HOLY OF HEARTS YOIR NNA!

Holy Trinity School's Valentine's Day tradition is to let the eighth-graders vote on a Queen of Hearts to reign over the all-school party held in the gym.

The queen wears a regal robe and tiara and awards prizes for all the games played at the party. The kids always vote for someone who is popular and involved in things like cheerleading and school plays.

When the time came for each of the two eighth-grade homerooms to nominate someone for Queen of Hearts this year, Room 101 made a surprising choice. As a joke, a popular boy nominated Lydia, and other kids simply followed along and voted her as their room's nominee. Although students liked Lydia, she was not popular. She was very shy and not like previous queen candidates.

Savannah, the nominee from Room 103, decided to turn the joke into a serious nomination. She said to her friends, "Why not Lydia? Just 'cause she's not a cheerleader? Just 'cause she isn't real popular? That doesn't matter. She's a nice person. She helps us with homework when we need it and volunteers at fundraisers. I say let's all vote for Lydia. I think she'd be a great Queen of Hearts."

Read Mark 2:1-12 and then close your Bible and see if you can answer each of the following questions correctly. If you need help, open your Bible again and check the verse that appears at the end of the question.

FAITH SHOWS



1. In what seaside town did Jesus make his home? (v. 1)

BETHSAIDA CAPERNAUM

2. How many people lowered the ailing man through the roof? (v. 3)

THREE **FOUR**

3. How does the Gospel refer to the man who was lowered through the roof? (v. 3)

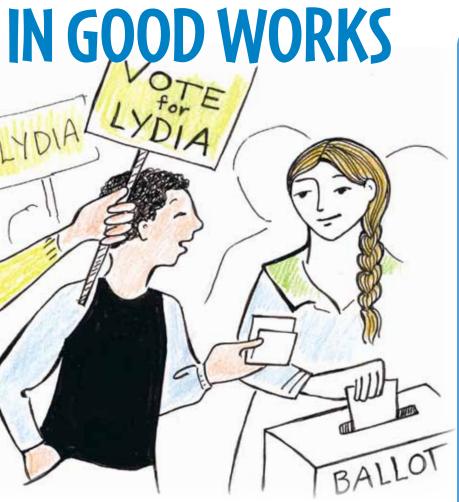
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4. What did Jesus see in the hearts of those who brought the man to him? (v. 5)

FAITH **KINDNESS**

5. By what affectionate term did Jesus address the man? (v. 5)

BROTHER CHILD



6. What did Jesus say first to the man? (v. 5)

RISE, PICK UP YOUR MAT, AND WALK YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN

7. Who disapproved of these words of Jesus? (v. 6-7)

SCRIBES APOSTLES

8. What did his critics think Jesus was doing in saying these words? (v. 7)

BLASPHEMING BRIBING

9. By what title did Jesus call himself? (v. 10)

THE SON OF GOD THE SON OF MAN

10. Who was astounded and so glorified God after seeing the man cured? (v. 12)

ALL THOSE PRESENT
THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE

Savannah's idea ended up spreading like wildfire. Most kids were willing to think carefully about the person for whom they would vote. Lydia was smart and helpful and she never had a cross word for anybody. Kids realized that she would make a good queen.

Lydia was surprised and happy on the day her election was announced. In fact, she even lost some of her shyness and began talking more to the other kids. Everyone noticed the change in her.

All those who voted for Lydia were like the four people who took the paralyzed man to Jesus for help. God's goodness showed through their kindness.

Like the four people in this Gospel, we, too, show our faith through our good works.

Sister Alice Pfeifer, CSA. Art by Ansgar Holmberg, CSJ.

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