



# Our Lady of Champion

The First Approved Marian Apparition in the United States of America



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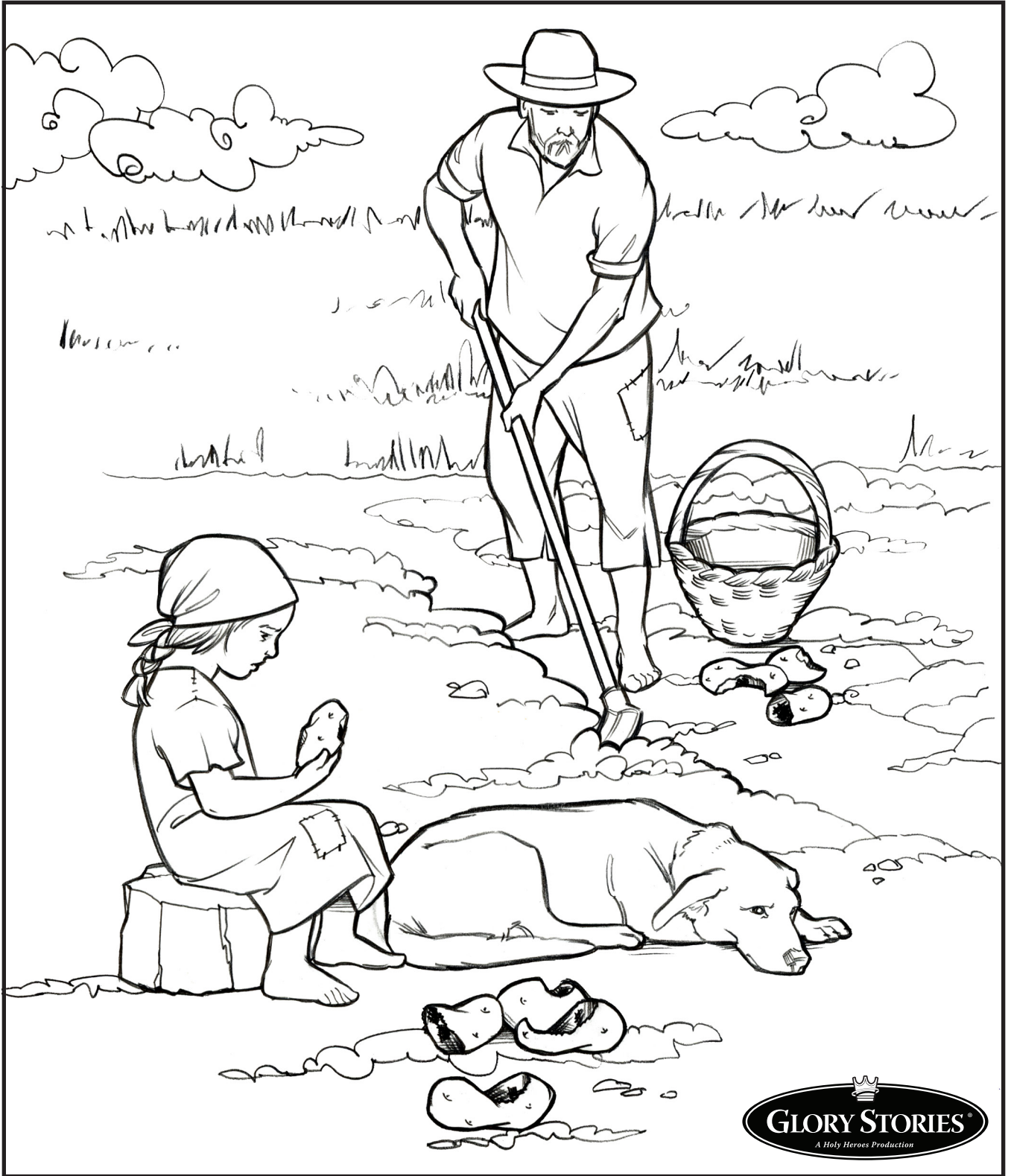
## Our Lady of Champion

A companion to the NEW Glory Stories® Vol. 18 Audio CD & MP3 Download

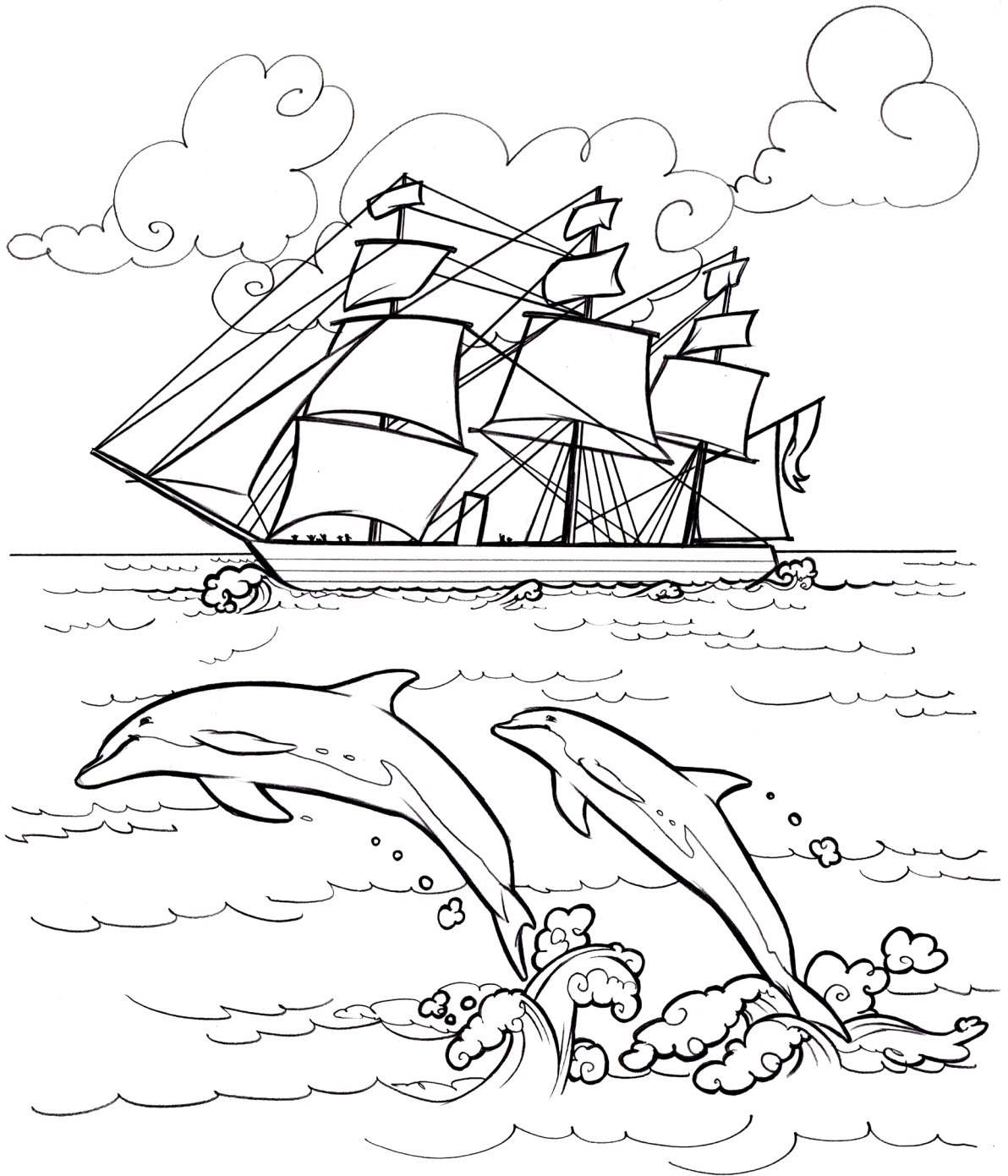
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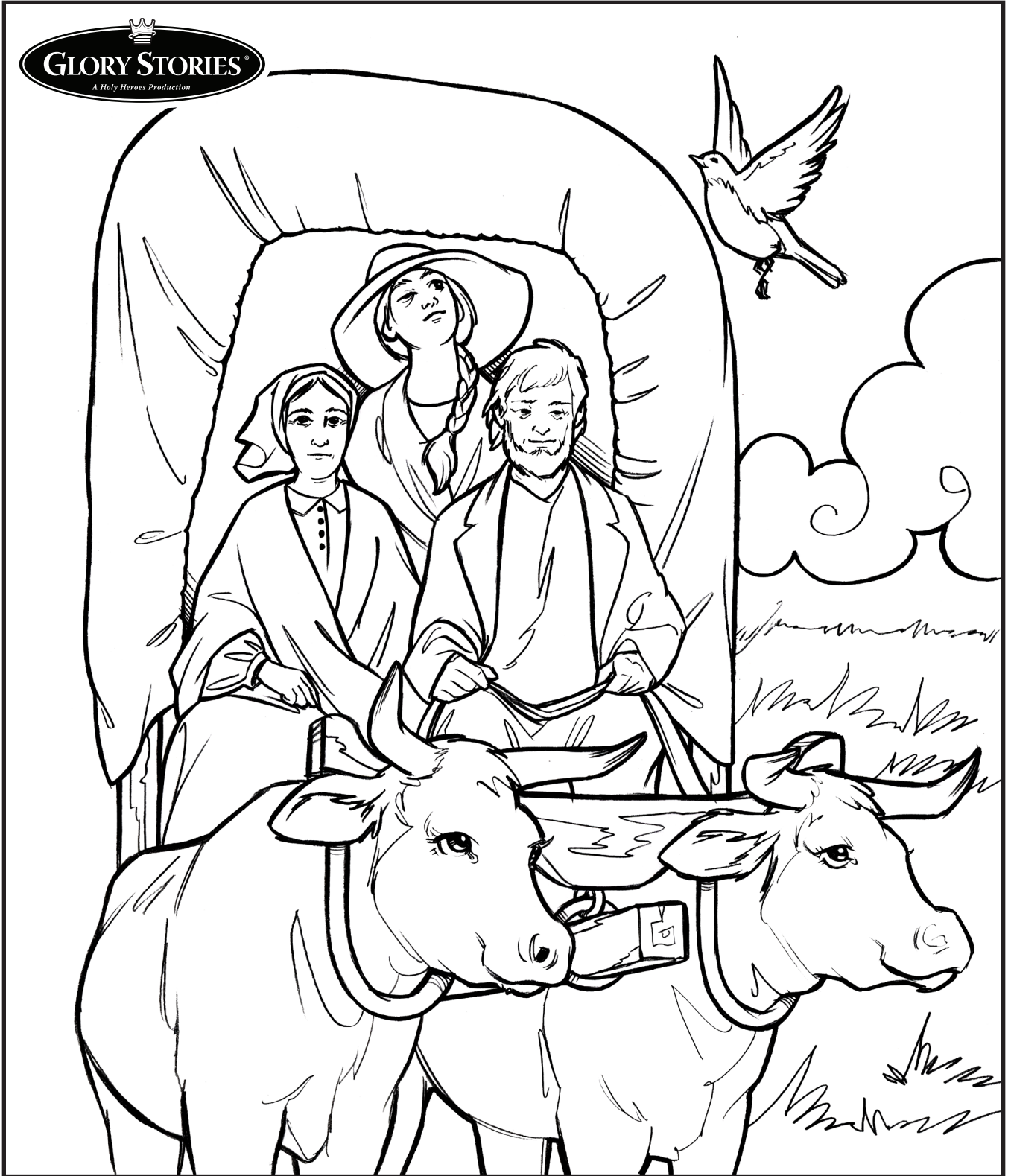
Marie Adele Joseph Brise was born on January 30, 1831, in Belgium. When she was very young, her eye was blinded by an accident. Despite her injury, Adele never felt sorry for herself and prayed this line from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians: "... for we walk by faith and not by sight."



When Adele was 13 years old, the Great Potato Famine spread across northern Europe. Because Adele and other poor families relied on potatoes for food, they struggled to find food during these difficult years.



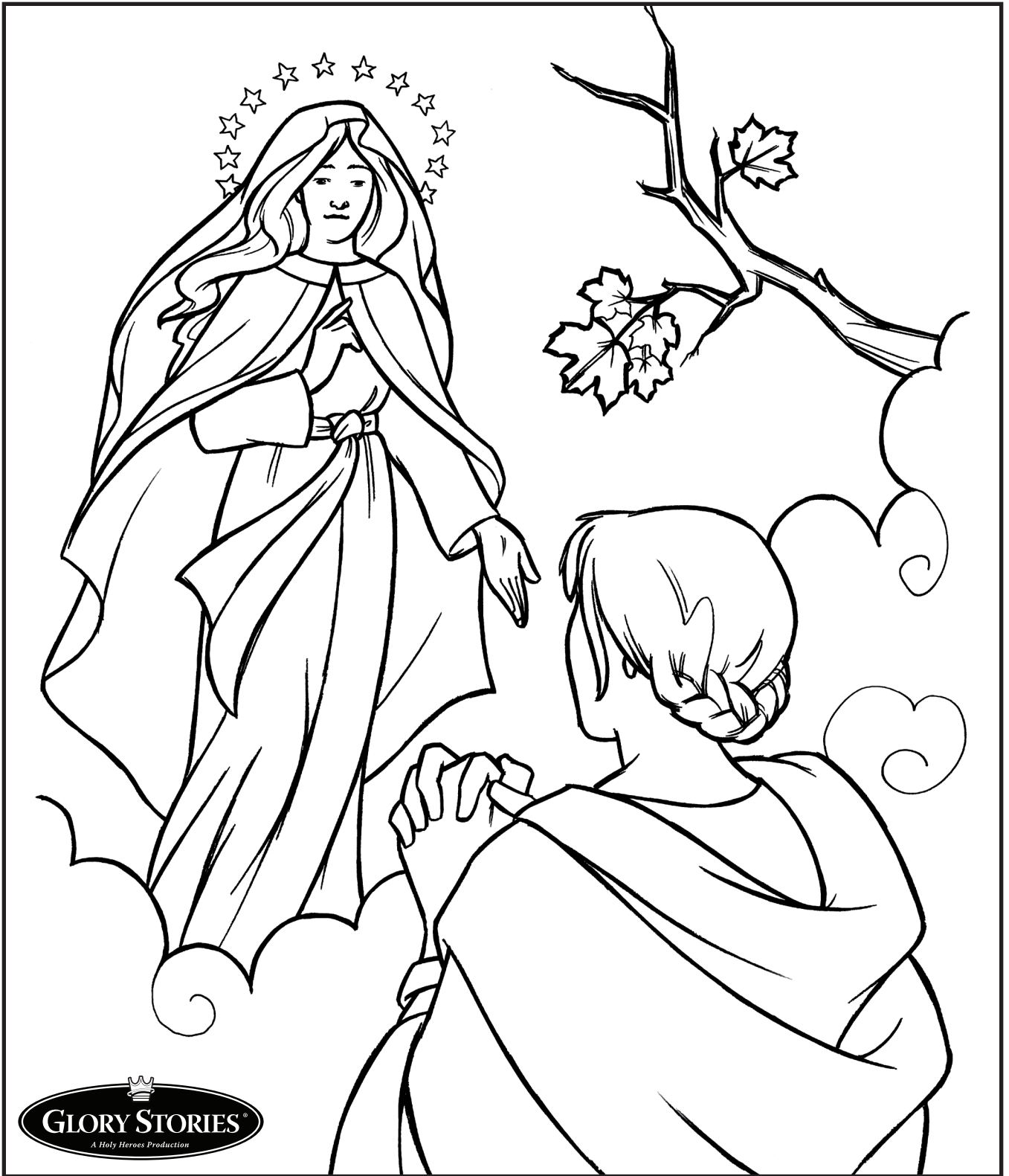
Finally, after 10 years of struggle, Adele and her family made the difficult decision to travel across the Atlantic Ocean and move the family to America in search of a better life.



Adele and her family made the long journey to Wisconsin, braving many dangers and trusting God to take care of them. In her new home, Adele worked and waited for God to show her His plan in this strange new country.



One of Adele's chores was to get flour from the nearest mill... over 4 miles away!  
While her sister, Isabel, was afraid of the wild animals, Adele loved these walks among the trees.



While walking through the woods one day, a lady dressed in white suddenly appeared! She was beautiful and had a yellow sash around her waist. While Adele stood in shock, the woman hovered in the trees before slowly fading away.



The woman appeared to Adele two more times. On her final visit, the lady said, "I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners, and I wish you to do the same... Teach the children. Gather around you the neglected children in the wild country... teach them their catechism... go and fear nothing. I will help you."

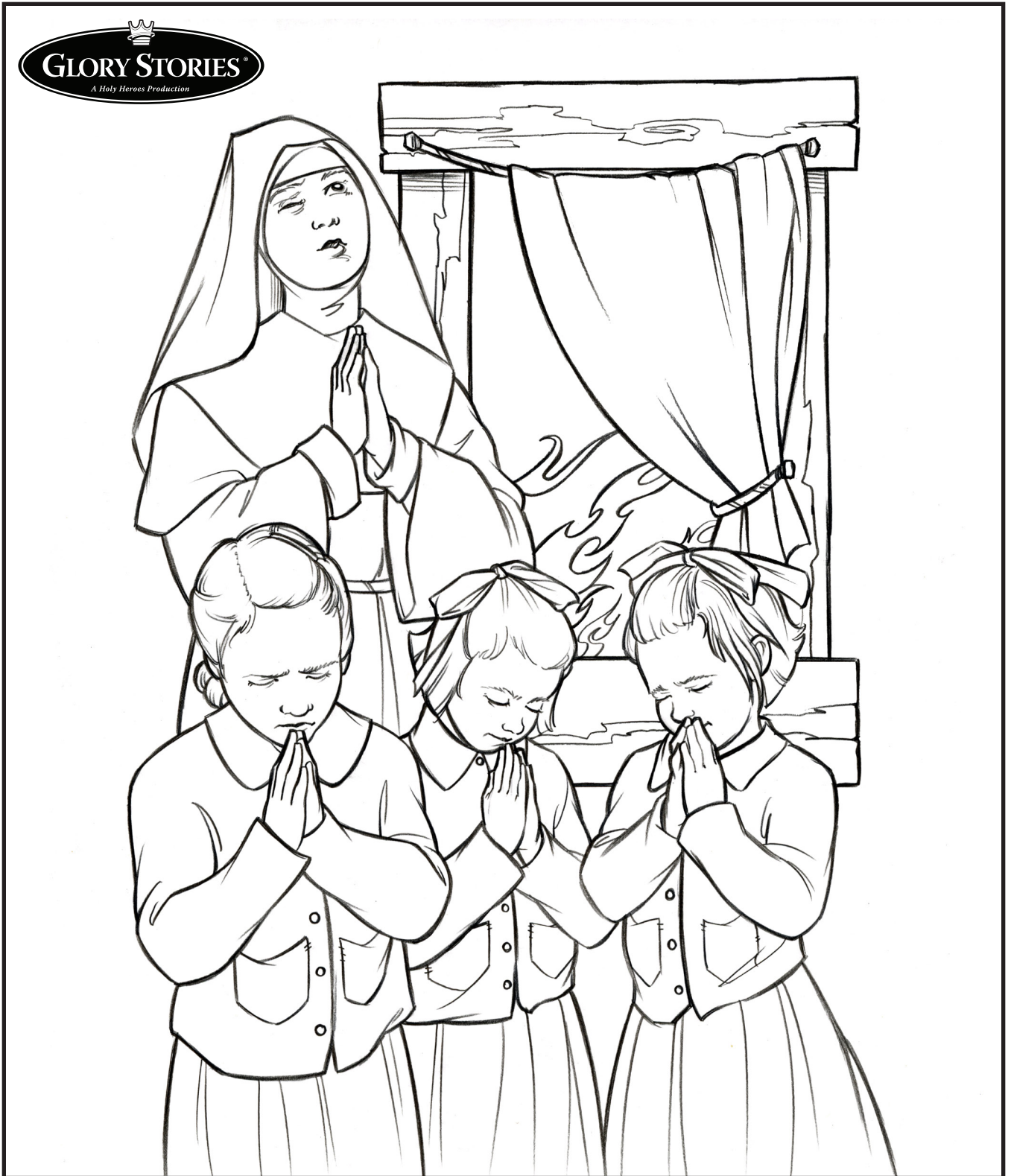




Adele did as Our Lady had commanded her and immediately began traveling throughout the woods, teaching the families who had stopped practicing the Catholic Faith. After 7 years, she was too weak to continue Our Lady's mission on foot. Together with five other women, Adele became a Third Order Franciscan and founded a school.

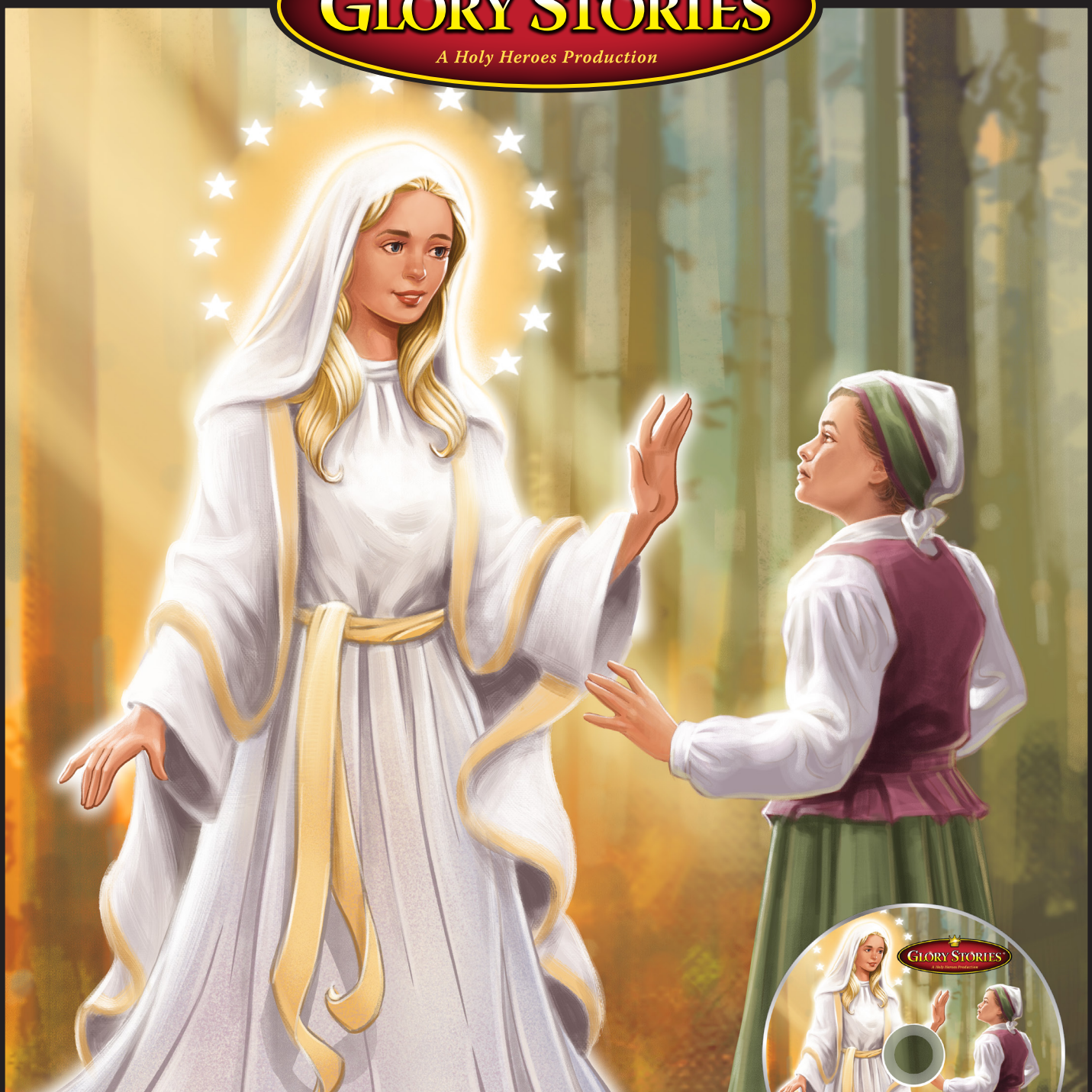


On the 12th anniversary of Our Lady's apparition, a forest fire ignited. The Great Peshtigo Fire would become the most devastating fire in American history. Dozens of towns were destroyed and thousands of people died.



Adele gathered the children and local families to the convent, school, and chapel that had been erected where Our Lady had appeared. Together, they prayed to Our Lady to protect them. As the fire raged, none of the people or animals within the property were harmed. Our Lady of Champion, pray for us!

  
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