

Kids' Chronicle

David praises God

BY JOE SARNICOLA

When David saw the cart that carried the Ark of the Lord coming toward Jerusalem, he ran to it and danced in front of it. Inside the ark were the stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written. Then he called out to the people of Israel to join him. During the celebration that he proclaimed, David blessed his people and gave to every family a slice of meat, a loaf of bread and a raisin cake. Then David returned to the palace and enjoyed the peace from war with his enemies that the Lord had given to him.

But one day, when David was talking to Nathan, the prophet, he felt troubled.

"How is it," David asked, "that I live in a house of handcarved cedar full of beautiful furnishings, but the Ark of the Lord sits on a cart, protected only by a tent?"

Nathan thought for a moment and replied, "The Lord will bless whatever it is you would do." So David thought about what kind of a temple should cover the Ark of the Lord.

But the next morning Nathan went back to see David. "I have had a dream from the Lord," Nathan told him. "I will repeat what he told me to tell you: 'From the time I led my people out of Egypt, I have dwelt under a tent. Wherever Israel went, I was there. In all that time, did I ever ask why no one had built a house for me out of cedar?'"

David looked into Nathan's eyes and asked, "What does the Lord want me to



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

do?"
"The Lord said he brought you out from the fields where you tended sheep, to the palace where you now live. He will make your name known to all people, and the house of David will receive an eternal blessing from the Lord."

David bowed his head in reverence to the words of God. Then he said, "I will go into the hills and find a quiet place to pray. And I will open my ears to what God is telling me." So David found a spot under the shade of trees that were

growing on the hill and he called out to God.

"Lord, I don't know why you have chosen me for the many blessings you have given to me. There are many gods that are worshiped by other lands, but there is only one true God. You are a God who is all powerful, loving toward your servants, and wonderful."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:
2 Samuel 7

Q&A

1. What did David want to do with the ark?
2. Did the Lord want the ark in a house of cedar?

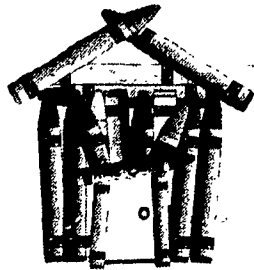
Bible Accent

The Lord said he would make David's name as well-known as any of the kings who had ruled before him, and he kept that promise. The Book of Samuel tell us of the shepherd boy who became a king and how David defeated the giant, Goliath, with a slingshot, a stone and his faith in God.

David started and ended every day with prayer. Many of the Psalms are believed to have been written by him. He also was the father of Solomon, the wisest king. David brought the Ark of the Covenant, which was the presence of God, to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is also known as "the city of David." Matthew's Gospel opens with a list of the descendants of David until Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus.

St. Eligius

St. Eligius, also known as Eloi, was a skilled metalworker, particularly with gold. Because he had been commissioned to make one throne, but had been able to make two out the same amount of gold, he built a strong reputation among kings. He was appointed as the master of the Paris mint, and he produced pieces such as shrines, crosses and other religious ornaments. But Eligius wanted to lead a holy order, so he became a priest and eventually a bishop. He used the influence of his wealth to build churches, to feed poor people and to assist people he felt were in need. After he died, he was remembered for both his craftsmanship and his compassion, and he became the patron saint of metalworkers. We remember him on Dec. 1.



Kids' Club

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question:
Why is it important for us to worship God together in church?

Send your essay - including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade - to Catholic Courier, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Deadline for entries is Dec. 16, 1999. 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 Chelsea Janeski, a third-grader at Holy Family Primary School, Elmira. In response to the question **How does God want us to treat people who are in need?** she wrote:

If I knew someone who needed stuff to wear for winter I would pick out some of my best clothes for them. I would share my lunch with someone who did not have a lunch. If someone fell down at recess I would help them up and tell the supervisor. God wants all of us to be kind to others.

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Puzzle

Using your Bible as a guide, cross out the five names in the list below that are not books of the New Testament. *Answers on page 9.*

Matthew	Mark	Luke	Joseph
Moses	Romans	John	Revelation
Timothy	Psalms	Philemon	Jude
Hebrews	Pius	Paul	Acts

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