

Jesus Brother of the Poor.

*From the beginning of his life, Jesus was homeless,
for there was no place for him in the inn.*

*When his parents took him to Jerusalem for the
first time they were numbered among the
poor and they offered the gift of the poor.*

*As a child he was a refugee, forced to flee the
hatred that broke out in persecution, to leave
his own land and live in exile.*

*As a boy, he was able to confound the learned
teachers with his wisdom, but he still worked
with his hands as a humble carpenter like his
foster father, Joseph.*

*After explaining the scriptures in the synagogue at
Nazareth, the carpenter's son was rejected.*

*Even one of the disciples chosen to follow him
asked "Can anything good come out of
Nazareth?"*

*He was also the victim of injustice and torture
and was put to death without anyone coming
to his defense.*

*He was the brother of the poor; it was his mission
-- for he was sent by God the Father and
anointed by the Spirit -- to proclaim the
Gospel to the poor.*

John Paul II, Manila 1981