The Story of the Redemption for Children

Rev. F. Abair’s rhymes edited and illustrated by Sister M. Joanne, S.N.D.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS:

I am sure that you will enjoy the beautiful little poems and the lovely songs and pictures which you will find in this little book. Everything on these pages was made for little children who love to recite poems and sing songs because they are happy little boys and girls who were made by God to bring happiness into the world. A priest who loves little children has written these poems just for you to enjoy, and a sister who finds joy in teaching little children has added all the pretty little angels and saints, animals and trees and flowers which look very much like the kind you like to draw.

Every song tells a little story about God, or Jesus, or the saints—stories which you have learned something about in school. All these stories tell you how much God loves all of us, and they also remind you to love God too. As you learn these songs and come to know the stories they tell, you will learn to love Jesus and Mary and the saints more and more and try to become more like them.

You will enjoy singing these songs at home for your mother and father and your little brothers and sisters, and you will also find many chances to sing them at school during the year. You know, too, that when you sing them they can also be little prayers that you will offer to God.

All of us grown-up people love little boys and girls who love Jesus and try to live like Jesus, and we pray for you that you may grow up always loving and living like Jesus and His saints. May God bless you always.

Very Reverend Norbert M. Shumaker
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Toledo, Ohio
Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 1952
To Our Lady Queen of the Apostolate

The motto in this song is like a cheer at a ball game. It makes you do your best. If you sing these songs while you work and play, you can stay good like Jesus and Mary.

Magnificat

1. Most beau - ti - ful La - dy, The Queen of our heart,
2. "For Je - sus through Ma - ry," Our mot - to sub - li - me,

You nob - le and state - ly Per - fec - tion of art!
Makes work mis - sion - a - ry And pleas - ure di - vine.
We hope our heart pleas - es Both you and your Son.
With other boys and girls you can paint a mural of "Paradise" on a long piece of wrapping paper. Plan together what to draw and where each thing should go. Each child may draw something different. DO NOT COPY ANY OF THE PICTURES IN THIS BOOK.

1. God made a garden large and nice And called this garden Paradise.
2. This Paradise was filled with trees, Banana, peach, and what you please;
3. And every kind of beast was there: The sheep, the elephant, the bear,
4. But all the beasts were kind and tame, And Adam gave to each its name.

There Adam and his wife could stay And have a picnic every day.
And every flower you could wish; Four rivers, too, all full of fish.
The lion and the tiger, too, The camel and the kangaroo.
But none of them would bite or sting. They minded Adam as their king.
Act out this song. Choose children to take the parts of Lucifer, Eve and Adam. The rest of the children may sing the other parts of the story.

He found the garden, wriggled in,
Till Eve came by; then Lucifer
"We taste them all," did Eve reply;
Your eyes will open as they should,
She gave to Adam. Sad to tell
And planned to make the woman sin.

And waited long and patiently,
To eat of each and every tree?
"But you will be like God instead.
And took and ate the deadly fruit.

1. Now Lucifer was wide awake.
2. He crawled up in the knowledge tree.
3. "Say why has God forbidden thee?
4. "You shall not die," the devil said.
5. So Eve believed the lying brute.

He turned himself into a snake.
And waited long and patiently,
To eat of each and every tree?
"But you will be like God instead.
And took and ate the deadly fruit.

Seventh Psalm Tone

1. Now Lucifer was wide awake.
2. He crawled up in the knowledge tree.
3. "Say why has God forbidden thee?
4. "You shall not die," the devil said.
5. So Eve believed the lying brute.

He turned himself into a snake.
And waited long and patiently,
To eat of each and every tree?
"But you will be like God instead.
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"We taste them all," did Eve reply;
Your eyes will open as they should,
She gave to Adam. Sad to tell
And planned to make the woman sin.
In Exitu - Pereg.

Driven from Paradise

1. Then God came down from out the skies To drive them out of Paradise.
2. Before God drove them both away He promised He would send some day
3. And so they suffered, worked, and cried Nine hundred years until they died.

The beautiful melodies in this little book are called Gregorian Chant. Gregorian Chant is the musical language of Holy Mother Church. You as her children should keep tuned in with your Holy Mother's feelings of joy, sorrow and other moods. What mood or feeling is in this song? Try to sing it with feeling.

And there He made an angel stand
A Savior who would tramp and break
Now all the children of the earth
With sword of fire in his hand.
The head of that most wicked snake.
Have sin upon their souls at birth.
Try to feel how Mary felt when the Angel brought her this good news. During which season of Holy Mother Church or on which of her feast days would it be fine to act out this little story?

1. One day while Mary knelt in prayer
2. Now Mary feared and bowed her head.
3. Then Mary spoke the blessed word:

She saw an angel standing there.

"Oh, do not fear," the angel said,
"Behold the Hand-maid of the Lord.

His glory filled the dwelling place. He said to her, "Hail, full of Grace!"

"For God shall send His Son to thee. His holy Mother, thou shalt be."

As thou hast said, so be it done." The Son of God became her Son.
The Trip to Bethlehem

Creator Alme Siderum

1. St. Joseph brushed the donkey neat,
   Put Mary in the saddle seat,
   Act out this song together keeping time with the rhythm of the music.
   As you sing "brushed the donkey neat," make a downward motion with the right hand. What other motions will you use?

2. They traveled on for many days
   Along the winding dusty ways.

3. The richer folk would hurry by
   In carriages all fine and high,
   And proudly look away from them,
   And start ed off for Bethlehem.
   A - trav'ling down to Beth - le - hem.
   A - trav'ling down to Beth - le - hem.
   So sorry, sir, we have no room."
Do you like Gregorian Chant? Would you like to know how it got its name? About 1,350 years ago Pope St. Gregory gathered church melodies from the time of the Apostles and made some of his own too. Pope St. Gregory taught children how to sing these chants.

The Birth of Our Lord

Te Lucis ante Terminum

1. They found a stable cold and bare
2. Then Mary took some swaddling clothes

And in this stable cave forlorn
The Savior of the world was born.

The manager Joseph filled with hay;
And there the Infant Jesus lay.
1. That night while people were asleep The Shepherds watched their flocks of sheep.

2. "Be not afraid," the angel said, "I bring good news to make you glad.

3. A host of angels in the sky

4. The Shepherds came and found the Child, Within the manger, sweet and mild.

Then suddenly an angel bright
For in a stable cave forlorn
"Glory to God in Heaven's height,
They found Him with His Mother dear,

Was standing in a blaze of light.
The Savior of the world is born."
And peace to men whose wills are right."
And good St. Joseph kneeling near.

Can you tell the difference now between the music of plain chant and that of every day songs? The chant is heavenly, raising your mind to God. Worldly songs are just pretty sounds to enjoy.
Jesu Dulcis Memoria

Now there appeared a brilliant Star

Which led the Wise Men from afar.

They came and, kneeling down, adored

And offered gifts to Christ, the Lord.

The Wise Men

Make up more stanzas telling about the gifts of the Wise Men or about your gifts for the Christ Child. Be sure the accents in your song match the accents in these lines. On the Feast of the Wise Men have a procession in your home or classroom. Sing your song while carrying to the crib a gift for the Christ Child or for a little friend. It is much more fun if the three Wise Men lead the procession. Three children may be chosen for this honor, and they may wear crowns made from colored paper. The Wise Men may take turns singing their own stanzas.
Find the other song in this book that has the same melody as this one. Read the words of this song, then read the words of the other song. In what way are these two stories alike? Can you hear that the melody helps to tell the sad stories? Look in this book for two other sad songs that have the same melody. What are they? Why are the stories sad? "The Annunciation" and "The Trip to Bethlehem" both have the same melody too. Do you think it is a sad or a happy melody? Are the stories happy or sad? Do you know why the melody is the same for both songs?

_in Exitu - Peres._

1. Oh Lord, I am Your wicked sheep. I ran away, but now I weep.
2. Oh Lord, I am Your wand’ring lamb. I know You’ll find me where I am.

Here is no grass, but thorns and rock; Here is no Shepherd nor the flock.
Before the wolf can do me harm, You’ll take me in Your blessed arms.
Let one child act the part of the Pharisee, another of the Publican. All the others sing. Try to put into your song the feeling that Holy Mother Church has in her “Miserere,” which means “Have mercy!” Borrow a Missal and read the “Miserere” in the Mass for the Dead. See how many reasons you can find there for asking for mercy. Who has more reasons to ask for mercy, the Pharisee or the Publican?

Miserere

1. The Phar - i - see, with head held high,
2. The Pub - li - can with low - ered head
3. Let me not be a Phar - i - see,
4. But like the hum - ble Pub - li - can

Prayed thus: “Oh God, how good am I!”
“Have mer - cy, Lord!” is all he said.
Who loud - ly boasts his sanc - ti - ty,
Ad - mit I am a sin - ful man.
Holy Mother Church has this sad melody to tell this sad story. Her children sing this during Lent. Holy Mother Church also has a sorrowful color or a color for penance and for Lent. What is it?

1. While in the garden Jesus prayed,
   Our sins upon His soul were laid.
   And brought Him to Jerusalem.

2. Then wicked men arrested Him
   Beneath the weight He falls three times;
   But ah! the Apostles were asleep.

3. His cross He bears, the hill He climbs;
   His sweat was blood, His sorrow deep!
   They whipped Him till each muscle bled,
   And put a thorn-crown on His head.

   Be - neath the cross and sins of men
   Three times He falls to rise again.
The Crucifixion

Vexilla Regis Prodeunt

1. They nailed Him to the cruel cross
2. He suffered long and frightfully;
3. All this He bore for sins of men,

And hung Him there to die for us.
The people mocked Him spitefully.
To open Heaven’s Gates again.

And there He prayed for me and you: “Forgive!”
His head-ache was most terrible,
Good Friday afternoon He died;

They know not what they do!”
His thirst almost unbearable.
And then a soldier pierced His side.

About 600 years ago Holy Mother Church heard many worldly tunes come in and push out her beautiful chant. Then about fifty years ago the saintly Pius X made certain rules that would keep sacred music as it should be. That’s why you learn these lovely plain songs during Lent and other times.
If you play a flute, tonette or other musical instrument, practice this fifth psalm tone. Then pretend you are an angel standing at the tomb and play while the other children sing. What mood or feeling will you put into your playing and singing? Find another song in this book that has the same mood as this one. Play it on your instrument. Find a song that has a different mood. Play it. Can you tell the difference in the feeling or mood? What difference do you find in the stories?

Fifth Psalm Tone

They placed Him in a tomb of stone,
Dead, all helpless, and alone.

But Easter morn, before the light, He rose alive in glory bright!
The Coming of the Spirit

Veni Creator Spiritus

1. The wind was loud, all men could hear. It was the Spirit coming near.
2. The doors the Apostles opened wide. And preached to all the crowds outside.
3. The Spirit gave the power to each. In many languages to preach.

In flames of fire so gleaming red
Their hearts were brave, their minds were clear,
And those who heard them knelt to pray.

Draw a picture of the "Coming of the Spirit." Be sure to talk about the story first and also act it out. Then choose the part you like best for the main idea of your drawing. Make it big, and use dark colors against light or light against dark. DO NOT COPY BUT THINK OUT YOUR OWN IDEA.

He shone on each Apostle's head.
They had no doubt nor any fear.
Three thousand were baptized that day.
The Assumption of Mary

Make up a prayer to Mary that could be sung to this tune. Keep the same rhythm and the same mood as these two stanzas. The next song has the same melody as this one, but it has Gregorian instead of modern notes.

Eighth Psalm Tone

1. When Mary died they buried her
2. She has a throne of dazzling white

With in a rocky sepulcher.
Not far from Jesus’ Throne of Light.

Three days the angels sang with love,
All Heaven bows before her low:
Then carried her to Christ above.
The saints and angels love her so.
Christ the King

Eighth Psalm Tone

1. Christ shall rule e - ter - nal - ly
   Over sky and land and sea.
2. Christ shall rule in maj - es - ty
   Men and an - gels might - i - ly.
3. Let us march with ban - ners high
   With the ar - my of the sky;
4. Join the ranks and march a - long;
   Raise your voice and sing the song.

Shout the word from shore to shore:
Christ the King for - ev - er more!
All the na - tions shall a - dore
"Al - le - lu - ia to our King!"
With the saints we’ll march and sing
"Al - le - lu - ia to our King!"
Let the earth and heav - ens ring:
"Al - le - lu - ia to our King!"

Make a banner in honor of Christ the King. Use a symbol and colors that tell He is your King of love or that He rules the whole world. Make your design SHOUT this by having it big, and dark against light or light against dark. Carry your banner in a parade while singing this song.