



FLIP-FLOP
04.01.02

The Wolf of Gubbio.

This storybook belongs to:

Name:..... **Age:**.....

Class:..... **School:**.....

Editor: John Cooper OFM Cap.
Illustrated by: Philip Padayao "*Flip Flop*"

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THE SWALLOWS

(1Cel 59, LM 12:4)

One warm and sunny morning, Saint Francis came to a little village to speak to the people about God, so that they would come to know Him better and to love Him more.

The people gathered around Saint Francis so that they could all see and hear him more clearly and Saint Francis walked a little way to higher ground on the hillside to allow them to see and hear him better still. Then he held up his hands for silence.

The people at once became quiet and still, and stood about reverently listening, but hundreds of swallows twittered noisily in the trees above them, and flew all around the listening people. The birds made such a noise, that no one could hear what Saint Francis was saying.



Saint Francis did not chase the swallows away by shouting and throwing sticks at them. No! He turned to the birds and gently said, “My dear Sister Swallows, it is time now for me to speak, you have spoken long enough, listen to the Word of God and be very still and peaceful until my sermon is over.”

Those lively little birds immediately settled themselves quietly on the branches of the trees near to them. They kept perfectly still until his sermon was ended. They waited for him to bless them and at once began to twitter and fly about just as noisily as before.

You can imagine how amazed those people were, that the swallows understood Saint Francis so perfectly and obeyed him so wonderfully.