

The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

Jesus Says to Share Your Wealth

Before a wealthy landowner left for a long journey, he wanted to give instructions to three of his servants because he wanted them to take care of his money. He gave five talents, which were very valuable coins, to the first, two to the second and one to the third. Believing this was a wise distribution of the money, the man left.

The servant with five talents invested his money and bought supplies, which he was able to sell for a profit. By his efforts, he earned five more talents. The second servant did the same, also doubling his money. But the third servant dug a hole in the ground and buried his talent so that it would be safe.

After a long time the landowner returned and he again called for his three servants. The first servant said: "Master, you gave me five tal-



(CNS)

Q&A

Why did the third servant bury his talent?

When was the kingdom prepared for the blessed ones?

Read more in Matthew 25

ents. See, I have made five more."

"Well done, my good and faithful servant," said the landowner. "Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."

The second servant said: "Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more." And the

landowner treated him as he did the first servant.

The third servant said: "Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter. So out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back."

The landowner became very

angry and said, "You wicked, lazy servant! ... Should you not then have put my money in the bank so I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with 10."

When Jesus had finished telling this story, he said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne. ... Then the king will say to those on his right: 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'"

Bible Puzzle

Which of the following statements are true, and which are false? (Chapter and verse references from the Gospel of Matthew are hints.)

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|-------------------------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Emmanuel means "abundant harvest." (1:23) | T | F |
| 2. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. (2:1) | T | F |
| 3. John was a "voice crying out in the desert." (3:3) | T | F |
| 4. The lamp of the body is the heart. (6:22) | T | F |
| 5. Peter walked on water. (14:29) | T | F |
| 6. Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus. (17:3) | T | F |
| 7. Jesus was betrayed by Philip. (26:14) | T | F |

Answers on page 14

We Share our Beliefs

As members of the Catholic Church, we have the same beliefs as Catholics in other countries. The pope is our spiritual leader. A bishop is usually in charge of a local diocese, and a priest may be responsible for one or more churches.

The church has four qualities.

- 1) It is one in faith, sacraments and authority;
- 2) it is holy;
- 3) it is catholic, which means universal, with a goal to bring people together under God; and
- 4) it is apostolic, which means it is based on the actions and teachings of the apostles who followed Jesus.

We have the same liturgical — or church — calendar. Our new church year will begin at the end of this month with the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 30.

Learning the Buzz about Bees



(Photos provided)



St. Charles Borromeo School's preschooler through fourth-grade students traveled from their school in Hampshire to Kuiper's Farm for a science and social studies field trip last month. Mrs. Maureen Gannon's kindergarten class (left) receives instructions from their guide as fourth-grader Nick Szydzik (above) tries on beekeeper's protective attire.