

The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

Jesus Restores a Blind Man's Sight

Catholic News Service

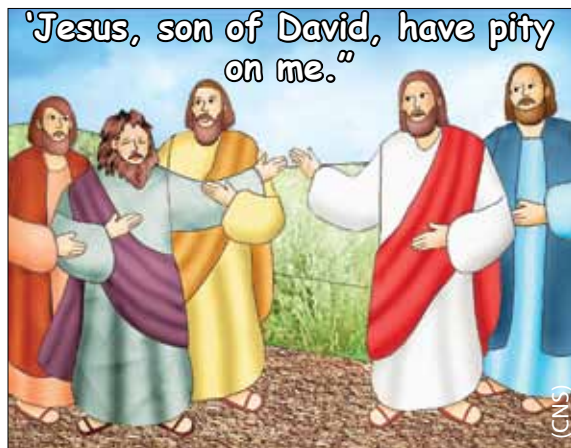
Before Jesus and the Apostles traveled to Jericho, two of His friends, James and John, asked if one of them could sit at His right hand and the other at His left hand in the kingdom of God.

When the other Apostles heard this, they were mad that James and John would ask for such special treatment.

So Jesus decided to talk to His friends about what would make them the greatest among the Apostles. Only those who are the servants of all would be the greatest, Jesus explained.

"For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many," He said.

During the trip to Jericho, Jesus preached and served others. A large



Q&A

What city did Jesus and the Apostles visit?

What was the name of the blind man Jesus healed?

Read more in Mark 10.

crowd gathered around Him wherever He went.

Just as Jesus and His Apostles were getting ready to leave Jericho, there on the side of the road sat a man. His name was Bartimaeus. He was blind and was begging from the crowd of people who were following Jesus.

Bartimaeus could hear the crowd's excitement. As the people drew closer, he could hear them talk

excitedly about Jesus. He knew the Lord must be nearby.

"Jesus, son of David, have pity on me," he cried out.

Many people in the crowd yelled at him and told him to be quiet. But Bartimaeus did not listen. He kept crying out for Jesus to have pity on him.

Jesus stopped. The crowd stopped with him.

"Call him," Jesus told the people.

The crowd approached Bartimaeus.

"Take courage; get up, He is calling you," they said.

So Bartimaeus threw aside his cloak and stood up. Although he could not see, he managed to make his way to Jesus and stood before the Lord. Jesus looked at Bartimaeus.

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked.

Bartimaeus was filled with faith.

"Master," he said to Jesus, "I want to see."

Jesus looked at him with love.

"Go your way; your faith has saved you," the Lord said.

Immediately after Jesus spoke, Bartimaeus received his sight. The man was overjoyed and followed Jesus as the Lord and His friends left Jericho.



(Photo provided)

Catequism Winner

Sixth-grader Ben Hartmann won the first Father Joel Lopez Catequism Bee at Christ the King Church in Wonder Lake April 30. He competed against five other religious education students who each responded to a series of 60 questions ranging from easy to difficult.



(Photo provided)

RE Students Honored

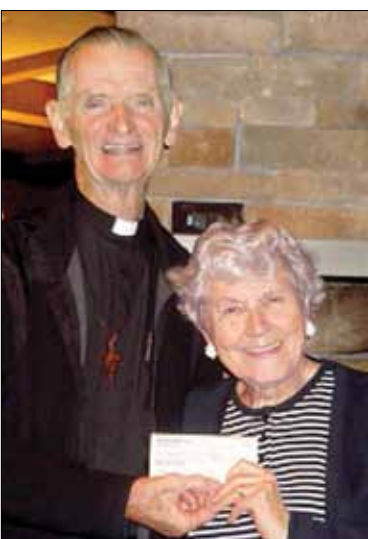
Religious education students of St. John the Baptist Parish in Savanna ended their school year with an award program recognizing their achievements. Also honored were the three children receiving their first Communion, and the catechists who share their time and faith with the children.



(Photo provided)

Students Visit Elderly

St. Patrick School organization, Students of Service (SOS), in St. Charles gathered at Pine View Nursing Home April 30 to perform works of mercy by visiting the elderly. Each resident received a flower, smiles and lots of conversation.



(Photo provided)

16th Heart to Heart a Success



Heart to Heart had a successful 16th season. Children sent 1,100 decorated double hearts and \$5,030 to help children in the Diocese of Chulucanas in northern Peru. That brings the 16-year

Bishop Daniel Turley, OSA, accepts a Heart to Heart check from Rita Prunuske of the Rockford Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

total to 24,401 hearts and \$71,862.

The annual Lent project, sponsored by The Junior Observer and the Rockford Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, connects children of the Rockford Diocese with children from our sister Diocese of Chulucanas.

Many of you decorated the double heart which we featured on this page and contributed \$2.

Rita Prunuske, former editor of The Junior Observer and member of the RDCCW, presented the hearts and the money to Bishop Daniel Turley, OSA, when he visited Rockford on April 28.

Bishop Turley, who heads the Diocese of Chulucanas in Northern Peru, will use the money to purchase basic school supplies for his kids.