

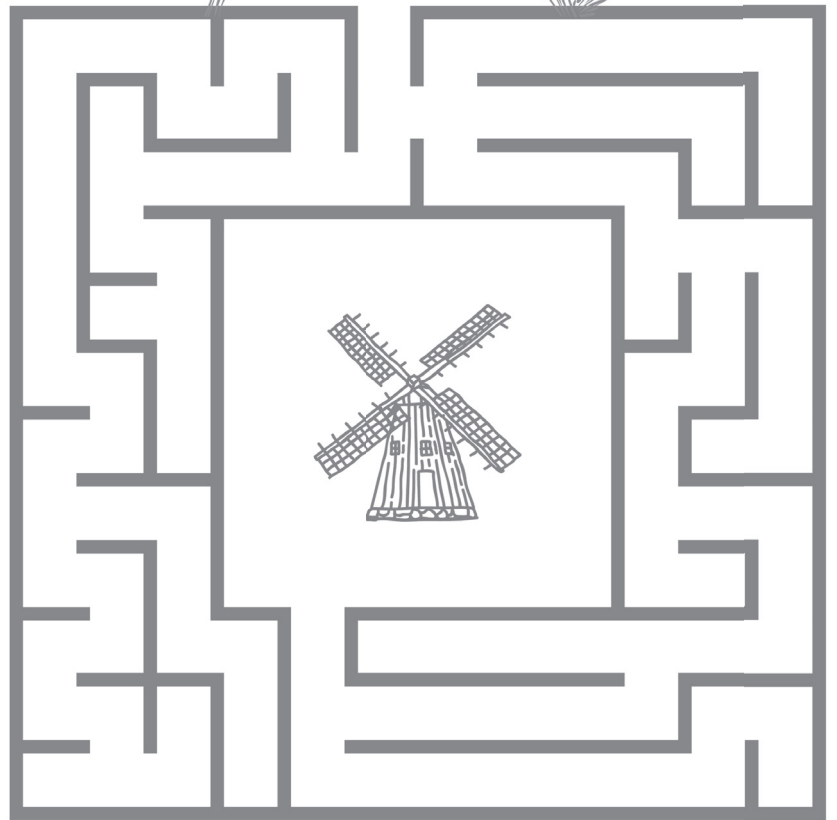
Our Lady of Champion

Who is Adele?

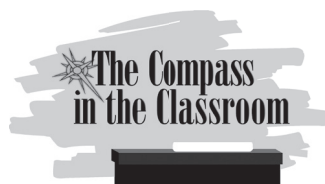
Adele Brise was a young girl who lived in Belgium. Her birthday was January 30, 1831. Although her life was challenging, she loved her family and was known for being very joyful!

One day, Adele's parents decided to join a group of people who were traveling across the sea to a little town in Wisconsin. Even though Adele was hesitant to go, she decided to be obedient to her parents and travel to America with them.

After the six-week voyage across the sea, Adele's family joined the largest Belgian settlement - near present-day Champion, Wisconsin. Their lives were very difficult, but Adele remained joyful in her daily tasks. Her chores included carrying grain through the woods to a nearby mill for her family to have food.



Help Adele carry grain from her home to the mill!



Our Lady of Champion

Mary's visit to Adele

One day in 1859, Adele was walking through the woods when she came across a lady dressed in white standing between two trees. The mysterious woman stayed silent and left Adele wondering what sort of encounter it may have been.

A few days later on Sunday, October 9, Adele walked to Mass with her sister and a friend. Along the same path, she saw the mysterious lady standing in the same spot between the two trees. Adele was the only one to see her, so she and her companions continued on their journey to Mass.

After Mass, Adele spoke to her local priest, and he instructed her that if the lady appeared to her again to ask the question, "In God's name, who are you and what do you want of me?"

On her journey home, Adele saw the lady for the third time. She could see the beautiful lady, clothed in dazzling white, with a yellow sash around her waist. Her dress fell to her feet in graceful folds. She had a crown of stars around her head, and her long golden wavy hair fell loosely over her shoulders. The lady had such a heavenly light around her that Adele could hardly look at her face. Adele fell to her knees and said, "In God's name, who are you, and what do you want of me?"

The lady replied, "I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners, and I wish you to do the same. You received Holy Communion this morning and that is well. But you must do more. Make a general confession and offer Communion for the conversion of sinners. If they do not convert and do penance, my Son will be obliged to punish them."

Adele's companions, unable to see Our Lady asked, "Adele, who is it? Why can't we see her as you do?"

"Kneel," said Adele, "the Lady says she is the Queen of Heaven."

The Blessed Lady gazed kindly upon them, saying, "Blessed are they that believe without seeing." Then, looking toward Adele, the Queen of Heaven asked, "What are you doing here in idleness while your companions are working in the vineyard of my Son?"

"What more can I do, dear Lady?" asked Adele, weeping.

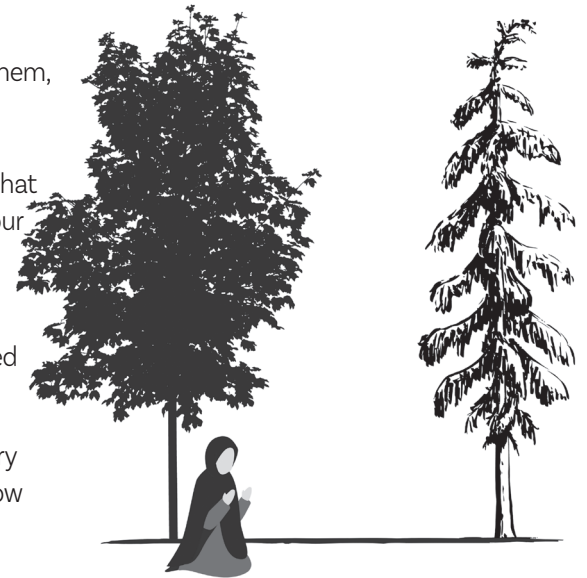
"Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation."

"But how shall I teach them who know so little myself?" Adele said.

"Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing, I will help you."

Then, wrapped as it were in a luminous atmosphere, the Lady lifted her hands as though she were beseeching a blessing for those at her feet. Slowly, she vanished from sight.

This was the simple beginning of Adele's mission to become a teacher for the Lord and the Blessed Lady.



Draw Mary between the trees!

Our Lady of Champion

Adele's Mission

After the apparitions and following Mary's instruction, Adele walked as far as fifty miles to teach the local children. No matter the weather, she went from home to home, offering to do household chores in exchange for the privilege of teaching the children their faith. She taught them all about the Sacraments - Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Marriage, and Anointing of the Sick.

Can you unscramble the seven Sacraments?

ATBSIPM

RECAITNIOCONIL

UECASRITH

CORFINTONAIM

RIAMAGER

LOHY DERORS

ONITAGNIN FO ETH KISC



Our Lady of Champion

The Fire

On October 8, 1871, almost 12 years since Mary's last appearance to Adele, a great fire broke out that took over the land. It is still considered the most devastating fire in United States history - and it was making its way right to the very grounds where Mary had appeared!

Desperate for help, people from the surrounding countryside fled to the grounds where Mary had appeared and the chapel marking that spot. There, Adele and her friends prayed for Mary's protection. Praying the rosary, they walked in and around the grounds of the chapel. All of a sudden, the flames threatening the chapel went around the ground's fences and didn't harm the chapel or the people on it. Early the next morning, a steady rain came and extinguished the flames. They were saved thanks to Jesus and Mary's powerful intercession!

Can you find the missing words related to the fire?

R P S C H A P E L B
A T B S D M M P G U
I A D E L E A F O R
N P Z A L I R I D N
P R Y F M G Y R T Z
R Z O F K S I E L T
A R M S A S M A V Y
Y P P O A I V O N D
R U K H X R T S K S
W A C S X H Y H J E

Belgians	Chapel	Smoke	Faith
Adele	Rosary	Burn	Rain
Fire	Pray	Mary	God

Our Lady of Champion

From Mary to Jesus

Adele and her religious sisters continued to teach and catechize the children long after the devastating fire. Their presence had a lasting effect on the people of the community. She lived out her ministry with zeal and love of God and Mary!

How can you use your gifts and experiences to share God's love with others?

Activity: Fill in the blank box for an answer.

