

1 **HOOK**

Episode SFX come in underneath Narrator.

001 NARRATOR

Patara, Turkey, 300 A.D. Having completed his pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Nicholas returns to Patara profoundly changed, and determined to give away his inheritance. Under the cover of night, he begins distributing his fortune to those in need. But despite his efforts to remain anonymous, rumors of a mysterious benefactor spread. Can his identity remain a secret?

2 **INTRODUCTION**

002 NARRATOR

The Saints: Adventures of Faith and Courage. Saint Nicholas. Episode Three: Chosen to Lead. Listen to all the episodes and discover new shows at The Merry Beggars dot com.

3 **SPONSOR**

003 NARRATOR

This show is made possible by...

INSERT 15-SECOND SPONSORSHIP HERE

4 **SOUNDTRACK**

THE MERRY BEGGARS SOUNDMARK

004 NARRATOR

The Merry Beggars presents...

5 **INT. COTTAGE - NIGHT**

LOW, FAINT CRACKLING OF A DYING FIRE. WIND WHISTLING AGAINST OLD SHUTTERS.

START >>>

005 **OLD WOMAN**

We worked all our lives, Horatius... sunrise to sunset, year after year. And now... now we have nothing left. The landlord... he took almost everything for the rent we couldn't pay.

006 OLD MAN

Hush, my dear. We still have one another. And the Lord... He will provide. He always has.

007 OLD WOMAN

But what if... what if this time is different? What if He has forgotten us? We prayed... we prayed so hard for a miracle.

A SHARP THUD AGAINST WOOD, FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY A SOFT CLINKING JINGLE AS A BAG OF COINS SETTLES ON THE ROOM'S FLOOR. WALLA: THE OLD COUPLE GASPS, THEIR BREATH CATCHING IN THEIR THROATS.

008 OLD WOMAN (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Did you hear that?

009 OLD MAN

(wary)

Stay behind me, Claudia.

THE OLD MAN WALKS SLOWLY ACROSS THE ROOM.

010 OLD MAN (CONT'D)

Nothing... I don't see anything.

SOMEONE DASHES OUTSIDE THE ROOM. A SHUTTER CREAKS OPEN, THEN SLAMS SHUT.

011 OLD WOMAN

Someone was in the room! A thief!

012 OLD MAN

Wait... wait.

The OLD MAN steps over a bag with coins. He bends down.

THE COINS CLINK AS HE LIFTS THE BAG.

013 OLD MAN (CONT'D)

What's this...?

THE COINS CLINK AGAIN AS HE OPENS THE BAG.

014 OLD MAN (CONT'D)

It's... A bag of coins.

015 OLD WOMAN

Coins?

016 OLD MAN
Yes! Gold coins! But... Where did
they come from?

THE OLD WOMAN GASPS EXCITED.

017 OLD WOMAN
It's a miracle, Horatius! <<< END

018 OLD MAN
Praise be to Jesus! He has not
forgotten us, Claudia! He has not
forgotten us!

THE COUPLE HUGS, CHEERFULLY. A HOPEFUL MELODY
BEGINS AND TRANSITIONS TO THE MONTAGE.

6 EXT. STREET - MORNING (MONTAGE)

THE MELODY CONTINUES SOFTLY BENEATH THE VOICES.
BUSTLING STREET SOUNDS

019 BOY 1
Look Mama! Someone left bread at
our door again! And it's still
warm!

020 WOMAN
Thank you, whoever you are!

7 EXT. CAMP - MORNING (MONTAGE)

WALLA: MURMURS OF SOLDIERS IN DISBELIEF.

021 SOLDIER
I am telling you, fellow
Legionaries, someone left a pouch
with coins at the camp entrance.
There's enough silver to get home
to our wives and children!

8 INT. COTTAGE - MORNING (MONTAGE)

022 MERCHANT
I have no money left to pay for new
leather. Without it... We'll lose
the shop.

023 APPRENTICE
Master! Look! On the step! A huge
sack of new leather! Enough for a
year!