



The Sword and the Cape

A Tale about
Saint Martin
of Tours

Written by **Pamela Love** Illustrated by **Rebecca Sorge**

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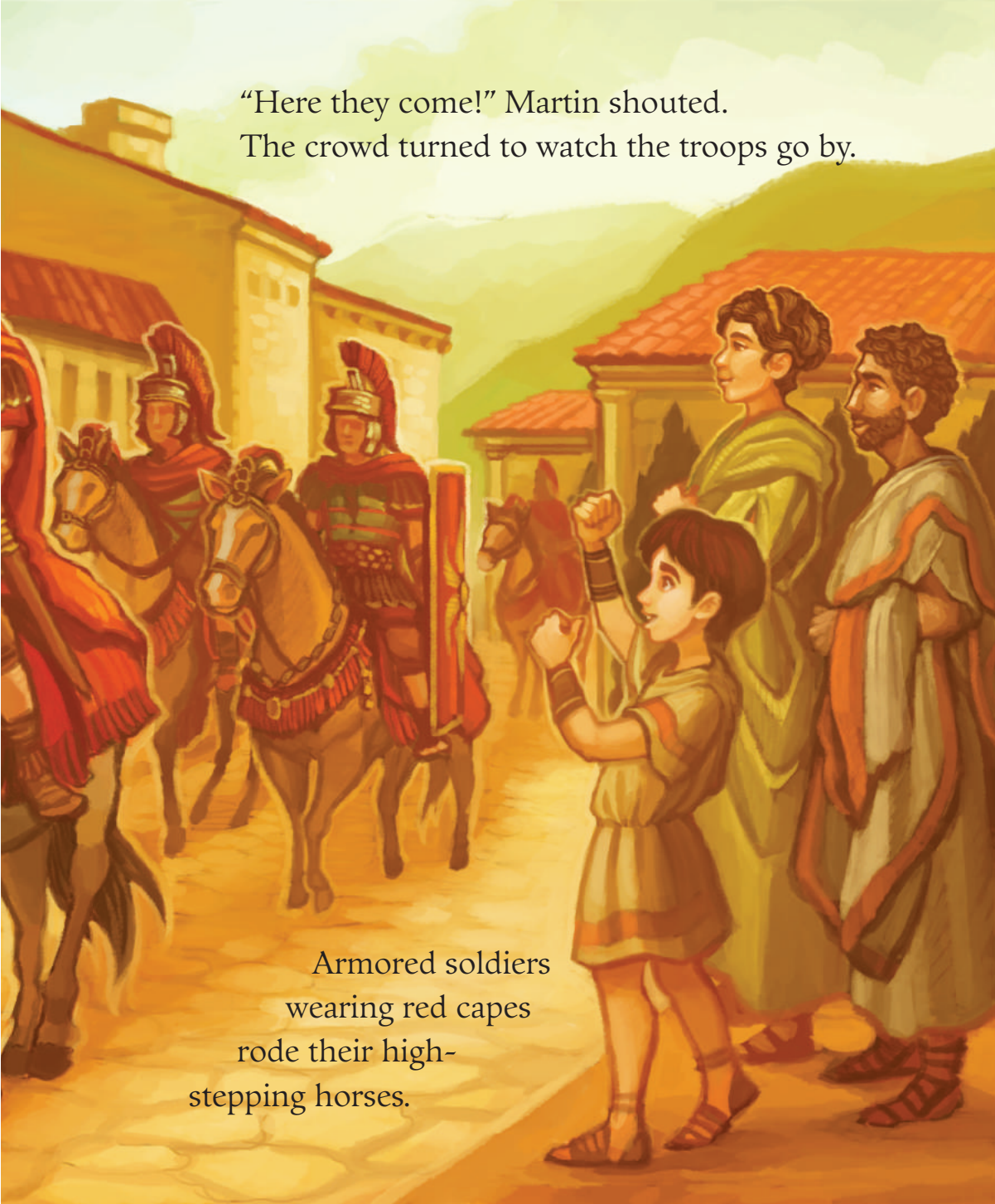
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*For
Chaplains*





“Here they come!” Martin shouted.
The crowd turned to watch the troops go by.



Armored soldiers
wearing red capes
rode their high-
stepping horses.



It was many centuries ago during the time of the Roman Empire. Martin lived in the city of Ticinum. His father was an officer in the Roman army. Martin and his friends often cheered as Martin's father led the troops through the city. "Someday I'll be just like them," Martin would say. "I can hardly wait."



One day, Martin heard a man preaching on a street corner. “Do you know about Jesus Christ?” he asked the passing crowd. “He is the Son of the one true God. Jesus helped many people. Once a centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant—”

A centurion? Martin wondered. *That's a Roman officer, just like my father.* He stopped to listen to the man in the striped tunic. So did several other people.

“Jesus agreed to go to the officer’s house to heal his servant. But the officer insisted Jesus didn’t have to go to his house. Just as he commanded his soldiers, Jesus could command someone far away to be cured. Jesus said to the centurion, ‘You have great faith. Your servant is now healed.’”