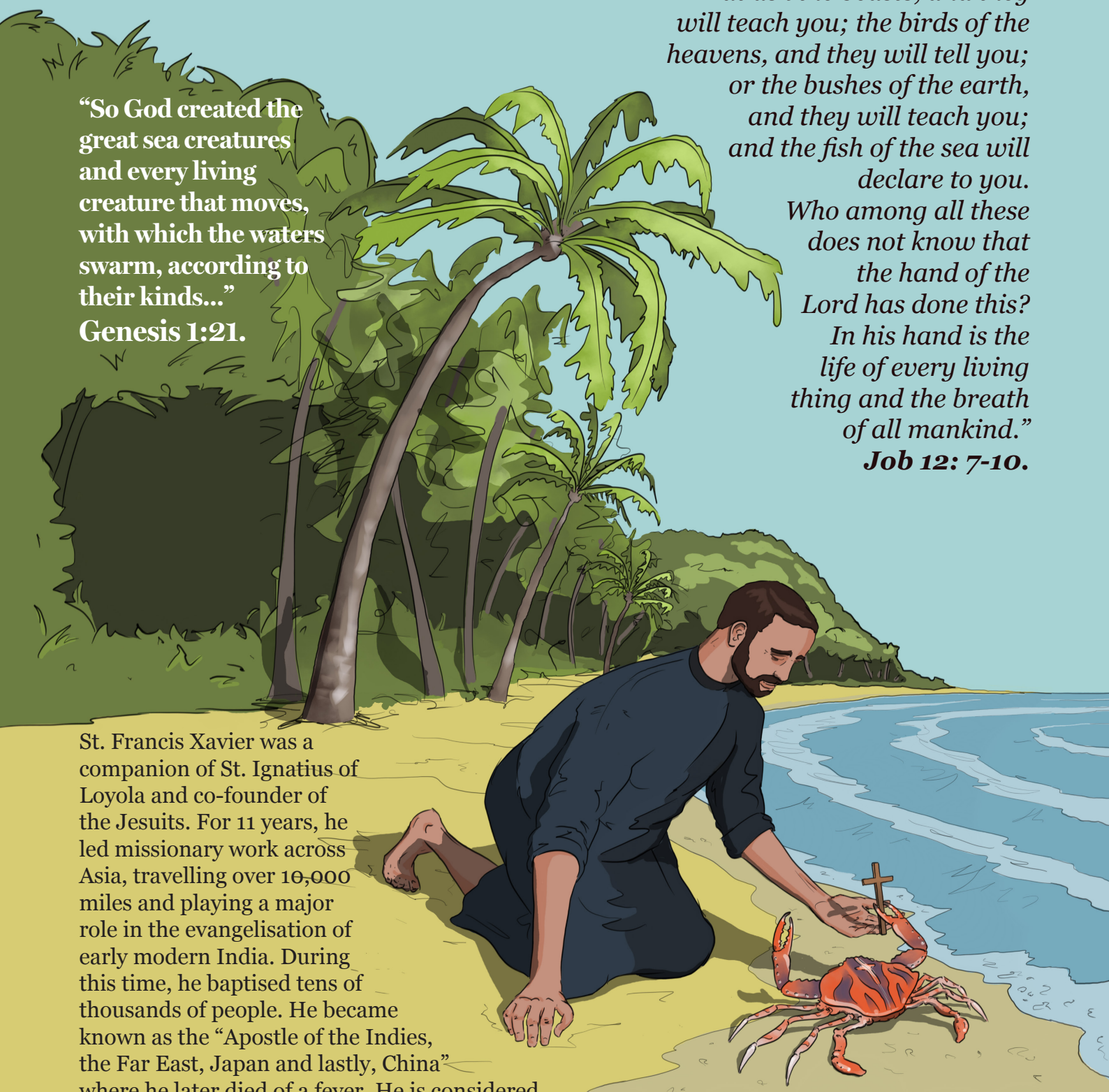
St. Francis Xavier.
1506-1552.

"So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds..."
Genesis 1:21.

"But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind."
Job 12: 7-10.



St. Francis Xavier was a companion of St. Ignatius of Loyola and co-founder of the Jesuits. For 11 years, he led missionary work across Asia, travelling over 10,000 miles and playing a major role in the evangelisation of early modern India. During this time, he baptised tens of thousands of people. He became known as the "Apostle of the Indies, the Far East, Japan and lastly, China" where he later died of a fever. He is considered one of the greatest missionaries since St. Paul.
In 1546, according to tradition, Francis, while travelling to Indonesia was caught in a storm and his crucifix fell into the sea. As soon as he safely reached the island, he saw a crab emerge from the sea holding his crucifix in its claws. The crab carried it to Francis and gave it to him. Francis knelt on the shore and thanked God for this miracle.

Feast Day:
3rd
December