

# The Junior Observer

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## A Good News Story

# A New Apostle Replaces Judas

*Catholic News Service*

**J**esus told his disciples not to leave Jerusalem but to wait in the city for “the promise of the Father about which you heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth.”

And then, while the disciples were watching, Jesus disappeared into a cloud and was gone.

As they reflected on the miraculous sight that had just happened in front of them, the disciples went back into the city of Jerusalem to the Upper Room where they found Peter, John, James, Andrew, Jesus’ mother Mary and many other Christian women and men. They



### Q&A

The story of Judas and the money is told in two places. What is the story in Acts 1:15-21?

What is the story in Matthew 27:3-10?

Read more in Acts 1 and Matthew 27.

spent many hours praying and studying the Scriptures together.

At one of their times together there were more than 120 people present. Peter stood up to speak.

He said, “The Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was numbered

among us and was allotted a share in this ministry.”

Peter reminded the Christians that Judas, who had been one of the Twelve Apostles, was now dead.

Judas had been paid to betray Jesus. Judas led the soldiers to the Garden of Gethsemane to arrest Jesus. Judas’ money was used to buy a field. People called that land the “Field of Blood” because it was

bought with money that paid for the death of someone.

Peter continued, quoting from the Scriptures, “Let his encampment become desolate, and may no one dwell in it, and may another take his office.”

The disciples decided to choose another man to take Judas’ place. Two candidates were proposed, Joseph Barsabbas, also known as Justus, and Matthias.

The Christians also agreed that the best method of selection to be used would be the casting of lots.

Peter said a prayer before the lots were cast. “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go into his own place.”

The lot fell upon Matthias.



(Photos provided)

Eighth-grade students at St. James School in Rockford designed houses for a science project. Then they worked in groups to build them. Showing their project are (from left) Baylee Beaman, Lauren Kelly, and Leah Haney.

## Science and Service in Catholic Schools



Students from St. Rita School in Rockford went with the Service Committee to spend some time helping with food (above) and clothing (right) distribution at St. Elizabeth Catholic Community Center in Rockford. The event allowed students to put their faith into action.



Students in Susan McCabe’s seventh-grade science class at St. Margaret Mary School in Algonquin were awarded extra points in creativity for this year’s annual “Egg Incubation Lab.” Student groups design, decorate and construct incubators for the annual year-end chick hatching unit in Life Science. Each group was responsible for turning eggs four times a day, regulating temperature and humidity in their incubator, and assuming “mama hen” duties to insure a successful hatch. This year’s creativity winners were “Chicks at the Beach,” an ocean themed incubator; “Chicks gone Wild,” a jungle themed incubator; and “Popcorn Chicken,” an incubator designed as a box of popcorn. Students participating are (back, from left) Jordyn Balduf, Ethan Richter, Celine Rafie, Eva Tersteeg, Gabrielle Kaminski, (front) Mackenzie Garrett, Kevin Ahler, Harrison Stanko, Trey Faunce, Ben Schneider and Caleb Taylor.

