

The Junior Observer

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An Old Testament Story

People Cheer as Jesus Enters Jerusalem

BY JENNIFER FICCAGLIA
Catholic Courier

Jesus and the apostles were traveling to Jerusalem so they could celebrate the Passover feast.

As they traveled along, Jesus told His friends what was about to happen to Him.

“The Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock Him, spit upon Him, scourge Him and put Him to death, but after three days He will rise,” Jesus said.

When the men reached Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, not far from Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of the apostles on an errand.

“Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat,” Jesus said. “Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’



(Illustration/Linda Jeanne Rivers)

Bible Trivia

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus healed a blind man. What was his name? (Hint: Mark 10:46)

Answer: Bartimaeus.

reply, “The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.”

The two apostles went to the village and found the colt tethered at a gate outside on the street. As they untied the colt, some bystanders questioned them.

“What are you doing, untying

the colt?” they asked.

The apostles answered the bystanders as Jesus had instructed, and the bystanders did not give them any trouble as they led the colt away.

They brought the colt to Jesus and placed their cloaks upon the animal. Jesus then sat on the colt.

As Jesus rode the colt toward Jerusalem, people who saw Him along the way recognized Him. They spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

The people who preceded Jesus repeatedly cried out:

“Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!”

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the Temple area. He looked around at everything and, since it was already late, went out to Bethany with the apostles.

Q&A

Where did Jesus and the apostles stop just before entering Jerusalem?

What animal did Jesus tell two of His apostles to get for Him?

Read more about it in **Mark 11**



(Photo/Mary Mendoza)

Lee Confirmation Retreat Strengthens Devotion

LEE—On the morning of March 2, St. James Parish welcomed the parish’s six confirmands as well as three from St. Patrick Parish, Rochelle, for a confirmation retreat. The students were set to receive the sacrament of confirmation March 17.

One highlight of the retreat for students was learning about the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel; the Scapular devotion teaches confidence in the intercession of the Blessed Virgin to preserve the wearer from hell at death.

Father Bonaventure Okoro, pastor, enrolled the students in the Brown Scapular Confraternity and presented each with a Scapular that was touched to the arm bone of Saint Jude Thaddeus, which is currently on pilgrimage throughout the United States (apostleoftheimpossible.com).

The retreat ended with the Diocesan Holy Hour for Life, followed by Mass.

—Provided by Mary Mendoza.

All Wins for St. Patrick Boys Basketball Teams

ST. CHARLES—The seventh- and eighth-grade boys basketball teams at St. Patrick School both concluded undefeated November-through-February seasons with a tournament at St. Peter School, Geneva. After playing each other to finish the tournament, they celebrated their respective rankings as season champions in the Rockford Diocese’s Fox River Valley. The team parents joined the coaches, Steve Wright and Jay Tulley, in congratulating the athletes on their accomplishments.



(Photo/Trish Rippling-Watson)