

# KIDS BULLETIN

## JANUARY 2022

Learn about Saints, Mummers, Martin  
Luther King Jr., and World Day of  
Peace

## **St. Hilary — Feast day January 13**

**Hilary was born to pagan parents of Poitiers, France, in 315. After training in the classics and philosophy, Hilary married. He and his wife had one daughter, Afra. All who knew Hilary said he was a friendly, charitable, gentle man. Hilary's studies led him to read Scripture. He became convinced that there was only one God, whose Son became man and died and rose to save all people. This led him to be baptized along with his wife and daughter.**

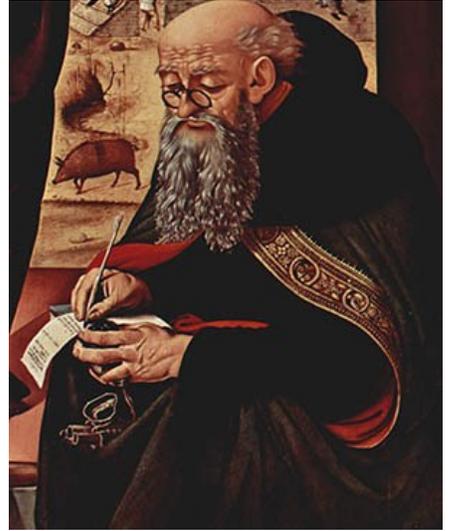
**The people of Poitiers chose Hilary to be their bishop in 353. He spoke out against Arianism, a heresy that denied the divinity of Christ. When Emperor Constantius II wanted him to sign a paper condemning Saint Athanasius, the great defender of the faith, he refused. The emperor was furious and exiled Hilary to Phrygia. In exile, he preached, wrote, and suffered, and even asked to debate the Arian bishops. Fearing Hilary's arguments, Arian's followers begged the emperor to send Hilary home. The emperor, believing Hilary was also undermining his authority, recalled him. Hilary's writings show that he could be fierce in defending the faith, but in dealing with the bishops who had given in to the Arian heresy, he was charitable. He showed them their errors and helped them to defend their faith. Though the emperor called Hilary "disturber of the peace," Saints Jerome and Augustine praised**



**him as "teacher of the churches."**

## **Saint Anthony— Feast Day January 17**

**Anthony was born in Egypt in 250. At age 20, when his parents died, Anthony made sure his younger sister's education could be completed in a community of holy women. He then sold all his possessions and left for a life of solitude in the desert. There an elderly hermit taught him about prayer and penance. For 20 years, he lived in isolation. Anthony wanted to know God deeply. He did penance by taking only bread and water once a day at sunset. The devil appeared to him in terrible shapes to tempt him. But Anthony had great confidence in God. Anthony's unusual life did not make him harsh but radiant with God's love and compassion.**



**Stories of Anthony's holiness spread, and people came to learn from him how to become holy. Some admirers wanted to stay, so Anthony—at age 54—founded a type of monastery consisting of hermitages near one another. Anthony wrote a rule that guided the monks. Later when Anthony heard of the persecutions of the Christians, he wanted to die a martyr. At 60, he left the desert to minister to the Christians in prisons, fearlessly exposing himself to danger. He came to realize that a person can die daily for Christ by serving him in ordinary ways with great love. So he returned to the desert to his life of prayer and penance. His life of solitude was again interrupted, however, when at age 88 he had a vision in which he saw the harm Arian followers were doing to the Church by denying the divinity of Christ. Anthony left for Alexandria to preach against this heresy. At age 90, another vision sent Anthony searching the desert for Saint Paul, the first hermit. These two holy men met and spoke of the wonders of God. Anthony is said to have died peacefully in a cave at age 105.**

# Mummers

Mummers are about celebration, fun, and family. They value tradition and community. Mummers can be musical, satirical or even a little ridiculous, but they are always colorful.

Mummers in Philadelphia are costumed citizens celebrating the New Year with family and friends. They belong to clubs in one of 5 Divisions: The Comic, The Fancy, the Wench Brigade, the String Band and the Fancy Brigade Divisions. In Philadelphia this has developed into the grandest of Mummers traditions, the annual Mummers Parade. Ten thousand participants and hundreds of thousands of parade viewers take to the streets and sidewalks or view on television on New Year's Day.

The Philadelphia Mummers Parade is the oldest continuous folk parade in the United States. The first formal, city-sponsored parade dates to 1901. But Mummery in Philadelphia began long before that. Mummers can be found throughout recorded history in ancient Egypt, in Greece, in Europe and elsewhere in the world. The Feast of Saturnalia, the British Mummer Play and the Florentine Carnival influenced today's Mummery. When European immigrants from Scandinavia, from Britain and other parts of Europe began arriving in the 17th Century, they brought their Mummer traditions with them. Whether on 2nd Christmas (December 26th) or eventually on New Year's Day, individuals, families and friends would "Mum" through their neighborhood. This might involve a skit or a poem, sometimes making fun of the ruling class, and often asking for food or drink.

The word Mummer can be traced to Greek mythology. Momus was the personification of satire, mockery and censure. Mummer can also be connected to the late Middle English word *mommer* and the Old French word *momeur*. Each relates to miming, masking and folk play.

While Mummers can be found throughout the city and suburbs of Philadelphia, the heart of the Mummers is in South Philadelphia, along Second Street and Third Street, in neighborhoods called Pennsport and Whitman. Today's Mummers are men and women from all walks of life, but strong Irish, German, Italian, Polish and Roman Catholic connections exist throughout the Mummers. Many graduated from the same high schools. Some trace their family's involvement back generations. Occupations such as longshoremen and firefighters have solid Mummer ties. Mummery has strong working class roots and symbolism.

**A MUMMER WEARS THE NAME WITH PRIDE.**

# *Summer Word Search*

X Y I R T N S T U Q L M Y W P  
V Q L K D T O K O U F J X E I  
H F P L R K S E F D N A B N F  
U Z A I I R R R V S T X D C L  
E J N N E H O K C P T K L H B  
P G I M C L P F U J T L J B K  
K J M B O Y J H P V E V M R J  
X U K C Y I D A T B M S H I L  
M M C Y K E R N N U Q W L G E  
C O M I C A Z M L Q O N F A M  
T Z H R D S A Y U E Q S O D U  
T J L E Z K U E G S I C L E T  
P H I L A D E L P H I A K I S  
L U F R O L O C Z P O C K N O  
F A N C Y B R I G A D E Y F C

Band

Colorful

Colorful

Comic

Costume

Fancy

FancyBrigade

Folk

Mummers

Music

Parade

Philadelphia

SouthPhilly

String

WenchBrigade

## **Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1929. At the time in that part of the country, segregation—or the separation of races in places like schools, buses, and restaurants—was the law. He experienced racial prejudice from the time he was very young, which inspired him to dedicate his life to achieving equality and justice for Americans of all colors. King believed that peaceful refusal to obey unjust law was the best way to bring about social change.**

**King and his wife, Coretta Scott King, lead demonstrators on the fourth day of a historic five-day march in 1965. Starting in Selma, Alabama, where local African Americans had been campaigning for the right to vote, King led thousands of nonviolent demonstrators 54 miles to the state capitol of Montgomery.**

**King was arrested several times during his lifetime. In 1960, he joined Black college students in a sit-in at a segregated lunch counter. Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy interceded to have King released from jail, an action that is credited with helping Kennedy win the presidency.**

**During the March on Washington. There, he delivered the "I Have a Dream" speech, which boosted public support for civil rights.**

**King receives the Nobel Prize for Peace from Gunnar Jahn, president of the Nobel Prize Committee, in Oslo, Norway, on December 10, 1964.**

**King was shot by James Earl Ray on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel. Americans honor the civil rights activist on the third Monday of January each year, Martin Luther King Day.**



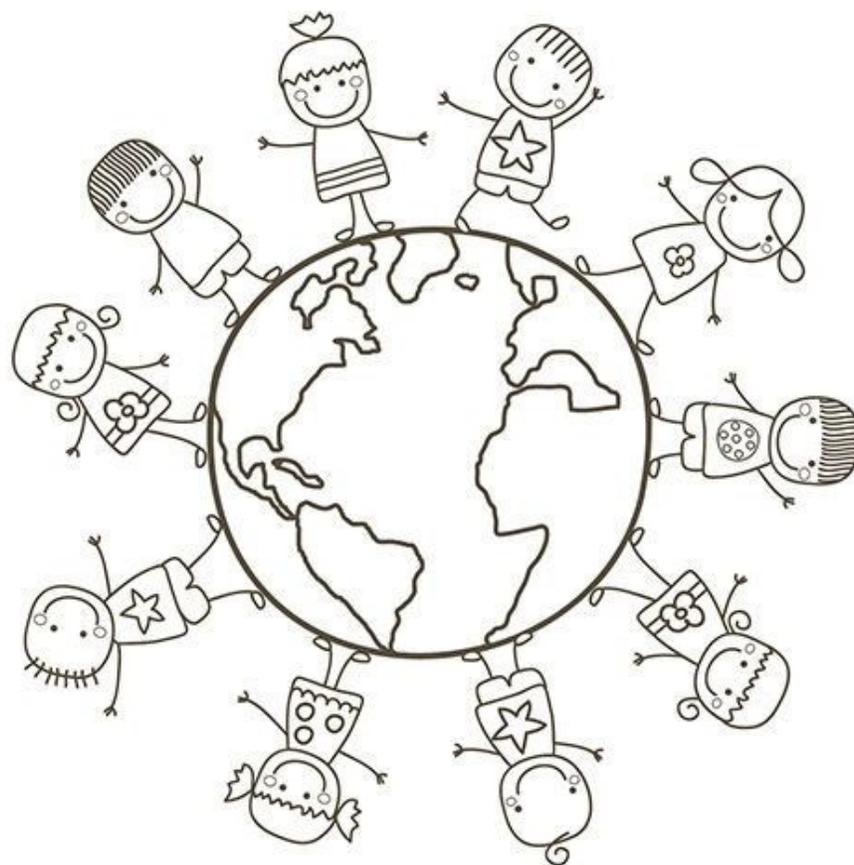
# WORLD DAY OF PEACE

**WORLD DAY OF PEACE, CELEBRATED ON JANUARY 1 EVERY YEAR, IS PRIMARILY A CATHOLIC FEAST DAY DEDICATED TO UNIVERSAL PEACE ON THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD. ON THIS OCCASION, POPES GENERALLY MAKE AUTHORITATIVE DECLARATIONS ON THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS (C.S.T.). THE THEME OF THE FEAST HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT CREATING A CULTURE OF CARE. THE POPE AND THE VATICAN CHURCH STRESS THE NEED TO CARE AND SHARE TOLERANCE FOR EACH OTHER, AND TO CREATE A SOCIETY THAT FOCUSES ON GOOD MORAL VALUES AND DOES NOT YIELD TO THE TEMPTATION TO DISREGARD OTHERS. THE BENEFITS OF A PEACEFUL SOCIETY HAVE BEEN THE EMPHASIS OF EVERY YEAR S WORLD DAY OF PEACE.**

**WORLD DAY OF PEACE BEGAN IN 1967 WHEN POPE PAUL VI ANNOUNCED THAT THE WORLD NEEDS TO BE SENSITIZED AND ORIENTED FOR PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING. INSPIRED BY THE PAPAL LETTERS PACEM IN TERRIS AND POPULORUM PROGRESSIO , THE POPE RECOMMENDED THAT THE CHURCH PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN OUR SEARCH FOR WORLD PEACE, AND SO THIS DAY, JANUARY 1, WAS APPOINTED AS A HOLY DAY TO CELEBRATE EFFORTS FOR WORLD PEACE.**

**ACCORDING TO THE LETTERS PACEM IN TERRIS AND POPULORUM PROGRESSIO, THE CHURCH AND THE POPE WOULD FOCUS ON WORKING TOWARD ACHIEVING PEACE BY DEVELOPING ORDER IN FOUR MAJOR AREAS: THE RELATIONSHIP OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH OTHER HUMAN BEINGS, THE RELATIONSHIP OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH PARTICULAR STATES, THE RELATIONSHIP OF STATES AMONG STATES, AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF INDIVIDUALS AND STATES WITH THE WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY. THE CHURCH DETERMINED THAT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE ACTUAL PEACE, A CULTURE OF UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE MUST BE DEVELOPED, BEGINNING FROM THE INDIVIDUAL UP TO THE STATE AND THEN THE GLOBAL LEVEL.**

**THOUGH THE MAIN THEME OF WORLD DAY OF PEACE DOES NOT CHANGE (CREATING A CULTURE OF CARE), KEEPING THE MAIN THEME AROUND EVERY YEAR S OBSERVANCE OF WORLD DAY OF PEACE FIXATED AROUND THE CONCEPT OF CREATING A CULTURE OF CARE, THE SUB-THEMES CHANGES EVERY YEAR TO MATCH THE NEEDS AND RISING ISSUES OF THAT YEAR. THE SUB-THEME FOR 2020 WAS HOPE, WHICH CAME AS A TRIBUTE TO THE WORLD S SUFFERING FROM COVID-19.**



# PEACE

makes the world  
a better place