

20/11/2020
FRIDAY

ENGLISH

STO-8
class-35

Assignment

1) Arrange the sequences in correct order.

- Ans) 4. Father Gilligan was very tired.
7. So he could not go to the poor man's house.
2. Father Gilligan woke up in the morning.
10. He realised that he hadn't gone to the poor man's house.
8. He knelt down and prayed.
3. He felt sorry and guilty.
6. He rushed to the poor man's house.
11. She asked 'Father you come again?'
5. Father Peter Gilligan realised what had happened.
1. God sent one of his angels down to help the priest.
9. The angel went to the poor man's house disguised as father gilligan.

2) Activity - 1 (Page no. 92)

- Ans) i) b. suffering from an epidemic ii) b. weary
iii) b. An expression of sorrow iv) a. done his duty
v) d. people in his parish vi) c. God
vii) a. graves covered over by green grass viii) c. evening

3) Activity - 3 (Page no. 93)

Ans) Father Gilligan

- old
- unhappy
- pious
- dutiful
- sincere
- weary
- restless
- sad
- hard working
- obedient
- Earnest
- Religious
- Humble

4) Rhyme scheme of the poem - abcb

5) Appreciation of the poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan'.

The Ballad of Father Gilligan **W. B. Yeats (1865 – 1939)**

W. B. Yeats, an Irish poet and one of the noted figures of the 20th century literature, depicts in this poem the poverty and extreme religiosity of the Irish rural life of his time. This poem tells the story of an old priest Father Gilligan. Half of his people in the parish were either in sick-bed or already dead due to an epidemic. Day and night Father Gilligan was in service of them and he was very tired and weak. In a cursed moment, unintentionally, he uttered complaints that he had 'no rest, nor joy, nor peace.' But, the next moment he realized his mistakes and cried in regret. He knelt in prayer and begged to God for forgiveness. He confessed that his tired body spoke so, not his sober mind.

He fell asleep in prayer leaning on the chair, and he could not attend one sick-man's last moments. Realizing that he failed to do his duty, next day morning in great grief Father Gilligan rode on his horse to the man's house. Where, his wife told the priest that her husband had already died and she asked him why he came again. From her question he understood that in his absence, God had sent an angel to perform his duties. He knelt and cried in repentance and thanked God for His mercy. The Almighty God having planets in His control showed mercy upon the least of His creatures like the priest. The poet presents in the poem a powerful but merciful God and a pious and dutiful priest, and that is the theme of the poem too.

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This poem is a perfect example of the class of poems or songs called Ballad. It is written in multiple stanzas of four lines each, keeping a regular rhyme-scheme of ABCB. Though not specifically said, the setting of the poem is a country-side dwelled by poor people. The mentioning of the father's riding a horse "by rocky lane and fen" and phrases like "green sod" show us more of the settings of the poem.

The poem is rich with imageries. Visual Images: We see the dusk and the dawn with presence of moths, we see the night sky twinkling with millions of stars and we watch the whole world gets covered in darkness. We can also visualize the image of Father riding his horse by the rocky and grassy country-sides. Auditory Images: we hear leaves shaking in the wind and sparrows chirping at the daybreak and also, the cry of repentance from the priest calling "Mavrone", mavrone!, which intensifies his feeling of grief and regret."

The two lines, "For half his flock were in their beds,/ Or under green sods lay" are metaphoric with illness and death respectively, denoting that half of the villagers are either in sick-beds or in graves due to some devastating epidemic. The lines "... he turned and died /As merry as a bird" is an example of the literary device Simile. The repetition of the line, "The old priest, Peter Gilligan", constitutes for the use of Refrain in the poem.

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6) Character sketch of Father Gilligan .

The Ballad of Father Gilligan is written by W.B. Yeats. Father Gilligan was an earnest priest. He worked earnestly for the redemption of the souls of his parishioners.

He carried out his priestly obligations day and night and was tired. One day when he was sleeping he was called by a parishioner, he grumbled. He realized his mistake and sought God's forgiveness.

Next morning he went to the dying man's house. He was grateful to know that God had compassionately sent an angel to minister the last ritual to the dying man.