

The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

Jesus Begins Preaching, Working Miracles

Catholic News Service

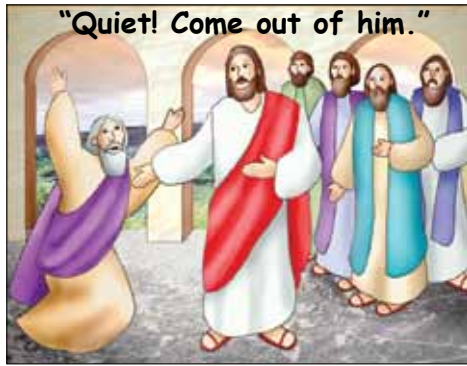
After John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee to proclaim the gospel of God.

“This is the time of fulfillment,” he said. “The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”

Jesus wanted men he could depend on to travel with Him and to help Him carry out his work. He saw two fishermen casting their nets into the Sea of Galilee. One was named Simon, the other was his brother Andrew.

Jesus called out to them: “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

The two men immediately left their work and went with Jesus. Jesus continued walking and saw two other brothers, also fishermen,



(CNS)

who were in a boat mending a net. When Jesus called them, they, too, left their work to follow Him.

Jesus and His new disciples went to Capernaum where Jesus taught in the synagogue on the Sabbath day. Jesus spoke with such wisdom and authority that everyone who heard Him was amazed.

In the synagogue was a man who had an unclean spirit. “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?” the man said. “Have you come to destroy us? I know who you

are — the Holy One of God!”

Jesus looked at the man and said: “Quiet! Come out of him.” The unclean spirit drove the man into convulsions and came out of him with a loud scream.

The people who witnessed this questioned each other: “What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.”

This story quickly spread throughout the region of Galilee.

But Jesus did not stop with this

miracle. He went to the home of Simon’s mother-in-law and healed her of a serious fever.

Later that evening many people came to Jesus asking for healing and deliverance. He healed people who were sick of many different diseases, and He cast out many other unclean spirits. Jesus commanded the unclean spirits not to speak because they knew who Jesus was.

After that Jesus would rise before the sun came up so He could be alone to pray. Simon found Jesus and told him, “Everyone is looking for you.”

So Jesus answered: “Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.”

And Jesus kept His word, preaching, healing people and casting out unclean spirits.

Q&A

What did Jesus say about the kingdom of God?

Why did Jesus want to be alone?

Read more about it in Mark 1.

15th Chance to Share Your Heart with Peru’s Children

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, we begin the church season of Lent.

One important part of Lent is almsgiving, which is another word for giving help to the needy.

Fifteen years ago, Rita Prunuske, former president of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, and Penny Wiegert, former Junior Observer editor, heard that poor children in Peru were unable to attend school because they had no paper and pencils.

They knew Rockford Diocese had sent missionaries and helped build a church in the Diocese of Chulucanas, so they decided to ask children here to help the children of Peru.

Heart to Heart was born.

To take part, all you need to do is decorate the hearts on this page, collect (or earn) \$2, and send your donation to The Junior Observer. (See box above, right.)

Make as many copies

of the hearts as you’d like.

Since Heart to Heart began, children have decorated more than 26,000 hearts and do-

nated more than \$60,000 to help school children in Peru.

Can you help this year?

Here’s How You Can Help

Decorate these double hearts, cut them out and send them, with a \$2 donation for each pair, to The Junior Observer, Heart to Heart, P.O. Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125. Do not mount your hearts on other paper because it adds to mailing costs. The deadline for hearts and donations is **Good Friday, April 3.**

*Heart to Heart ... De Corazón al Corazón
Rockford — 2015 — Chulucanas*

