

# The Junior Observer

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What message did Elijah deliver to Ahab?

What was the name of the mountain of God?

Read more about it in 1 Kings 18 and 19

## An Old Testament Story

# Elijah Speaks to God in Mountains

Catholic News Service

**G**od was upset about the evil ways of King Ahab of Israel. Ahab had married the Sidonian princess Jezebel and began to worship her false god, Baal.

One day, God called on his prophet, Elijah, to tell Ahab that there would be no dew or rain in the land except at Elijah's word.

Drought and famine spread through the land for three years. During this time, Elijah was in hiding and Jezebel put the other prophets of God to death.

In the third year, God told Elijah to return to Ahab and end the drought.

Elijah told Ahab to bring all of Israel to Mount Carmel along with the prophets of Baal and another false god, Asherah.

Elijah told the prophets of Baal to call on their false god and wait for an answer, which never came.

Then Elijah called on the name of God.

"Answer me, Lord! Answer me, that this people may know that you, Lord, are God and that you have turned their hearts



(CNS)

back to you," Elijah cried.

The fire of God came down and consumed an offering that Elijah had placed on an altar. The people of Israel fell to the ground and began to worship God.

Then, at Elijah's command, they seized the false prophets, whom Elijah put to death.

Not long after, a heavy rain began to fall.

Ahab returned to Jezebel and told her all that had happened. She was so angry about the prophets that she threatened to do the same thing to Elijah.

Elijah was very frightened. He fled to Beer-sheba of Judah, then traveled into the wilderness for a day. When he came upon a lone broom tree, he sat beside it and prayed for death.

"This is enough, O Lord! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers," he said, feeling very sorry for himself.

Elijah fell asleep and was awoken by an angel, who told him to eat and drink so he would be strong enough to travel 40 days and 40 nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.

When he reached Horeb, Elijah took shelter in a cave. When God came to talk to him, Elijah said that he was frightened for his life and also complained about the unfaithful people of Israel.

God gave Elijah a new mission and reassured him that all would be well. God told him to go back and anoint Jehu as the new king of Israel. He also said that Elijah would have a new helper, Elisha, who would eventually succeed him as a prophet.

## St. Gall VBS is a 'Splash'



(Photos provided)



Vacation Bible School at St. Gall Parish in Elburn June 11-15 was called SPLASH! The days featured fun, songs, and water to help students learn how much God loves them and that His mercy is everlasting. Father Christopher DiTomo (top photo), pastor, joined in the fun rowing the school's boat for which, they learned, Jesus was the anchor.

## Woodstock Preschoolers Plant a Garden

St. Mary Preschool students in Woodstock planted sunflower, zinnia, and nasturtium seeds in their garden in May.

The raised garden was built with materials Cindy Russell, director and teacher, received after attending a science workshop offered by MCSEEP last summer.

"Our garden is an extension of classroom teaching," Russell said. "There is great opportunity for learning and development when we bring the classroom outside and explore nature."

Students are encouraged to visit their garden this summer.



(Photos provided)



Emma Strange, Lucy DeSando, and Sadie Strange, help their preschool teacher, Cindy Russell, tend to their garden in July.

**ABOVE:** Students Bridget Brendal, Izzy Klinger, Dani Kusek, Mia Million, Jaxon King, Mateo Duenas, Lily Merryman and Eli Klinger (in front) view their garden in May with teachers Cindy Russell and Bridget Wand.