

# The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

## Jesus Shows That Leaders Serve Everyone

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Catholic Courier

After Peter, James and John witnessed Jesus' transfiguration on a mountain, the four friends descended and found that a large crowd had gathered around the other apostles. Some scribes were arguing with them.

"What are you arguing about with them?" Jesus asked.

"Teacher, I have brought to you my son possessed by a mute spirit. ... I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they were unable to do so," a man in the crowd said.

Jesus asked for the boy to be brought to him. The spirit threw the boy into convulsions, and the boy fell on the ground, rolled around and foamed at the mouth.

"It has often thrown him into fire and into water to kill him," the father said. "But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

"If you can! Everything is possible to one who has faith," Jesus replied.



(Illustration/Linda Jeanne Rivers)

### Bible Trivia

Whom did Peter, James and John see during Jesus' transfiguration? (Hint: Mark 9:4)

Answer: Moses and Elijah.

"I do believe, help my unbelief!" the boy's father cried.

"Mute and deaf spirit, I command you: Come out of him and never enter him again!" Jesus said.

The unclean spirit left the boy, and Jesus helped the boy to stand.

After healing the boy, Jesus and the

apostles began a journey through Galilee.

"The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill Him, and three days after His death the Son of Man will rise," Jesus told His friends along the way.

When they came to Capernaum, they went inside a house.

"What were you arguing about on the way?" Jesus asked His friends.

The apostles did not answer, because they had been debating which of them was the greatest.

Jesus sat them down and spoke to them.

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all," he explained.

Jesus then brought over a child who was in the house. He placed his arms around the child and put the child in the midst of the apostles.

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me," Jesus said.

## Q&A

What were the apostles arguing about?

What did Jesus say about children?

Read more about it in Mark 9

## Woodstock Students Wish Mary Happy Birthday

WOODSTOCK—This summer, St. Mary School extended an invitation to students and their families: "Take that summer photo!"

School families were encouraged to send photos of their pilgrimages to Catholic churches, shrines, or grottos dedicated to Mary or a saint.

On visits to Holy Hill in Wisconsin to Xcaret, Mexico, to Germany, families documented their presence at holy sites as birthday presents for Mary.

With the feast of her nativity coming up on Sept. 8, there was no time to



(Photos provided)

Eighth-grade students at St. Mary School show bookmarks featuring Marian titles on the celebration of Mary's nativity Sept. 9.

lose when the school year began. Four eighth-grade girls received the photos, made a 30-page slideshow

and prepared a script.

Mary's birthday celebration was held the afternoon of Sept. 9 in the church.

Students dressed up in blue and white in her honor and brought flowers to adorn the church's Mary statue.

It was a "simple, yet beautiful" prayer service and presentation, organizer Mindy Strange wrote in an email to *The Observer*.

Strange offers five tips for future pilgrimages. Mary's next birthday is only 346 days away!

**Learn about the place.** With smartphones, knowledge is within your grasp.

**Celebrate the sacraments.** Most churches and shrines offer daily Mass and times for confession.

**Spend time in prayer.** It's important to spend time in prayer, like the holy rosary. That's what sets apart a pilgrimage from a tourist stop on vacation.

**Light a candle.** Shrines typically have devotional votive areas where visitors can light candles.

**Visit the gift shop.** Send a postcard to a friend back home or buy a souvenir to remember the shrine.

—Provided by Mindy Strange.



Two little ones pose in front of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis in St. Louis, Mo.



One family visited Our Lady of Guadalupe over the summer.