

CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

Malcolm and Margaret of Scotland

By Janaan Manternach
NC News Service

Margaret was a beautiful young princess, related to three kings of England. But her royalty was no protection in time of war.

The armies of William the Conqueror invaded England in 1066. Margaret and her brother escaped from England in a ship.

A terrible storm wrecked the ship off the coast of Scotland. Margaret and her brother survived the shipwreck. King Malcolm III of Scotland took them into his palace.

The king soon fell in love with the beautiful young princess. He begged Margaret to marry him and become his queen. Margaret hesitated for a while. The king was a rough man who could neither read nor write. He had a bad temper and poor manners.

But Margaret sensed that Malcolm was a good man. She came to love him and became his wife and queen.

Margaret and Malcolm had six sons and two daughters they loved very much. Margaret took

charge of the children's education. She and Malcolm wanted their children to share their Christian faith and their sense of responsibility as leaders of the Scottish people. Three of the boys later became kings of Scotland.

As the children grew up, they saw how their parents lived out their beliefs. Margaret and Malcolm loved each other very much. Margaret's love gradually changed the king into a more caring, gentle man.

The king and queen prayed together each day. They worked hard together to govern Scotland well. They tried to make life better for everyone in their country. They supported the church by their own example of prayer and compassion as well as by generous gifts of money.

People were most impressed by how the king and queen personally cared for the poor. Whenever the queen rode out into the countryside, poor people flocked around her. She gave them money and clothes.

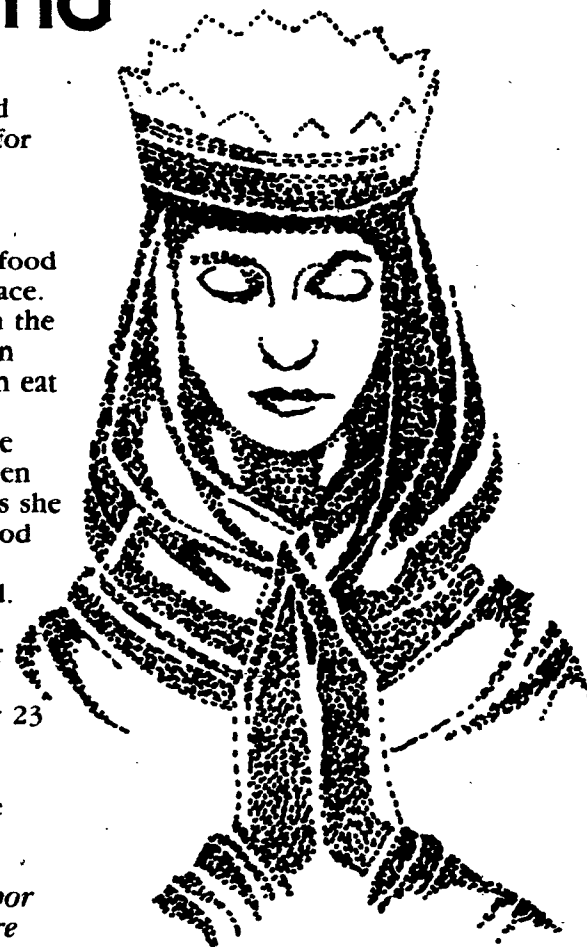
She and her husband paid the ransom of hundreds of slaves so

they could be free women and men. They also built shelters for the pilgrims who came to Scotland's shrines.

And each morning, Queen Margaret and the king served food to 300 poor people at the palace. Only after they had waited on the poor and prayed for a while in church did the king and queen eat their own breakfast.

The people of Scotland were very sad when their good queen became very ill. For four years she suffered and Malcolm took good care of her. Then one day an enemy army attacked Scotland. King Malcolm was killed.

Margaret was very sad. Four days later she died. She and Malcolm had been married for 23 years. They were two of Scotland's greatest rulers. The church honors Margaret as the patron saint of Scotland.



(Ms. Manternach is the author of catechetical works, scripture stories and original stories for children.)

a game **Hidden Words** a game

Find the words hidden in the puzzle below. They may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal. All the words are in this week's children's story.

A	E	Q	D	M	S	P	H	C	Q
I	N	U	R	V	T	D	T	V	U
K	H	E	U	Z	O	E	G	D	E
O	I	E	M	K	R	J	N	O	N
A	E	N	T	A	M	A	P	K	G
S	M	L	G	N	L	Q	U	G	L
F	T	R	S	T	W	C	I	R	A
B	A	F	O	O	D	F	O	W	N
M	J	C	C	U	L	X	V	L	D
B	S	F	A	M	I	L	Y	E	M

MARGARET, MALCOLM, SCOTLAND, KING, ENGLAND, STORM, FAMILY, QUEEN, FOOD

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Queen Margaret and King Malcolm of Scotland made it a point to reach beyond their family circle to help others. Why do you think they did this?

Children's Reading Corner

How two families, the Morgenthau and the Rileys, become involved with each other is told in the story, "Daughters of the Law," by Sandy Asher. Read it. Afterward talk about Denise and Ruthie's friendship. Think about how Denise's sensitivity, compassion and strong desire to help others brings a new awareness of life's goodness to Ruthie and her mother. (Dell Publishing Co., 1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017. 1980. Paperback, \$1.95.)



Warmth

Using split logs in a wood-burning stove to protect against the rigors of a bitter winter, Sister Consiline Flynn brings the warmth of the Gospel message to children from the ranches of the high country surrounding St. John the Apostle Mission in Paisley, Oregon.

Sister Flynn helps children with the basics of Christianity in her religion classes in Paisley and adjacent missions that receive Extension Society aid. She is one member of a team of home missionaries who, in partnership with Extension, pursue the vital and urgent task of evangelization here in

the United States. But that team is too small to do the job without help. It needs new members. It needs you.

Join us. Become a member of the Extension team. Although you won't be present in the home missions personally, your impact will be felt in this holy effort. Together we will bring Christ to those living in the home missions.

Write today for a free subscription to Extension magazine and discover the difference you can make. Together, and with God's grace, we can achieve His missionary goals here in our own beloved country.

The Catholic Church
EXTENSION Society
 35 East Wacker Drive, Room 400F • Chicago, Illinois 60601