



In the spirit of
Christ

The Story of Saint Martin

Edward "Ned" McConaghy



In the Spirit of Christ

The Story of Saint Martin

Edward "Ned"
McConaghy

Introduction by
Rev. Jarrett Kerbel
Rector,
Church of Saint Martin-in-the-Fields



St. Martin of Tours is our Patron Saint and he has everything to teach us about the spirituality of stewardship.

For your personal and family reflection on generosity this stewardship season, we offer you this wonderful graphic novel depicting St. Martin's conversion experience. By giving away half his cloak to a freezing beggar by the side of the road, Martin saved a life and stumbled upon deeper intimacy with Christ. Jesus said that whenever we clothe the naked we clothe Him and revealed to us the close relationship between generous kindness and life lived in the presence of God.

How does your giving away what is essential bring you closer to the vulnerable, generous, gentle loving-kindness we know in Christ?

This graphic novelization of St. Martin's conversion is the artwork - both in drawing and in text - of our own Ned McConaghy. Ned came up through our youth program at St. Martin's where he participated in our pilgrimage program and our trips to Holy Cross Monastery. He is a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and our Education for Ministry program. You will see what a fine artist he is in the pages that follow, and you will also be blessed by his spiritual and theological insight and sensitivity. Ned researched the time period, the landscape, and the uniforms of Roman Legionnaires to take us back to the time and place of St. Martin's momentous conversion to the way of Christ.

Rev. Jarrett Kerbel

Rector, Church of Saint Martin-in-the-Fields

ROMAN OCCUPIED GALL,
SOMEWHERE NEAR THE
CITY OF AMBIANUM, C.334.



A GROUP OF CAVALRY
OFFICERS APPROACHES
THE CITY GATES...



ONE IS A YOUNG
CATECHUMEN
NAMED MARTIN.



EVEN THOUGH HE HAS YET
TO BE BAPTIZED, MARTIN IS
UNWAVERING IN HIS DEVOTION
TO CHRISTIAN FAITH & CHARITY.



G...GOOD
SOL...SOLDIER!!

GOOD S...
SOLDIER! WOULD...
YOU PLEASE H...
HELP ME?





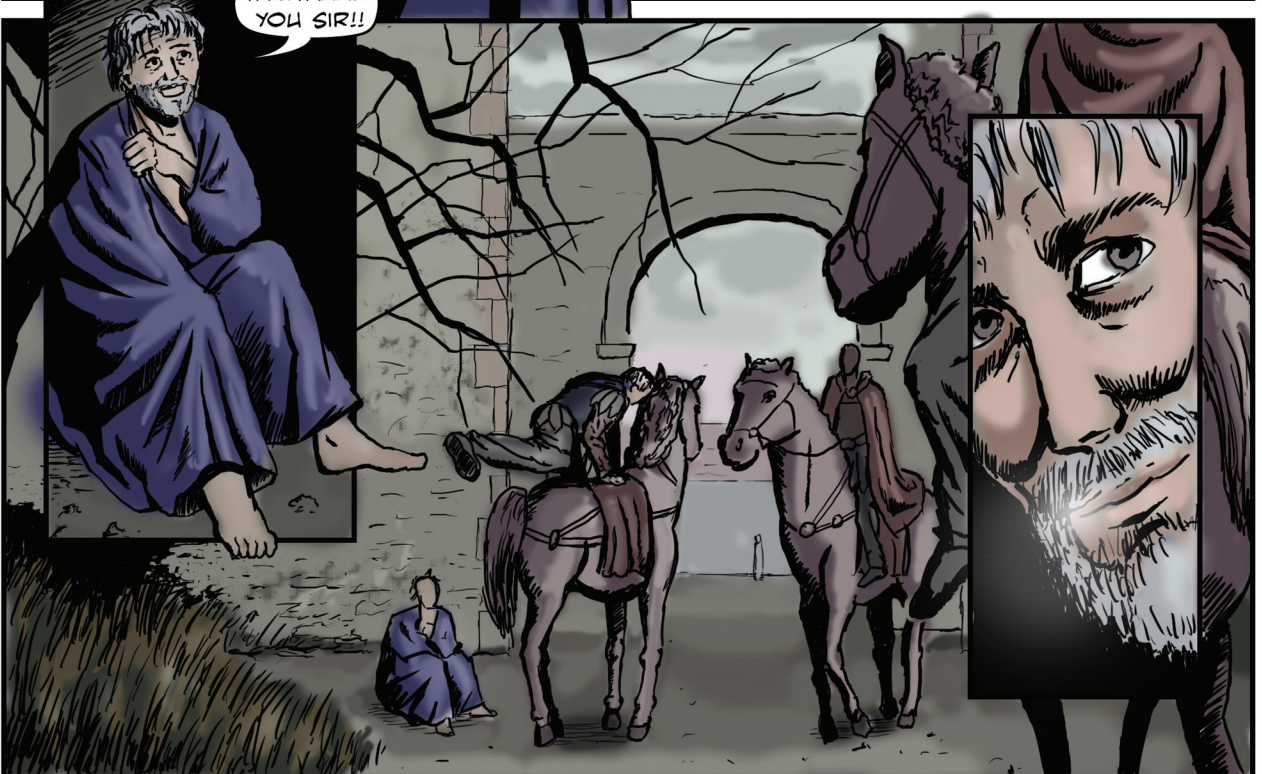
I AM NOT WELL...AND THIS WINTER IS UNNATURALLY COLD.

IF TH... THERE IS ANY WAY YOU COULD H...HELP ME, I WOULD GLADLY BE IN YOUR DEBT.



DON'T BOTHER, MARTIN. THERE'S NO TIME FOR THIS.

IT'S FREEZING COLD AND THE MAN WILL BE DEAD SOON ANYWAY.



THAT NIGHT AT THE BARRACKS IN THE CITY OF AMBIANUM, THE LORD JESUS APPEARS IN MARTIN'S DREAM.



THE LORD IS CLOTHED IN THE SAME HALF OF THE CLOAK MARTIN GAVE TO THE POOR MAN...



THAT IS MY LORD, BUT...WHAT IS HE SAYING?



MARTIN,
ALTHOUGH STILL
ONLY A CATECHUMEN,
HAS CLOTHED ME IN
THIS GARMENT!

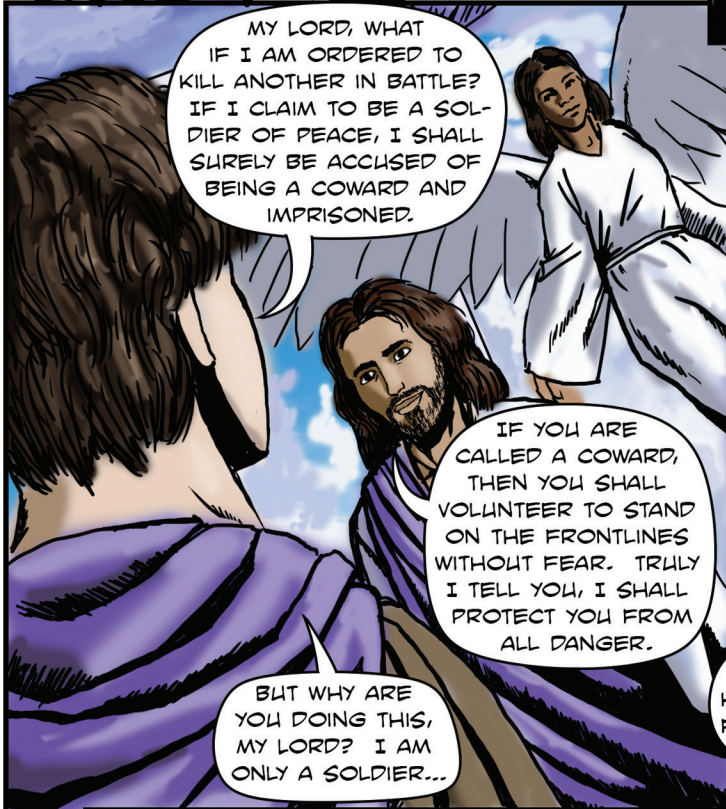


MY LORD! I DO
NOT UNDERSTAND!
WHAT DO YOU WANT
ME TO DO?



GO, BE
BAPTIZED, AND
THEN RETURN TO
YOUR LIFE AS A
SOLDIER.

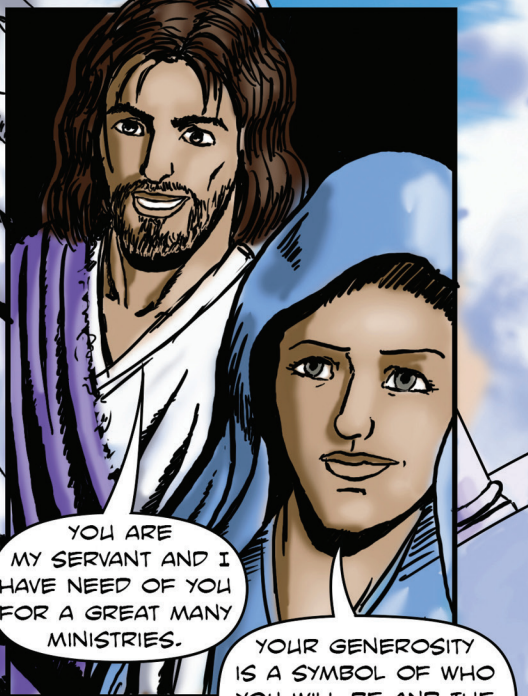
ONLY
NOW, YOU
SHALL SERVE
AS A SOLDIER
OF PEACE AND
RIGHTEOUS-
NESS.



MY LORD, WHAT
IF I AM ORDERED TO
KILL ANOTHER IN BATTLE?
IF I CLAIM TO BE A SOLDIER
OF PEACE, I SHALL
SURELY BE ACCUSED OF
BEING A COWARD AND
IMPRISONED.

IF YOU ARE
CALLED A COWARD,
THEN YOU SHALL
VOLUNTEER TO STAND
ON THE FRONTLINES
WITHOUT FEAR. TRULY
I TELL YOU, I SHALL
PROTECT YOU FROM
ALL DANGER.

BUT WHY ARE
YOU DOING THIS,
MY LORD? I AM
ONLY A SOLDIER...



YOU ARE
MY SERVANT AND I
HAVE NEED OF YOU
FOR A GREAT MANY
MINISTRIES.

YOUR GENEROSITY
IS A SYMBOL OF WHO
YOU WILL BE AND THE
INSPIRATION YOU WILL
EXEMPLIFY FOR AGES
TO COME.



THEN MAY IT BE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH
YOUR WILL, OH LORD.



CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS