

The Junior Observer

Vol. 38, No. 1 Published by The Observer, Official Catholic Newspaper of the Diocese of Rockford JuniorObserver@RockfordDiocese.org

Q&A

Where did the woman go to be protected from the dragon?

Who won the battle in heaven?

Read more about it in Revelation 12

A Good News Story

Michael Battles a Dragon

Catholic News Service

John had been exiled to the Greek island of Patmos because he was a Christian.

He was worshipping one Sunday when he heard a loud voice behind him. He turned and saw Jesus, whose face shone as bright as the sun.

Jesus gave John messages to give to the seven Christian churches in Asia.

When Jesus finished, John saw an open door to heaven.

“Come up here and I will show you what must happen afterwards,” Jesus said.

John was taken up to heaven. There was thunder and lightning, as well as four living creatures, 24 elders and many angels surrounding the throne of God. Everyone in heaven worshipped God continually.

John was given many visions. One of them was of a pregnant woman. She was clothed with the sun, had 12 stars in a crown on her head and had the moon under her feet.



Bible Trivia

What does Michael the archangel's name mean? (Hint: Revelation 12:7)

Answer: Who can compare with God?

John also saw something very evil. It was a red dragon — Satan — that wanted to destroy the woman's child.

The woman gave birth to a son who was to rule the world. He was caught up into heaven to the throne of God. The woman fled to the desert, where she was protected from the dragon.

Then a great war broke out in heaven. Michael the archangel and all of

his angels started to battle against the dragon. The dragon had angels of his own, and they all fought back against Michael and his friends.

But Michael and his angels were much stronger than the dragon and his angels. At the end of the battle, the dragon and his angels were defeated. They were thrown out of heaven and down to earth.

The victory against the dragon caused much rejoicing in heaven.

But a loud voice also gave a warning. “But woe to you, earth and sea, for the Devil has come down to you in great fury, for he knows he has but a short time,” the voice said.

When the dragon realized he had been kicked out of heaven, he tried to hurt the woman who had given birth to the child, but she was protected from harm.

So instead, the angry dragon turned his wrath toward those who keep God's commandments and bear witness to Jesus.



(Observer file photo)

Pray the Rosary This October

October has been celebrated as the Month of the Rosary in honor of Mary for many years. Now it is also Respect Life Month.

Saying a decade of the rosary with your family after school is a way to honor Mary and pray that God will protect all of His children, born and unborn.

A decade is one Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, a Glory Be and the Fatima prayer.

Four groups of five mysteries make the rosary. Each mystery tells an important story in Jesus's life.

Bishop David Malloy of the Rockford Diocese has recorded each decade of the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and

Glorious mystery groups.

To say the rosary with him, ask an adult to help you go to the website <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/decade-a-day>

There you can click on the name of the mystery to pray it with the bishop in English or Spanish.

This month, you might try a rosary relay as a new way to pray with your family. Ask an adult to help

you print a copy of a rosary. If you'd like, you can color it, then post it where



(Observer file photo)

Bishop David Malloy prays the rosary.

everyone will pass by.

If you post your rosary on a magnetic surface, you can move a magnet around the rosary as family members stop to say a prayer or two. Another way to mark a completed bead would be to color a mark or symbol next to it.

Like any relay, it takes teamwork — the whole family — to “win the race.”

When you've finished one full rosary, you can start around again, or you can print another one.

St. Mary School Starts Year with Backpack Blessing

SYCAMORE—On Aug. 21, Father F. William Etheredge, St. Mary Parish pastor, welcomed St. Mary students, teachers and staff with a backpack blessing.



(Photo provided/Sue Croke)