

The Junior Observer

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Q&A

Whom did God regret making king of Israel?

Which of Jesse's sons did God want Samuel to anoint?

Read more about it in 1 Samuel 16

A Old Testament Story

Samuel Anoints David King

Catholic News Service

The Israelites wanted to have a king to rule over them, so God anointed Saul as the first king of Israel.

But Saul wound up doing what was evil in God's sight, and God regretted making Saul king.

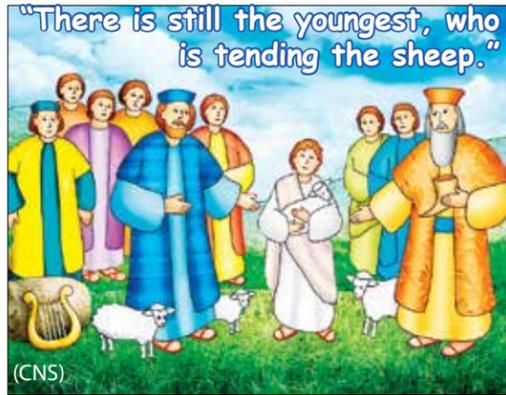
So, God sent the prophet Samuel on a mission.

"Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons," God told the prophet.

"How can I go? Saul will hear of it and kill me," Samuel said.

"Take a heifer along and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I myself will tell you what to do; you are to anoint for me the one I point out to you," God replied.

Samuel traveled to Bethlehem. As he entered the city, the elders came up to him to ask whether his visit was going



Bible Trivia

What Philistine champion did David defeat? (Hint: 1 Samuel 17)

Answer: Goliath

to be a peaceful one.

"Yes! I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. So, purify yourselves and celebrate with me today," Samuel told the elders. He also had Jesse and his sons purify themselves and invited them to the sacrifice.

At the sacrifice, Jesse presented his sons to Samuel one by one. Samuel thought for sure that Jesse's eldest son,

Eliab, would be chosen by God.

"Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart," God told Samuel.

"Are these all the sons you have?" Samuel asked after meeting seven of Jesse's sons, none of whom God chose.

"There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep," Jesse replied.

"Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here," the prophet said.

David was brought before Samuel. David was a handsome youth and made a splendid appearance.

"There — anoint him, for this is the one!" God told Samuel.

Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David in the midst of his brothers, and from that day on, the spirit of the Lord rushed upon David.

Saints Can Help When People are Sick

You are probably home from school this week because of the coronavirus. You may also wonder how you can make a difference in such a big problem.

Of course, you've already heard how important it is to wash your hands — a lot — and to stay away from other people for a while.

But no matter where you are, you can always pray for people who are ill and those who take care of them. Perhaps your family has already started to say the rosary at home. (Don't forget you can pray with our own Bishop David Malloy online at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/junior-observer>.)

But you can also pray to saints to intercede, which means to ask them to pray to God for us. We pray to saints like this because we know they are with God in heaven.

You may pray to your favorite saint, whoever that is. But you also may want to say prayers to these three saints who are patrons in times of illness.

St. Luke, one of the writers of the Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, became a Christian in the first century.



St. Luke

According to Paul's letters and the Acts, Luke was a doctor who traveled with Paul and was with Paul in prison in Rome.

He is the patron of physicians and surgeons. You can pray to him to ask that the doctors taking care of people with coronavirus and other illnesses stay well themselves.

St. Camillus de Lellis was an Italian who lived from 1550 to 1614. He had a leg wound that made it hard to get around. Even with his injury, he worked as a hospital servant and a soldier in Venice, Italy.



St. Camillus

He became a laborer at the Manfredonia Capuchin monastery and in 1575 tried to join the Capuchins. But his leg wound returned, and he was in and out of the hospital. He decided to devote his life to caring for the sick.

Camillus was ordained in 1584 and founded the Order of the Servants of the Sick, more generally known as the Camillians.

He is a patron saint of hospitals and of nurses, so you can ask him to intercede for everyone who cares for people who are ill or who work in hospitals, like nurses.

Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are messengers sent by God. They are the only ones named in the Bible.

Michael, called "the great prince," is patron of the sick so you can ask him to intercede for people with coronavirus and anyone who is sick.

Raphael is patron of physicians and travelers. Since many travelers are being asked to self-quarantine praying to Raphael to intercede for them and for doctors is a good idea.



St. Raphael

Quarantine means to stay away from other people.

Gabriel is the patron of messengers, telecommunications and postal workers. Since these people are helping to get the word about coronavirus to others, you might want to pray to Gabriel, too.

— Sharon Boehlefeld and CNS

Puzzle

Using the hints from 1 Samuel, circle the correct answer to each question about David.

- Which of Saul's daughters was in love with David?
Merob or Michal (18:20)
- Who was jealous of David and wanted to kill him?
Saul or Jonathan (19:1)
- Whose sword did David receive from Ahimelech the priest?
Abner's or Goliath's (21:9-10)
- Who refused to give provisions to David and his men?
Samuel or Nabal (25:4-11)

Answers: 1. Michal; 2. Saul; 3. Goliath's; 4. Nabal