



# ASSESSMENT

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## MAKE AN AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING

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Younger students also take a portion of time each year to focus on vocations. This assignment will give you a chance to enhance some of those things that Kindergartners and 1st graders are studying.

Choose one of the stories and make recording of it that teachers can play for their classes. This can be an audio or video recording. (Audio is easiest; video is more advanced.)

The way in which you read (inflections, emphasis, sensitivity, and pauses) should display your knowledge of the vocation and awareness of audience. Your reflection questions should show your mastery of basic vocation concepts as they are being conveyed by the story.

Recording options (see following pages):

1. Princess Becomes a Nun
2. The Ladybug & the Priest
3. Mouse Help
4. Super Priest

Time permitting, your teacher can identify three top audio recordings and the class can vote on which one should be shared with the Kindergartners or 1st graders.





# ASSESSMENT

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## STORY: “PRINCESS BECOMES A NUN”

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Once upon a time there was a princess. She was a real princess. Her mom was the queen, and her dad was the king. They lived in a beautiful castle with a giant golden throne where the king sat. The princess was very beautiful, and every day servants would brush her long beautiful hair. She wore fancy clothes and ate fancy food. She sat up straight in her chair and always knew how to be polite to the many people who visited the throne room.

As the princess got older, people started to ask her if she was going to marry a prince when she grew up. She just smiled and said, “We’ll see!” But in her heart, she heard the whisper of her true love—Jesus. She prayed to Jesus every day, and her heart felt very close to him. She felt like Jesus wanted her to do something wonderful with her life.

One day, while looking outside her castle window, the princess saw a woman dressed in simple clothes with a rosary hanging from her waist. (A rosary is a long chain of beads people use to pray to Mary and think about Jesus). On her head was a veil—like the veil of a bride. But this veil looked very strong and simple. The princess ran down the stairs, snuck past the doorman, and ran up to the lady who was walking down the street. “Why are you dressed that way?” the princess asked. The lady said, “I am a bride of Jesus. I am a nun. I wear this to always remember my love.”

The princess’s eyes grew big. Suddenly, she wanted to be a nun, too! (Do you remember who a nun is? A nun is a lady who does not get married but instead loves Jesus by praying often, serving others, and living with other nuns). But who ever heard of a princess becoming a nun? What would people think? What would the Queen say? What about the King?

That night, when she told her parents she wanted to be a nun, they frowned at the idea. As she grew up, however, she continued to pray that one day she would be a bride of Christ. When her parents saw that God really was calling her to be a nun, they said, “Yes. Do whatever the Good Lord is asking you.”

And so it happened that the princess gave away all her treasure—even her crown—and went to the convent where she became a bride of Christ. Her days in the poor convent were even happier than the ones in the beautiful castle. (A convent is a home where nuns live.) Instead of fancy clothes, she wore a simple veil. Instead of fancy food, she ate simple meals. Instead of having servants do everything for her, she and the other nuns did all the cleaning and cooking.

But there was one part of the convent that was even more magnificent than her father’s throne room. Each morning, the nuns would wake up and go into the convent chapel. They would sing and pray before an altar decorated with flowers and candles. It reminded her of how people would come to the royal throne room to see her father, the king. Except in this little chapel, the person on the throne was Jesus!

Every day the princess, who was now a nun, prayed from her heart, “Thank you, my Jesus, for loving me so much.”

The End

*Note: There are real princesses who have become nuns. Princess Ileana of Romania still lives and prays as a nun in Pennsylvania. Camilla Battista da Varano was a princess who joined a convent and was canonized a saint in 2010.*



# ASSESSMENT

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## STORY: “THE LADYBUG AND THE PRIEST”

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Early one morning, when it was still dark, a bunny, a chipmunk and a dog were talking together outside the house of Fr. Gilbert. “That man seems very important,” barked Dog. “I saw lots of people shaking his hand last Sunday.” Dog picked up his paw and tried to shake hands with the chipmunk. The chipmunk fell over laughing.

“I like all the colors he wears. Sometimes the vestments he wears at church seem like a big tent to me,” squeaked the chipmunk. (Vestments are the clothes a priest wears during Mass)

The shy little bunny just wiggled her nose and looked curious. Finally she said softly, “He seems different from the other people who have families and kids. I don’t think he’s married, but he sure seems to love lots of people! And lots of people love him. But what does he do?”

“Yes, what does he do?” echoed Dog and Chip.

Just then a little lady bug flew down. She had heard the animals talking and had an idea. “I can follow Fr. Gilbert around for a day and then you can have your question answered.” The animals all cheered as lady bug flew in to Fr. Gilbert’s house through an open window.

The first thing she noticed was a beautiful cross on the wall. There were other nice things decorating the house and it was very neat but not fancy. Fr. Gilbert was sitting at the table eating breakfast. Next to his cereal bowl was a Bible, which he was reading. The little ladybug stayed up high near the ceiling where Fr. Gilbert wouldn’t see her. Fr. Gilbert stood up and walked out the door. The ladybug waved to her friends as she passed them in front of his house.

Fr. Gilbert walked over to the church to celebrate Mass, even though it wasn’t Sunday. The ladybug was very quiet and reverent while the priest changed the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus. “Wow!” she thought, “Wait till I tell Dog! A priest is the only one who can do this!” The ladybug felt funny about being a bug in church, but she knew that God made and loves little bugs too!

After Mass a man came up to Fr. Gilbert. “Father, my wife and I got into an argument. I feel upset. I just don’t know what to do.”

Fr. Gilbert pulled a special card out of his pocket with a picture of the heart of Jesus on it. He gave it to the man and told him about miracles that can happen when people think about Jesus’ heart. Just then, the bell rang from the school next door. Fr. Gilbert went over to the school and the ladybug had fun

chasing the children during gym class as Fr. Gilbert played soccer with the second graders. He tried to kick a goal but the children blocked it. They all laughed as Fr. Gilbert pretended to be mad. On his way out of the school, Fr. Gilbert talked kindly with the janitor and school secretary.

When she saw Fr. Gilbert walking to his car, Lady Bug got a little nervous about how she was going to sneak into the car without Fr. Gilbert noticing. Happily, she flew in with no problem. As Fr. Gilbert drove, he listened to the news on the radio, then he turned it off to pray the rosary. He parked the car outside of a hospital. As Fr. Gilbert walked in, many people smiled and said “Hi, Father”. “Hmm,” thought the lady bug, “I guess he comes often if all these people know him. The lady bug didn’t want any of the hospital patients to get even sicker from her germs so, she washed her hands—all six of them! The first patient that Fr. Gilbert visited was an old lady who was so sick that she couldn’t even talk. But her eyes looked smiley as Fr. Gilbert prayed with her and put oil on her head to give her a special sacrament called the Anointing of the Sick.

As they got back in the car, the lady bug was getting sleepy and she dozed off on the back seat. When she woke up, the car was stopped and Fr. Gilbert wasn’t there! Luckily the window was open so she could get out. There was green grass all around and flowers by big stones that had writing on them. Lady Bug realized that she was in a cemetery where people who have died are buried. She found Fr. Gilbert hugging a family whose grandpa had just died. Though the family was sad, something that Fr. Gilbert said seemed to give them hope and courage.

Ladybug followed Fr. Gilbert back to his car. On the drive back to the church office, ladybug felt like she was having a very busy day, but for some reason, she felt like she was with Jesus. At Fr. Gilbert’s office, a beautiful young lady and a handsome young man walked in holding hands. They wanted to get married. Fr. Gilbert was friendly as he joked and laughed with them, but he also asked them some very serious questions and gave them good advice.

As Father Gilbert walked back to the rectory (his house) to pray before dinner, the lady bug flew over to her friends. She had lots of things to tell them. Bunny sniffed, Dog barked, and Chip squeaked while they all enjoyed some ice cream and listened to ladybug tell about her day with Fr. Gilbert.

The End



# ASSESSMENT

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## STORY: “MOUSE HELP”

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Two little mice huddled together, trying to protect each other from the cold.

“I’m so hungry!” said Mrs. Mouse.

“Here, darling, eat this,” said Mr. Mouse as he took the last little bit of sunflower seed from his pocket.

“Thank you, but you haven’t eaten all day, my husband!”

Mr. Mouse smiled and prodded her to take the food.

“Gather up your strength, wife. Don’t you think we should make the long journey to the other side of the field since there is not much more food or shelter here?”

“Yes, but it is such a dangerous path! Do you think we’ll make it all the way to the bank of the river?”

“If we work together, my dear, we probably can.”

Hoping for the best, Mr. and Mrs. Mouse set off on their journey hand in hand, knowing that there were dangers ahead of them.

The first difficult thing they encountered was a huge patch of mud.

“Watch out!” cried Mrs. Mouse. “If you put your foot in there you will get stuck!”

“Here,” said Mr. Mouse, “Help me push this branch over so we can walk on the branch instead of getting stuck in the mud. I can’t move it all by myself.”

Together the mice pushed the branch and safely walked over the mud without even getting dirty.

By and by they came to a stone wall. It was high and wide. They could see a cherry tree on the other side but to climb the wall with all of their belongings would take too long and if they left their bags, a squirrel might come and take it.

“Look darling, there is a little hole in the wall. Do you think you can fit through?” asked Mr. Mouse.

Mrs. Mouse squeezed through while Mr. Mouse stayed with their belongings and kept them safe from the squirrel. After a bit, Mrs. Mouse squeezed back through the hole again carrying a cherry for each of them.

No sooner had they eaten their cherries then a large owl swooped down from the sky with his talons outstretched to grab Mrs. Mouse. “Yikes!” she yelled as she quickly ducked down. The hungry owl missed her, but he circled around in the air ready to come back. “We have to work together to get inside that log or we will never get out of this alive!” she cried.

Now, Mr. Mouse had a good throwing arm, and as the owl came back toward the mouse’s dear wife, Mr. Mouse took a pebble and threw it at the owl. The stone was too little to hurt the owl at all, but it did surprise and distract the bird long enough for Mrs. Mouse to scamper into the safety of the hollow log. Now the owl turned his sharp talons toward Mr. Mouse, ready to pounce. Mrs. Mouse could not throw a pebble far enough to reach the owl, but she did have a very high, loud voice. She squeaked so loudly that the owl looked over, giving Mr. Mouse just enough time to reach the other side of the hollowed log.

“That was a close one!” the two mice said, hugging one another.

“We are so blessed to have each other! I think we would have been that owl’s lunch if we had not worked together,” said Mr. Mouse.

As the mice gave thanks to God for their marriage, they noticed a small tunnel in the ground. They followed it, and it led to the bank of the river, out of harm’s way. The mice explored their new surroundings and saw that this field was full of food and little places where mice could live. Grateful for arriving, Mr. and Mrs. Mouse began to build their new home together.

The End



# ASSESSMENT

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## STORY: “SUPER PRIEST”

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“Waa! Waa!” A new born baby was crying. His mommy was trying to calm him. Milk, rocking, bottle, pacifier. Still crying! What ever would she do?

Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to read the Bible in a single minute! Look up in the sky! It’s a bird. It’s a plane! It’s Super Priest! Do not fear, for Father Clark is here!

“Excuse me, Madame, I notice that your baby is crying. May I help?”

“Yes! Nothing seems to be calming him. Is there anything you can do?”

“Certainly! I can baptize him. He will be calmly brought into the family of God and washed from original sin. That will bring a smile to any baby’s face.”

“Oh, thank you, Father!”

Meanwhile, a very, very old man lay on a hospital bed, surrounded by his family and friends, breathing his last few breaths of life. No one is there who can give him the anointing of the sick! Who will bring the grace of the sacrament to him before he dies? Will anyone reach him in time?

Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to read the Bible in a single minute. Look up in the sky! It’s a bird. It’s a plane! It’s Super Priest! Do not fear, for Father Clark is here!

“Hello, dear family. I see you look worried. May I help?”

“Yes, Father, the doctors say our grandpa will die soon, but no one has given him the sacrament of the sick.”

“I am here to bring him grace and peace.”

While Father Clark prayed, the old man felt much better, and he was at peace knowing that he would see Jesus soon.

But across town in a 5th grade classroom, a girl was feeling sad because she had been rude to one of her friends. She had apologized already, but she was still feeling really bad about it.

Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to read the Bible in a single minute. Look up in the sky! It’s a bird. It’s a plane! It’s Super Priest! Do not fear, for Father Clark is here!

“Pardon me, Miss Teacher, but I notice that some of your students look sorry. Would your class like to go to the chapel for Reconciliation?”

The eyes of the students brightened knowing that God’s forgiveness was near. The girl who had been rude earlier raised her hand.

“I know that I would!” Many other students nodded their heads. Phew! Friendships saved, hearts made holy and happiness restored.

For more super hero adventures of Super Priest, ask your local pastor!

The End

*It may be funny to think of a priest like superhero but there certainly are some similarities. He comes to rescue strangers and friends, far and near, by bringing God’s grace through sacraments which in a way is like rescuing them. A priest is a super hero. He is brave because he goes into many new circumstances without knowing who he will meet or what will happen. He is strong because he has the power of God through the sacraments with him. He is generous because he lays down his own life to rescue others.*