

# The Junior Observer

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## A Good News Story

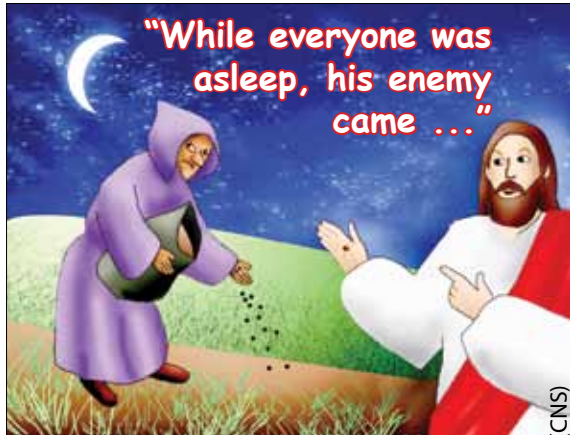
# Jesus Talks about the Sower of Seeds

Catholic News Service

Many people had come to hear Jesus preach, so he decided to speak from a spot where everyone could see him. Since he was on the shore of the sea, he climbed into a boat and sat down. The crowd of people stood along the shore.

“The kingdom of heaven,” Jesus said, “may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat and then went off. When the crop grew ... the slaves of the householder came to him and said, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?’”

Jesus looked at the crowd. He had been watching their faces as



### Q&A

What did the good seed represent?

Read more in Matthew 13.

they listened to his stories. Then he continued. “He answered, ‘An enemy has done this. ... Let [the wheat and the weeds] grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, ‘First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Jesus could hear people whispering and murmuring to each other

as they wondered about the meaning of his story. He held up his hand to get their attention.

Then he started another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person ... sowed in a field.”

Jesus knew that not everyone could see his hands, but he used them to help illustrate the size of the mustard seed and the tree that

it becomes.

“It is the smallest of all the seeds,” he continued, “yet when full grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’” Jesus knew that many of the people would recognize those words from the writings of the prophet Ezekiel.

After telling other parables, Jesus later went to a house where he could be alone with his disciples. Even they wondered about the meaning of the stories Jesus had told that day. So Jesus tried to explain it to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one.”



At St. Mary Parish in Huntley, the junior high youth ministry assembled, prayed and set free a balloon rosary to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in the month of May



In Loves Park, the St. Bridget School Builders Club sponsored a collection of kid-friendly snacks (above) for the Rock House Kids of Rockford. They also collected pop tabs (insert) all year for Ronald McDonald House.

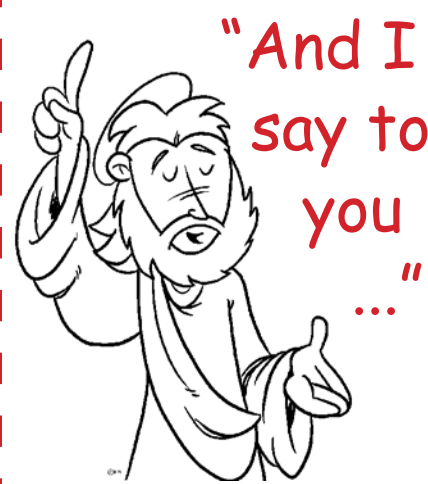
## Living Faith and Charity In Catholic Schools



Aurora’s post office sponsored a food drive the first weekend of May. The second graders of St. Peter School in Aurora collected four well filled boxes of non-perishable food items to help with the cause.



Students at St. Rita School in Rockford collected 286 pairs of flip flops and donated them to the Rockford Womens Crisis Center. Mia Berg (left) and Elaina Hills show part of the collection.



Jesus taught us many things that are recorded in the Bible. Number the following books in the order they appear in the New Testament:

- \_\_\_ Luke
- \_\_\_ 1 John
- \_\_\_ 2 Peter
- \_\_\_ Ephesians
- \_\_\_ Matthew
- \_\_\_ James
- \_\_\_ Philippians
- \_\_\_ Mark
- \_\_\_ Jude
- \_\_\_ Titus

See answers on page 11.

When you finish the puzzle above, cut it out, paste it on a piece of cardboard, color the picture and use it as a bookmark in your Bible.