

# Kids' Chronicle

## Jesus is transfigured

BY JOE SARNICOLA

When Jesus was sitting with his disciples in a quiet place, he spoke to them of many things. Some things they would not understand until much later.

"The day will come when the son of man will have to suffer," he said. "The church leaders, the priests, even the rabbis will want nothing to do with him."

"Who is this son of man?" James asked. "Is he one of us? Are not all of us sons of men?"

"In time everything will make sense," Jesus answered. "The son of man I speak of will receive a sentence of death. He will be killed. But three days later, his life will be given back to him."

The disciples whispered to each other. "Brought back to life?" "Killed, but not dead?" "Again this son of man."

Jesus motioned for his disciples to come closer to him.

"I will speak plainly now," he said. "Listen and understand. You are my friends. Do you want to go where I go?"

"Yes, Lord," they all answered.

"That is well enough," he said. "If you truly want to follow me, you must carry your own cross, as I will carry mine. Take it up daily and follow me, follow my example. Live selfishly and try to save your life, and you will surely lose it. Give your life to me, and I promise you your life will be eternal. And I will always be with you. Come



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

now, it is time to leave."

A few days later, Jesus called for Peter, James and John to come and pray with him, away from everyone else.

As they prayed, the face of Jesus changed before the eyes of the other men and his clothes shined with a bright white light. Then two men appeared who talked with Jesus. One was Moses, the other Elijah.

Peter said to Jesus, "My Lord, let us build shelters for each of you in memory of this miracle ..."

Before Peter could finish speaking a cloud passed over him and the others. The cloud was so dense the sun's

rays could not get through and the disciples were in total darkness. There was the rumbling like a thousand thunders and the disciples cowered in fear. A voice spoke from the clouds.

"This is my son. Listen to him and obey him."

And then Peter, James and John were alone with Jesus once more. They did not understand what they had seen and they said nothing about it to anyone.

They did not even speak to each other about it.

### READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Luke 9

## Q&A

1. Who was with Jesus in the white light?
2. What was the message of the voice from the cloud?

## Bible Accent



The ancient Hebrews used a lunar calendar, meaning that they measured the passage of

time according to the phases of the moon. A year measured in this manner would be 11 days short of the solar year (based on the sun, the kind we use today), and would not correspond with the seasons.

It was important to be able to predict the change of the seasons for planting and harvesting. The Roman emperor, Julius Caesar, established the first solar calendar. He even included leap years every four years. This was called the Julian Calendar.

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII made a few changes in the calendar and we have used his calendar ever since. This is called the Gregorian Calendar.

## St. Tarasius

St. Tarasius was a generous man who tried to live as simple a life as possible. He was appointed patriarch of Constantinople in 784 and worked diligently both to restore the churches of his day and to speak out against religious leaders who abused their authority. He even became the secretary to Emperor Constantine VI.

Unfortunately, Constantine found himself in an unwise marriage and asked St. Tarasius to grant him a divorce. Tarasius refused.

Constantine was eventually overthrown by a political rival and was thrown in prison. St. Tarasius, meanwhile, continued to spread Christianity by establishing peaceful relations and cooperation among the leaders of different countries. We honor him on Feb. 25.

## Bible Trivia

Elijah was seen at the transfiguration of Jesus. When Elijah was alive, he had a friend whose name was very similar to his own. Who was he? (1 Kings 17)  
Send Answers to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, P.O. Box 1007, Rockaway, N.J. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by March 5, 1998. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

No correct answers were received in time for last month's question. The story comes from the Gospel of Luke. What was the name of the man who told the same story? The answer was Matthew (Chapter 17, verse 12).

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## Puzzle

Answers on page 5.

Using the clues provided, fill in the blanks with the correct number words.

1. How many more things did the rich man have to do? \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 18:22)
2. God rested on the \_\_\_\_\_ day. (Genesis 2:2)
3. Jesus fed the crowd with \_\_\_\_\_ loaves of bread. (Matthew 14:17)
4. How many men did King Nebuchadnezzar see in the fire? \_\_\_\_\_ (Daniel 3:25)
5. Jesus chose \_\_\_\_\_ disciples. (Matthew 10:1)
6. What is the fourth book of the Old Testament? \_\_\_\_\_