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St. Giles

St. Giles was a hermit who had left the monastery he had founded and lived in a cave near the mouth of the Rhone River. There are many legends associated with St. Giles but the best known, concerns his saving of a deer that had been shot by the King Chilbert. The deer sought refuge in Giles' cave and he saved her life by drawing out the arrow as she lay dying. She recovered and fed Giles on her milk.

St. Giles became one of the most popular saints in the West, the patron saint of woodland, of outcasts, of lepers, beggars and cripples. Of those struck by sudden misery, and driven into solitude like the deer, which, according to one tradition, came to St. Giles wounded. Giles is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers.

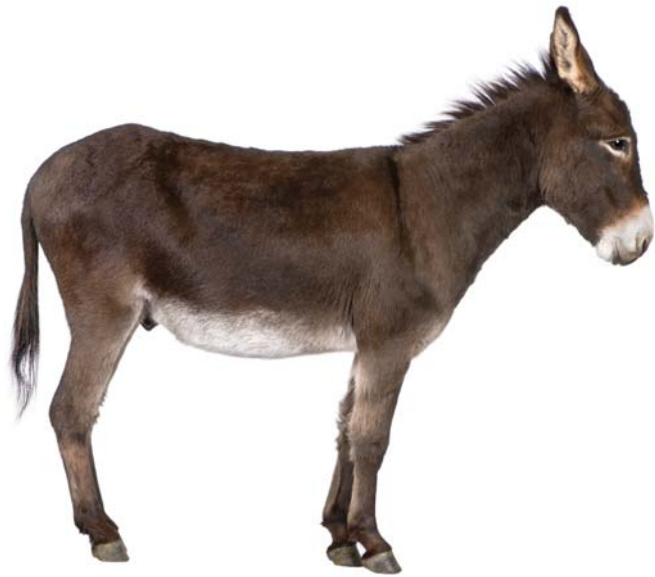


- ① Sit down with the children and show them the series of pictures overleaf. You may wish to lay the sheets out either on a table or the floor, and then read the story.
- ② Ask the children the following questions and discuss them:-
Look at the picture of all the animals. Which ones do you recognise?
St. Giles lived by himself. Do you ever feel lonely? Talk about what you miss when you are on your own.
St. Giles helped the deer. Talk about the people who help and care for you, what do they do?
The deer helped Giles by giving him milk to drink, what can you do to help others?
Which part of the story did you like? Which part of the story made you feel a bit sad?
- ③ Ask the children to draw their favourite animal on the blank drawing template found in the St. Giles activity section on iChild.

The Story of St. Giles



Giles was a lonely person. He left his monastery to live by himself in a cave.

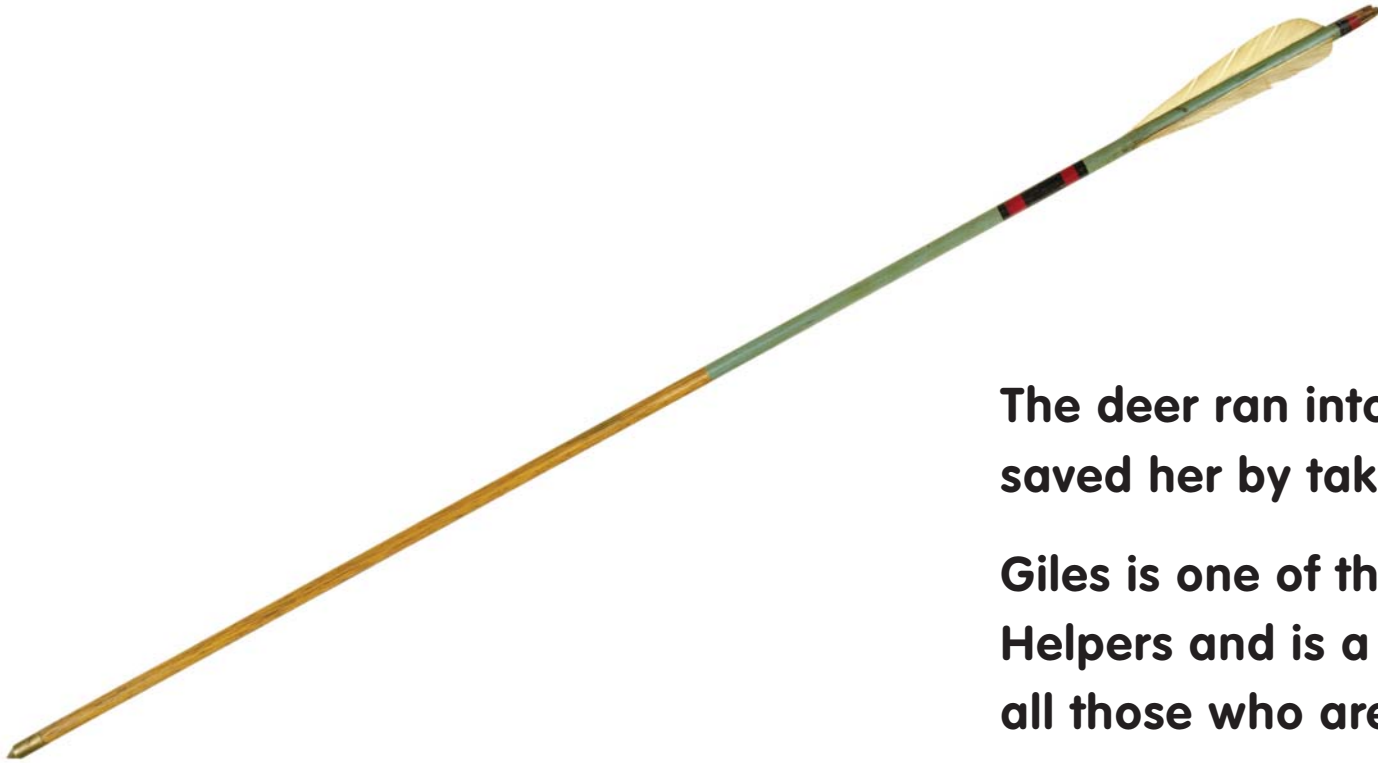


**He loved all the animals
who came to visit him.**





**One day a deer was
being hunted and an
arrow hit her neck.**



The deer ran into the cave and Giles saved her by taking out the arrow.

Giles is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers and is a special saint for all those who are disabled.