

# Kids' Chronicle

## Paralyzed man walks again

BY JOE SARNICOLA

"We must get to Jesus," said one of the men. He looked at the three other men who were helping him to carry their paralyzed friend on a cot supported by sticks. "We must get to Jesus."

"I see him!" said one of the other men. "But how will we ever get to him? There are so many people, we will not be able to squeeze through them."

The men were determined. They had heard about Jesus and how he healed people. Their friend had been paralyzed for many years. Priests, doctors and friends all said he would never walk again. It was impossible. But the men believed in Jesus. He had healed others, he would heal their friend.

"I have a plan," said the first man. "We will go around the crowd from behind."

And so they did. They had walked a long way. They would walk a little more. There was a shelter over Jesus' head to protect him from the hot afternoon sun.

The men set their friend down on the ground. Two of them climbed the back of the shelter until they were on the roof. The other men tied ropes to the cot and another around their friend to prevent him from falling out. They tossed the free ends of the ropes up to the men on the roof.

"Pull him up," they called. Slowly and carefully, up went the man on the cot, totally trusting in the grip of his friends and the power of Jesus to heal him. When the cot was on the roof, the two men there ripped up the boards of

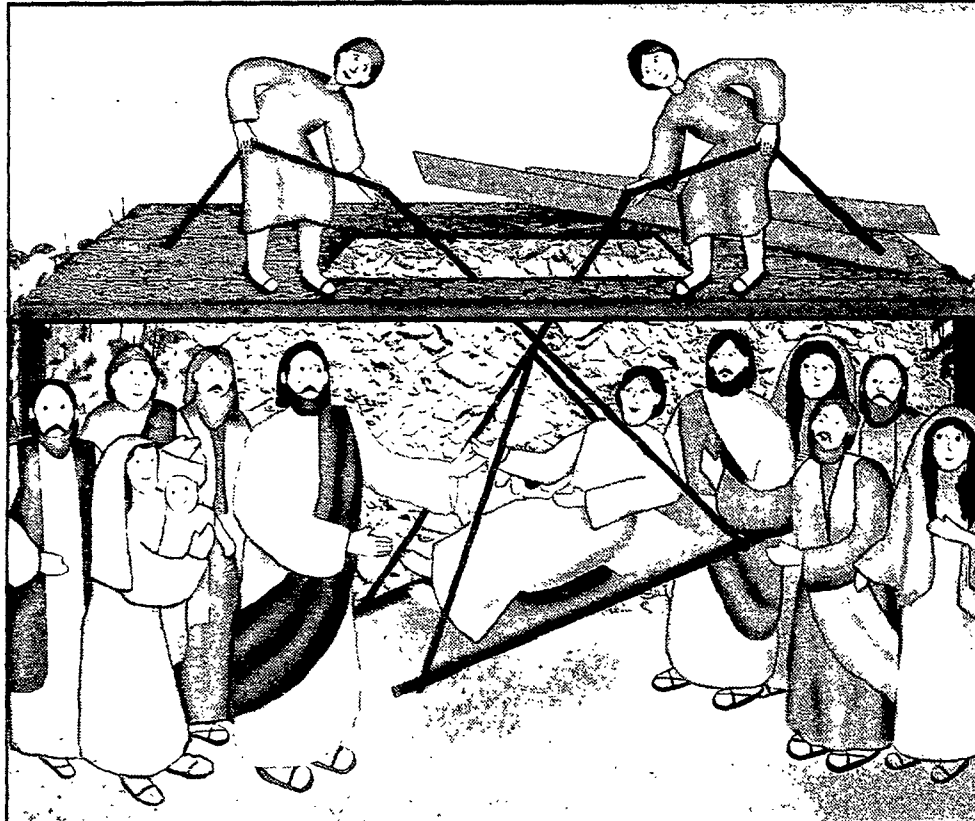


Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

the roof until there was enough room to lower the cot.

"Jesus!" called one of the men through the opening. "Please heal our friend." And the paralyzed man was lowered down to Jesus.

"What do you want from me?" Jesus asked him.

"I want to walk again," the man said. "Young man, your sins are forgiven,"

Jesus said. Jesus grasped the paralyzed man's hand. "Now stand and walk."

Jesus helped the man up and he walked around. He picked up the mat and showed it to everyone. Then he jumped and danced. On the roof and behind the shelter, the man's friends shouted praises to God, who had heard their prayer. The people were amazed.

### READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Mark 2

## Q&A

1. Why were the men going to see Jesus?
2. What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man?

### Bible Accent

The rosary offers us an opportunity to meditate, or think prayerfully, about the lives of Jesus and Mary.

In order to say the rosary hold it by the cross and say the Apostles' Creed. Then, holding the first bead, say the Lord's Prayer. For each of the next three beads, say a Hail Mary.

Next there will be five groups of 10 beads each, called decades. Begin each decade with the Lord's Prayer and say a Hail Mary for each of the single beads. After each decade, say the Glory Be to the Father.

You should be able to find the different prayers of the rosary in your religious education books. Ask your parents and teachers for help. Maybe they will even say a rosary with you.

### St. Blaise

Much of what is recorded about St. Blaise is based as much on legends as it is on documented facts. He is believed to have been born into a wealthy Armenian family.

He was a serious student of the Christian religion, and he was appointed as a bishop when he was relatively young.

However, he chose the life of a hermit and spent many nights in a mountain cave. He was very gentle, and he prayed for sick or injured animals as often as he did for people in need. He was arrested by persecutors of Christians and he was locked in a prison cell with little food or water. He died there.

On St. Blaise's day, throats are touched with two unlit candles and blessed with a prayer for healing of throat ailments. We honor Blaise on Feb. 3.

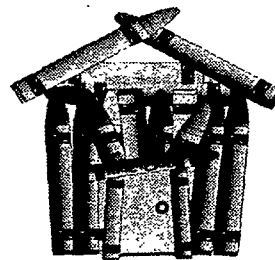
## Puzzle

The Gospel of Mark contains many stories of healings, miracles and important events. On the blanks, write the number of the chapter in which the stories appear.

1. The first disciples \_\_\_\_\_
2. A man's hand is healed \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jesus calms a storm \_\_\_\_\_
4. Jesus feeds 5,000 people \_\_\_\_\_
5. A blind man is healed \_\_\_\_\_
6. Jesus is transfigured \_\_\_\_\_
7. Judas betrays Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
8. Jesus rises from the dead \_\_\_\_\_

Answers on page 9.

## Kids' Club



You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question:  
**Why is it so important for us to have faith, when we ask Jesus for something we need?**

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 Feb. 17, 2000. 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 David DiPonzio, a third-grader at Holy Cross School, Rochester. In response to the question, **What will you be doing in the year 2000 to show that you want to follow God's commandments?** David wrote: In the year 2000, I want to try to be a better person. In church, I'm going to listen more closely to the readings. At home, I'm going to be more obedient to what my parents tell me to do. My sister and I promised each other that we will try not to argue as much as we do.

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