

# Kids' Chronicle

## God creates the world

BY JOE SARNICOLA

After God created the earth, he created a light to warm and it and to bring it out of darkness. He filled the earth with plants that would bear seed bearing fruit that would produce more plants. He created birds that flew in the air, fish that swam in the water, and all kinds of animals and creatures that would dwell on land.

And God was pleased with everything he had made. But something was missing. God wanted someone to be in charge of his creation and to care for it and all the living things. So God took clay and made the figure of a man. He breathed into the nostrils of the sculpture and the man came to life.

"Look around you," God said to the man. "Everything you see I have made for you. My garden is filled with flowers and fruits of every size and color. There are trees that will provide shade and shelter. The river of pure water that flows through is cool and fresh. You will never thirst or hunger."

"You I know are my creator," the man said. "But who am I? What is my name?"

"Your name is Adam, for you are the first man," God said. "And many will come after you. I have made you to be like me. Everything I have made I have given to you."

So the man lived peacefully in the

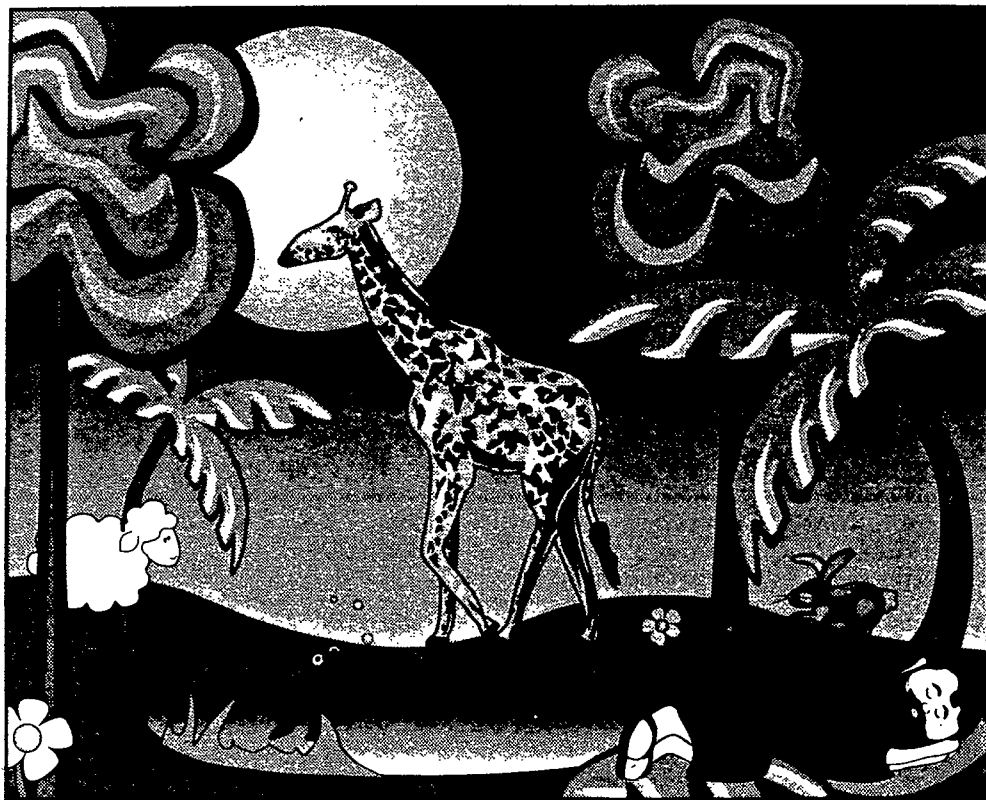


Illustration by Zoe Maves

garden. He enjoyed the taste of the delicious fruits and he watched the animals play.

God frequently walked in the garden and talked to the man.

"Adam," he said one day, "we talk of many things together, but I want you to have a partner who will be a true companion for you."

Adam immediately fell asleep on the ground. God removed one of Adam's ribs and formed a woman out of it.

When Adam woke up, God said

to him, "I have taken one of your own bones to form this woman, who will share your home in the garden."

Adam looked at the woman and said, "She has been created out of my own flesh and bones. She should be called Eve, because she will be the mother of all men and women who have yet to be born."

## Q&A

### READ MORE ABOUT IT: Genesis 2

1. How did God make the man come to life?
2. What did God use to create the woman?



## Bible Accent

The name Eden comes from either a Sumerian word meaning "fertile plain," or a Hebrew word meaning "garden of delight" or "paradise."

The area where the Garden of Eden supposedly existed is usually identified as the fertile land near the head of the Persian Gulf where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers join with two streams to become one river.

But most scholars say that Eden was not a definite place, just as the two stories of creation in the first two chapters of Genesis are not meant to be taken as literally true.

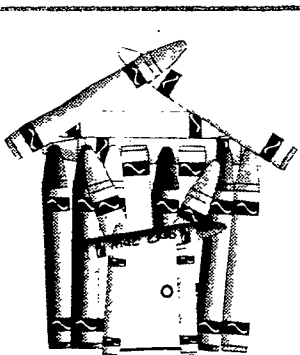
The key lesson in these stories is that the creation of the world and of humans was a result of God's love and goodness.

## St. Antony Mary Claret

St. Antony Mary Claret was born in Spain in 1807. After joining the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits), he studied in Rome.

Because his health prevented him from being a missionary, he returned to Spain. His enthusiasm remained strong and he established the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, commonly referred to as the Claretians, and the Carmelites of Charity. He served for a while as archbishop of Santiago, Cuba, then returned to Spain to become the confessor to Queen Isabella II.

His charitable efforts were responsible for improvements in the banking practices of his day and the building of schools for science, history and music. We honor him on Oct. 24.



## Kids' Club

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question: **Why did God make the rest of creation first, and then human beings last?**

Send your essay - including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade - to **Catholic Courier, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624**. Deadline for entries is Oct. 3, 1997. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the savings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will be published

in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

Last month's winner was **Jeff Eggleston**, a seventh-grade student at Arcadia Middle School, Greece. In response to the question, **God rewarded the faith of Abraham, Moses and Joshua. how can we show God we have faith, too?** he wrote:

We can show God we have faith by going to church and listening to the readings and the Gospel. When we pray and talk to God we also show we have faith in him. It is very important that we share our faith with others. We can do this by visiting people in nursing homes who rarely, if ever, get to go to church. Most importantly, we can show God we have faith in him if we believe. If we believe what we read in the Bible and hear in the readings at church God will reward us as he did for Abraham, Moses and Joshua.

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## Puzzle

Answers on page 8.

Solve the riddles from the book of Genesis and unscramble the circled letters to find the answer to the mystery word clue.

1. I was the first woman (ch 1)
2. I built a big boat (ch 6)
3. I was Noah's son (ch 10)
4. I was Abraham's son (ch 21)
5. I was Esau's twin (ch 25)
6. I was the king's officer (ch 38)

Mystery word: I interpreted dreams               



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