

The Junior Observer

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Q&A

How many parables did Jesus tell?

What coin was Jesus given?

Read more about it in Matthew 21 and 22

A Good News Story

The Pharisees Try to Trick Jesus

BY JENNIFER FICCAGLIA
Catholic Courier

One day, the chief priests and the elders of the people approached Jesus as He taught in the Temple. “By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?” they asked.

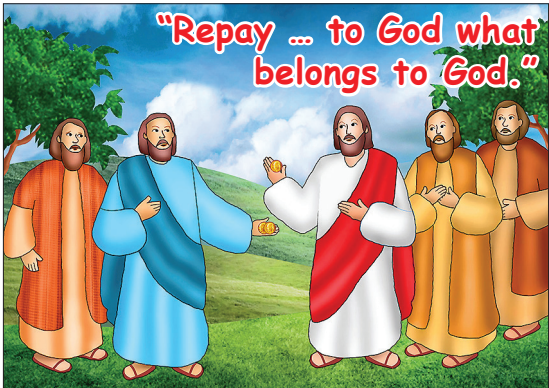
Jesus refused to answer them because they were afraid to answer His questions about whether John the Baptist’s baptism was of human or heavenly origin.

Jesus then told two parables, one of which was about a landowner who leased his vineyard to tenants.

The landowner twice sent his servants to collect the vineyard’s produce. Each time, the servants were beaten or killed.

Then the landowner sent his son, thinking the tenants would respect him. Instead, his son was thrown out of the vineyard and killed.

“What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?” Jesus asked.



(Illustration/Linda Rivers)

Bible Trivia
What did the scholar of the law ask Jesus to test Him?
(Hint: Matthew 22:36)

Answer: Which commandment in the law is the greatest?

“He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times,” the chief priests and elders answered.

“Did you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has

this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes’? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit,” Jesus said.

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew He was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest Jesus, but they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus a prophet.

Instead, the Pharisees went off and plotted how to entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their followers to Jesus to ask a question.

“Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” they asked.

Jesus wanted to see the coin that pays the census tax. They handed Him the Roman coin.

“Whose image is this, and whose inscription?” Jesus asked.

“Caesar’s,” they replied.

“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God,” Jesus said.

Faith-Filled Fun for Friends of Different Ages

HAMPSHIRE—Students in different grades at St. Charles Borromeo School meet for religious activities. The sixth-graders met with the preschool class to make pocket rosaries for the month of the rosary and fifth-graders practiced hymns with the first-graders.



(Photo provided/Amy Siegmann)



(Photo provided/Teresa Homeier)

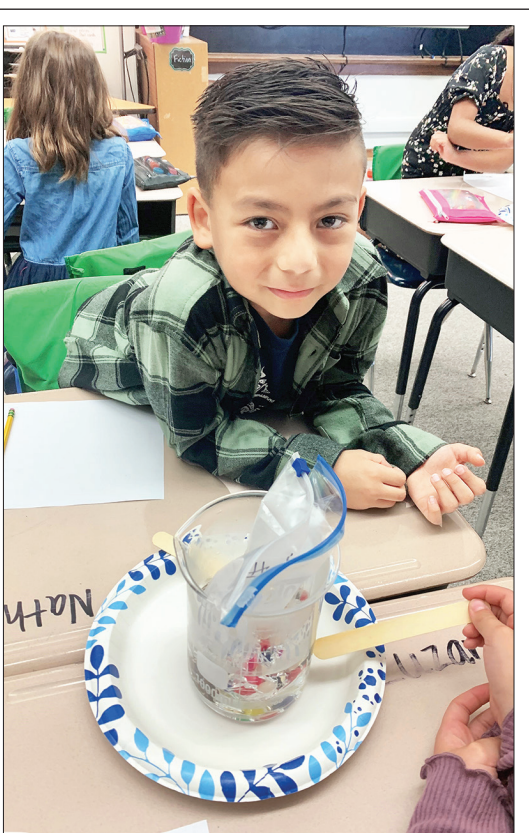
Hampshire Students Make Saintry Scarecrow

HAMPSHIRE—St. Charles Borromeo School entered a scarecrow decorating contest put on by the village at the end of September. Preschool and sixth-grade student “buddies” added a pitchfork and angels to make the school’s scarecrow like St. Isidore, the patron saint of farmers and rural communities.

St. Isidore was a farm laborer who went to daily morning Mass and prayed as he worked, often losing track of time passing. His fellow workers complained that he was late and distracted, but he received heavenly help from angels who would plow for him and alongside him.



(Photo provided/Amy Siegmann)



(Photo provided/Carol Norman)

Sweets Meet Science in St. Mary School Classes

ELGIN—This year, students in kindergarten through fifth grade at St. Mary School are learning science through an interactive “Mystery Science” program. The hands-on learning system, aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, provides videos of experiments for students to watch and then challenges them to do the experiments themselves. One experiment for second-grade students (pictured) invited the scientists to observe and record physical changes to jelly beans and chocolates heated in hot water.