

Second/ Third Class

St Brigid builds her Church

Brigid and her friends wanted to tell all the people in the land about the love of God. They wanted everyone to hear the good news that God loved them. Brigid decided that she would build a church, so that everyone would have a place to come to when they wanted to talk to God. But Brigid had no land to build her church on.



'Someone will have to give me land on which to build my church,' she said to her friends. 'I will go to the local chieftain and ask him for a piece of ground.' And off she went. The chieftain was the man who owned all the land in the area where St. Brigid lived. He was a very sly man. He did not know anything about God's love and he did not want to listen to Brigid. So, when he saw her coming, he decided he would play a trick on her. 'I want to build a church,' explained Brigid 'so that people can come together to pray to God.' 'Very well,' answered the chieftain. 'Come with me'. The chieftain took Brigid to the top of a high hill. 'Look down there,' he said. 'All the land, as far as you can see, is mine. It belongs to me.' Then he told Brigid to take off her cloak. 'You asked me for land,' he said. 'I will give you as much land as your cloak can cover. Take it off and lay it down on the ground and see how much it covers. Brigid was very disappointed. She knew her cloak was very small and would not cover nearly enough land to build a church. The chieftain laughed and laughed. But when Brigid laid her cloak on the ground, you would hardly believe what happened next... the cloak began to grow and grow bigger and bigger. It spread out wider and wider, further and further. The chieftain stopped laughing. His face grew pale. The cloak was still growing. 'Stop it!' cried the chieftain. 'Stop it, please! Stop it quickly! Stop it now!' Now it was Brigid's turn to laugh. She told the cloak to stop. She had more than enough land now to build her church on. She went back and told her friends what had happened. That night they thanked God for helping them with their church.

Reflection

Brigid wanted to build a church as one way to show how God's love for all and that they would have a place to come to pray, alone or together.

During these times of COVID 19 imagine that you are out walking and that you bump into Brigid as you walk along a path. She looks like a kind and loving person and she begins to talk to you. Imagine that you are listening to her telling you of how much God loves you. Listen to her. Then write what you hear, or write a prayer or draw a picture of this meeting with Brigid.

Write what you hear Brigid say to you or write a prayer or draw a picture, or draw a picture of her and her cloak!

Prayer

St. Brigid of Ireland,

Help us, we pray,

To be kind and loving

in all that we do. Pray for all

who are lonely and all who maybe suffering

during these difficult times.

Bless all who are helping

and who give healing to all who suffer. Amen