

# Kids' Chronicle

## Steward learns to be prudent

BY JOE SARNICOLA

When Jesus was with his disciples, he told them a story. "Once there was a rich man whose property was being squandered by one of his stewards. When the rich man heard about this, he called the steward in front of him. 'What have you been doing?' he asked him. 'Prepare a full accounting of all of your duties. You can no longer be my steward.'

"The steward was very upset that his employer had learned what he had been doing, and that he had been fired. 'What shall I do?' he asked himself. 'I am too weak to dig, and too proud to beg.' He would have no money and no place to stay. So he devised a plan. He would be generous to his employer's debtors, giving up his own commission. Maybe one of them would hire him.

"'How much do you owe my master?' he asked the first debtor.

"'One hundred measures of olive oil,' the man answered.

"'Here is your promissory note. I will reduce your debt to 50 measures.'

"To another the steward asked, 'What is your debt?'

"'One hundred kors of wheat.'

"'Here is your note. I will reduce it to 80 kors,' (each kor being 10-12 bushels).

"When the master learned what the steward had done, he commended him for acting prudently."

Then Jesus spoke to his disciples more directly. "The children of this world are more prudent in dealing with

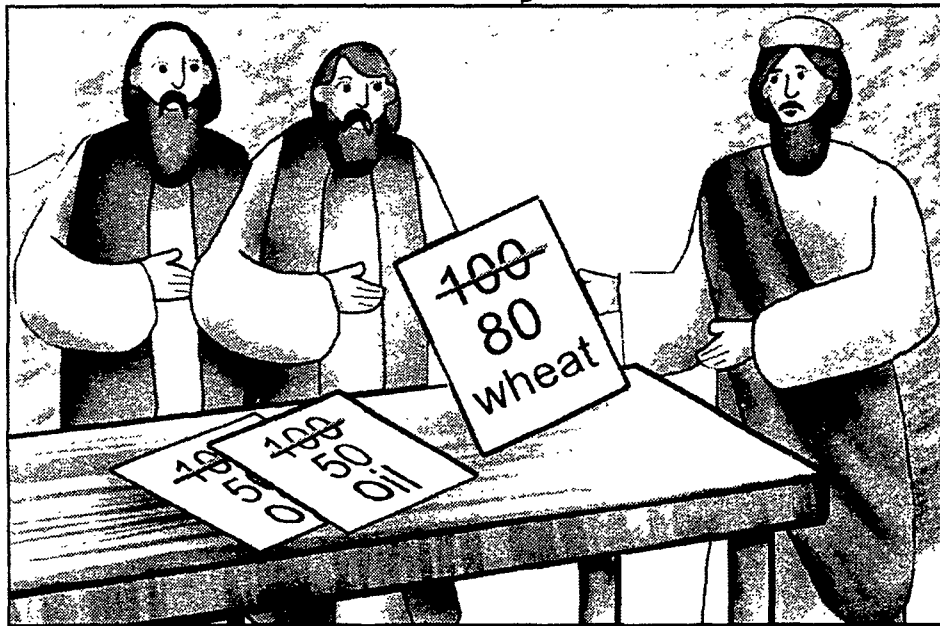


Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

their own generation that are the children of light. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other."

Although Jesus was talking to his disciples, there were other people around who were listening. And some of those people were Pharisees, who loved money. They made angry faces at Jesus. But Jesus only said to them, "You justify yourselves in the sight of others, but

God knows your hearts; for what is of human esteem is an abomination in the sight of God. The Law and the prophets lasted until John; but from then on the kingdom of God is proclaimed."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:  
Luke 16

## Q&A

1. Why was the man angry at his steward?
2. What did Jesus say about being trustworthy?

## Bible Accent

When we pray, we are talking to God. Abraham, Moses and David all knew the importance of prayer. Jesus gave us a model to use which we call The Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. With prayer we can thank God for the many blessings given to us. We can praise God for God's goodness and power. We can ask God for the things we need. We can ask God to heal people who are sick, or to help other people who are in need.

The church has created special prayers for specific reasons. There are prayers used during Mass, such as the Gloria and the Lamb of God. We have the rosary. There are prayers asking for Mary to intercede for us. There are prayers of penance. Jesus told us if we have faith when we pray, God will hear us.

## St. Guy

St. Guy was born in Brussels during the latter part of the 10th century. His parents were very poor, but they were devout Christians. They taught their son to be compassionate to other people and faithful to God. Although Guy shared what little he had with people who needed it, he was able to save some money, which he invested in a business deal. The investment failed and Guy lost all of his money. He promised he would never again get involved with a deal whose only goal was financial profit.

He went on a pilgrimage to Rome and the Holy Land. Guy traveled to Christian sites for the next seven years. He sought only to strengthen his faith in God and to be able to serve the people of the world. At the end of his journeys, Guy had become exhausted and ill, and eventually died in a hospital in his home country. We honor him on Sept. 12.

Fall registration has begun. Don't miss out on all the fun!

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**Puzzle**

Match the people with the duties they perform during Mass:  
Answers on page 9.

1. priest	_____	a. leads the singing
2. cantor	_____	b. reads from the Old and New Testaments
3. lector	_____	c. assists the priest
4. homilist	_____	d. collects the offerings
5. usher	_____	e. presides over the Mass
6. altar server	_____	f. gives the sermon

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**Kids' Club**

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question: **How can we show God we are trustworthy with the blessings given us?**

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 Sept. 20, 2001. 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 essay winner was **Jamie E. MacMillan**, an eighth-grader at St. John the Evangelist School, Greece. In answer to, 'What are some of the ways we can tell other people about God's love?' Jamie wrote: 'There are many ways to tell others about God's love. If the person is not Christian you can give little hints about God's love. Like if the person's uncle is sick you can say "I prayed to God for him and look now he is better." One of the easiest ways is by telling stories from the Bible that greatly demonstrate God's love. Another way is when you say goodbye also say "remember God loves you." Your own thoughtful actions and caring will show others God's way every day. Those are some ways to demonstrate God's love.'

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