

St. Augustine of Hippo was a bit like the lost son in our Gospel reading today. His mother, St. Monica, taught him about Jesus but when he was a teenager he did not listen and left home and did not live in a good way.

He studied other religions and tried following them but he realized that each one was not right. He tried wild parties and indulgent living, but that did not satisfy him.

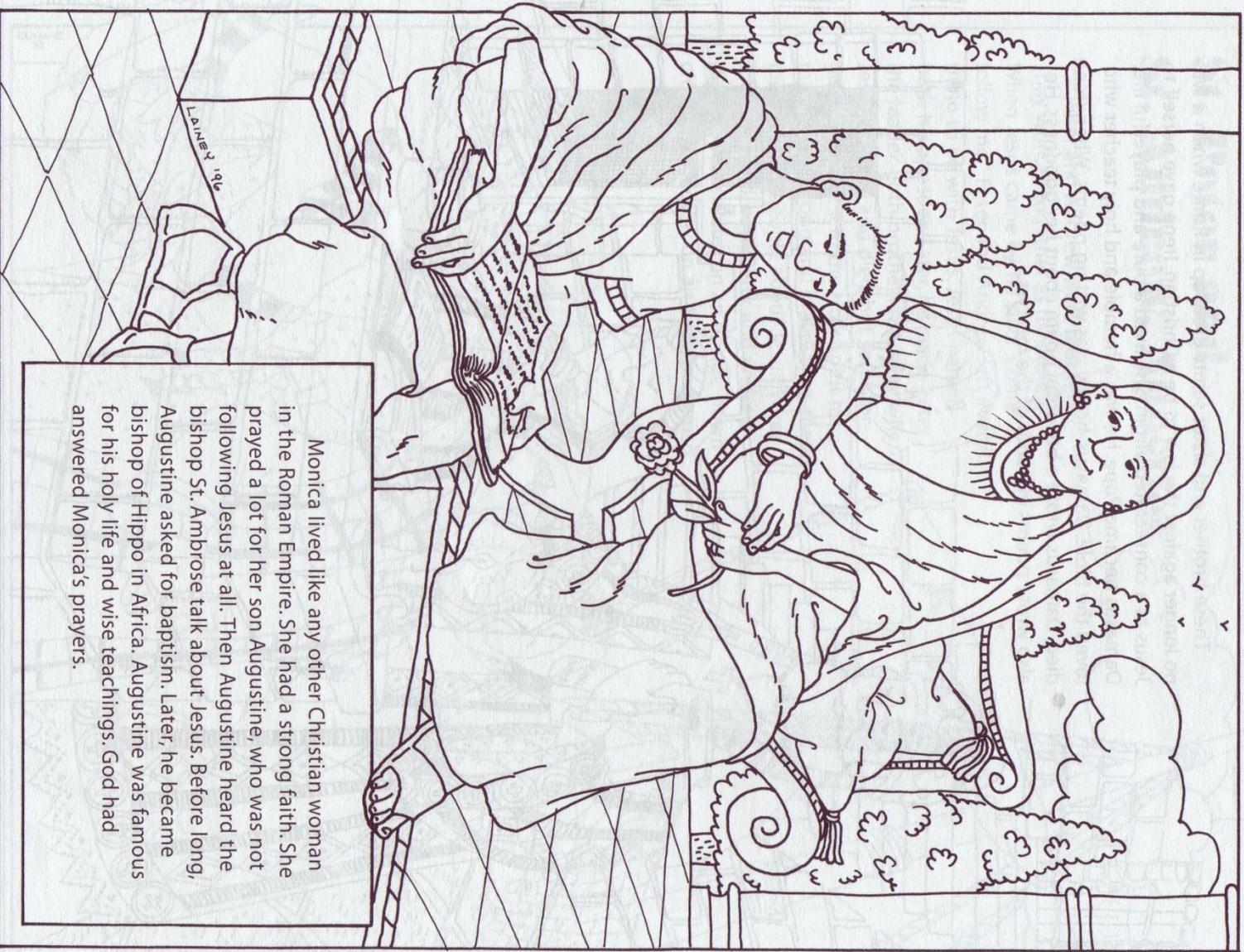
Finally, one day he was in Milan, Italy and he heard St. Ambrose talking about Jesus. He was interesting so he listened. Soon he realized that this was the truth and he decided to follow Jesus. His mother, who had been praying for this for years, was very happy.

Augustine continued to study the ways of Jesus and wrote many books. The more he studied, the more he loved Jesus.

Augustine wrote: "Too late have I loved You. Our hearts were made for You, O Lord, and they are restless until they rest in you."

His feast day is August 28

St. Monica and St. Augustine



Monica lived like any other Christian woman in the Roman Empire. She had a strong faith. She prayed a lot for her son Augustine, who was not following Jesus at all. Then Augustine heard the bishop St. Ambrose talk about Jesus. Before long, Augustine asked for baptism. Later, he became bishop of Hippo in Africa. Augustine was famous for his holy life and wise teachings. God had answered Monica's prayers.