophiaOnline.org/GrKUnit1Lesson2**.
 - Ask students to take 3-5 minutes of silence to just look at the picture and see what they notice.
 - After the 3-5 minutes, ask students to share what stood out to them.
 - Then, tell the story of the Transfiguration to your students, using these words while they are still gazing at the image. **Read aloud**  the following (adapted from **Matthew 17:1-8**):



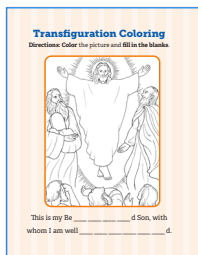
Jesus and three of his good friends, Peter, James, and John, went up on a mountain by themselves. All of a sudden, Peter, James, and John saw Jesus change! He was incredibly bright! His clothes became a very bright white, and His face shone like the sun! He was transfigured. Then Moses and Elijah, prophets who were already dead, were standing next to Jesus.

Peter tried to help everyone out by offering to make some tents for everyone, but then a big cloud came over and made it darker. Out of that cloud, God said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

Hearing God’s voice made Peter, James, and John fall to the ground. They were scared! Then Jesus came and told them that they do not need to be afraid. When they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they were alone with Jesus again.

- B.** Then, repeat the line that God said: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”
- C.** Point out two words to students:
 - Ask students what they think the word *beloved* means. *Accept reasoned answers.* Note how you can hear the word “love” in there! Beloved describes a person who is very much loved. For instance, you may love your family very much. Your family is beloved to you. Your parents love you very much. You are beloved to your parents.
 - Next, ask what it means to be “pleased” with someone. *Accept reasoned answers.* To be pleased with someone is to be happy with how they are doing something. For instance, if you stop what you are doing to include a friend, I may be pleased with your good choice!
- D.** Ask students what it means if God calls Jesus “beloved” and is “well pleased” with Him. *Accept reasoned answers.* Yes, God is telling Peter, James, and John that Jesus is His Son, that He loves Him very much, and that He is very happy with what Jesus is doing.
- E.** Finally, remind students that this passage from the Bible is a beautiful example of God reminding us that He is Jesus’ Father and that He loves Him very much!

DAY 2 > Formative Assessment



- A.** First, ask students to turn to **Transfiguration Coloring** on **pg. 12** in the Student Workbook. Allow students time to color the page, remembering how bright Jesus appeared to His friends!
- B.** Next, direct students’ attention to the two words of God the Father below the picture. Ask the students to add the word *love* to the first blank and *please* to the second blanks.
- C.** Finally, tell students that you are pleased with their work today!



Teacher’s Note

As they have been learning about Jesus’ Father, your students may ask who Jesus’ mother is. Let them know that is a very good question. Jesus has a very special mother whom you will learn about in the next lesson!

Day 3

Warm-Up

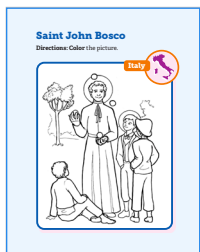
- A.** First, ask students to stretch their fingers while sitting where they are.
 - Make their hands into a tight fist.
 - Bend each finger individually.
 - Open up all of their fingers nice and wide.
 - Clap hands together a few times.
- B.** Next, model the Sign of the Cross in its entirety.
- C.** Then, ask students to practice it a few times on their own, watching for the correct movements and listening for the correct words.
- D.** Finally, say the Sign of the Cross as a class.



- *Touch forehead:* In the name of the Father
- *Touch chest:* And of the Son
- *Reach across your chest and touch your left shoulder:* And of the Holy...
- *Touch your right shoulder:* ...Spirit. Amen. (fold hands)

Activity

- A.** First, ask students to help you remember the story of the Transfiguration from yesterday. *Allow students to recap the story.*
- B.** Say, “Yes! Jesus and His friends were on a mountain. He was brightly lit, and two prophets were with Him. Then God the Father spoke loudly, saying that Jesus is His beloved Son, and He is pleased with Him.”
 - Who is Jesus’ Father? *God the Father*
 - What does *beloved* mean? *Dearly loved*
 - What does *pleased* mean? *Made happy, proud, and so forth.*
- C.** Next, tell students that they are going to learn about another good father, a priest. His name is St. John Bosco.



- D.** Then, ask students to turn to **Saint John Bosco** on **pg. 13** in the Student Workbook. As students are coloring the page, **read aloud** to them the following short biography of St. John Bosco:



St. John Bosco was a priest, and a saint. We call priests “father” because they love, protect, and guide our parish by teaching us about God and giving us His grace through the Sacraments.

St. John Bosco had a special love for boys who were in trouble. These boys were older than you. They had lost their fathers, and

lived on the street. These boys sometimes fought and stole from people. St. John Bosco did not want them to live this way. He knew that Jesus loved them, and wanted to share His Father in Heaven with these boys who did not have fathers on earth.

St. John Bosco had a dream. A large group of rough boys were fighting, and he jumped into their midst and tried to stop them not only with his words, but with his fists. Suddenly, a man appeared, his face shining so bright that John Bosco could barely look at him. The man said, “You will win these friends not by blows, but by gentleness and love.” A gentle woman with a sparkling mantle took John Bosco’s hand and showed him fierce wild animals unexpectedly transformed into gentle lambs. She explained that he must do the same thing for her children—and then he awoke. Jesus and Mary had come to John Bosco to show him how to help these troubled boys. The memory of this dream would stay with him for the rest of his life.

When St. John Bosco was a young man he learned to how to juggle and to walk the tightrope. He started to perform his tricks for others, beginning and ending each performance with prayer. He realized that if he attracted others to him through kindness and fun, they would be willing to hear him talk about God and pray with him.

St. John Bosco’s love for Jesus led him to become a priest. He went out to the streets and befriended the boys with humor and juggled for them. The boys came to him to play games and stayed to hear him speak about Jesus. John Bosco started a home for boys who had no other place to live. John Bosco spent the rest of his life working for the boys in his care. He helped find them jobs and gave them places to stay. For John Bosco, kindness was better than punishment in changing the lives of those in need.

E. Ask your students a few questions:

- Did the man whose face was shining bright reminded you of anyone? *It was Jesus.*
- Can they tell from the story what St. John Bosco is doing in the picture, and why? He is juggling, because he *wanted to reach people with fun things so they would want to learn more about Jesus.*

F. Finally, ask students to share their favorite thing they learned about St. John Bosco today. *Allow students to share.*

DAY 3 > Formative Assessment

- A.** First, remind students that St. John Bosco loved juggling, gymnastics, and spending time praying to God. He always prayed before and after he played games.
- B.** Next, ask the students to say the prayer that Jesus gave us. “*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.*”
- C.** Then, have your students practice juggling for a few minutes. Provide them with ping-pong balls, or small objects to pass from one hand to another. Alternatively, play a game of catch.
- D.** Finally, ask students to sit down to finish their game with a prayer just like St. John Bosco. Do the Sign of the Cross together, and repeat this prayer:



We thank you for being our Father. We thank you for Jesus, your Son. Amen.

Jesus Has a Heavenly Father

PARENT OVERVIEW



Learning Goals

- Jesus has a Heavenly Father.
- God the Father shows that Jesus is His Son.
- Jesus wants us to know we now have a Heavenly Father.
- St. John Bosco shows us how to be kind to others.



This Week's Family Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Our Father in Heaven

Directions: Trace the words.

Our Father, who art

in Heaven, hallowed

be thy name.

This means: God is our Father in Heaven.
His name is holy.



Our Lord Jesus Is God the Son

Directions: Find God the Father
and God the Son in the painting.



Jesus is **God**. He is God the **Son**.
He is the Son of God the **Father**.

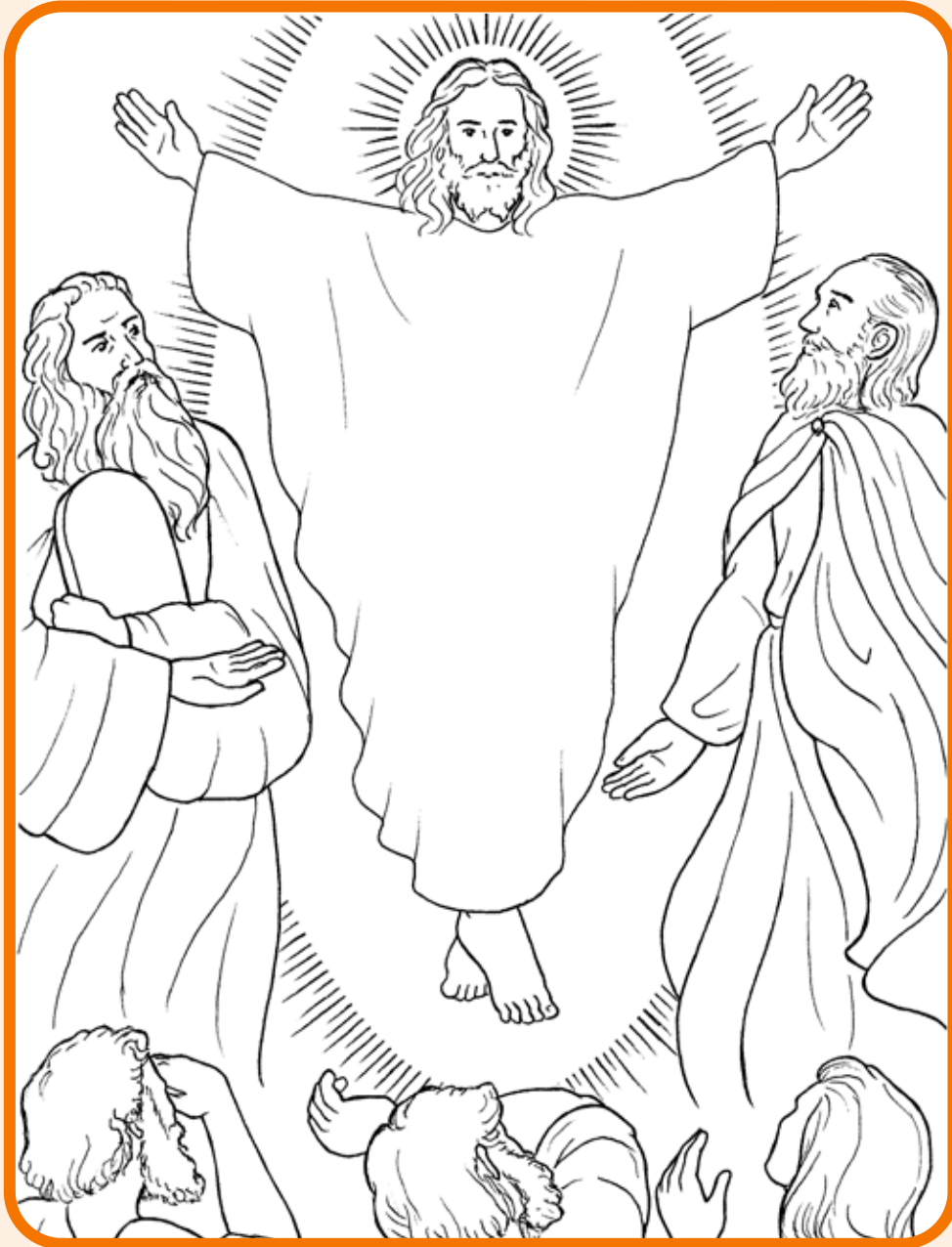
Transfiguration

by
Raphael



Transfiguration Coloring

Directions: Color the picture and **fill in the blanks**.



This is my Be _____ d Son, with
whom I am well _____ d.

Saint John Bosco

Directions: Color the picture.

Italy

