

The Junior Observer

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An Old Testament Story

Israel Enters the Promised Land

Catholic News Service

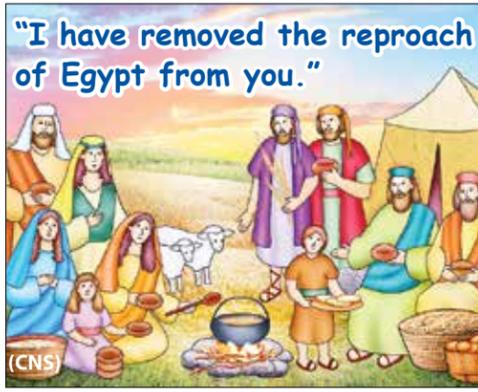
After Moses died, God chose Joshua, son of Nun, to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

Joshua readied the people to cross the Jordan River and into the land that was to be their new home. He told the people to follow the priests who would be carrying the ark of the covenant.

He said that when the soles of the priests' feet touched the water of the Jordan, God would make the river stop flowing so the people could cross.

Once the people crossed the dry riverbed, God told Joshua to have one person from each of the 12 tribes of Israel take a large stone from the riverbed and bring it to the place where they would make camp.

"In the future, these are to be a sign among you," Joshua said. "When your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean to you?' you shall answer them, 'The waters of the Jordan ceased to flow before the ark of the covenant of the Lord when it crossed the Jordan.' Thus these stones are to serve as a perpetual memorial to the Israelites."



Bible Trivia

What happened to Jericho when a horn blew and the Israelites shouted? (Hint: Joshua 6:20)

Answer: The city's walls collapsed.

Joshua then told the priests to come out of the riverbed, and the Jordan began flowing again.

The people camped in Gilgal on the eastern limits of Jericho, and Joshua set up the 12 memorial stones there.

Also at Gilgal, all the men who had been born during the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after leaving Egypt were circumcised.

"Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you," God told Joshua.

The Israelites celebrated the Passover while they were camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho and

ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain.

On that same day after they ate of the produce of the land, the manna God provided for them in the desert ceased.

After celebrating the Passover, Joshua was near the city of Jericho. He looked up and saw someone with a drawn sword in hand. He was the commander of the army of God.

God then explained to Joshua how to defeat the people of Jericho.

Q&A

Who led the people after Moses' death?

Where did the Israelites camp in the Promised Land?

Read more about it in Joshua 3, 4 & 5

How Can We Help? What Can We Do?

Students Around the United States Care for Children in Ukraine

The war in Ukraine is far away, and it can be frightening and sad to think about people in trouble when it seems like there isn't much we can do here.

But we can help. Across the United States and even here in our diocese, children like you are praying, donating supplies, and bringing hope.

In the Diocese of Rockford



(Photo provided/ Sonja Keane)

ELGIN—St. Thomas More Parish and School (above) collected blankets, diapers, formula, first aid supplies and much more to donate to families in Ukraine. There were enough donations to fill four large cars.

In Your Home

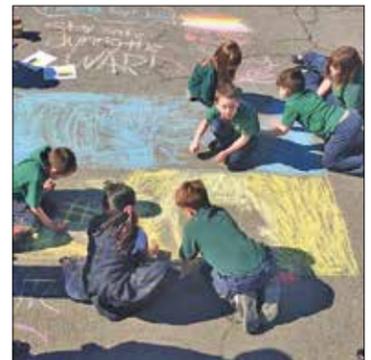
1) Share a prayer:

Pray a decade of the rosary, asking for protection for families in Ukraine.

2) Share a drawing:

Draw a picture and write something kind. If your parents use social media, ask them to take a picture and share it with #KidsDrawPeace4Ukraine to spread hope. You may be able to send a letter and picture through your school as well.

In Maryland



(CNS photo/courtesy Philip McQuilkin, St. Michael's School via Catholic Standard)

RIDGE—Students at St. Michael's School use chalk to offer messages of hope on Feb. 11 as part of an outreach project to Ukrainian students.

In New Jersey



(CNS photo/Gerald Wutkowski Jr., Diocese of Metuchen)

PERTH AMBOY—Students from Assumption Ukrainian Catholic School and Perth Amboy Catholic School gather at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption March 3 to pray for Ukraine.

In New York



(CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

NEW YORK CITY—Eighth-grade students at St. Luke School — Vita Kimmel, left, Aubrey Neos and Giuliana Lim — pack up donated goods March 16. The New York students also donated to Catholic Relief Services and to Voices of Children, which helps children with the fear and sadness of war.