The Sacrament of Mankind's Unity

cil was to shift the focus from the world — religion; to get are my disciples." No wonder the activities of the Church to men loving each other, even St. Paul thundered, "If I have the Person who acts in the when there are not ties of fam- faith strong enough to move creature." Rightly has disunity been called "the sixth wound of Church, from what the Church ily, nationality, or race; then mountains and have not love, does to what the Church is - there is something more here it profits me nothing." No won-

COURIERJOURNAL Friday, Jan. 13, 1967

(Continued from Page 1) with God, and of the unity of all mankind

them as His Father had in the And why did He send the Thus by calling the Church a sacrament or a shekinah among the Israel of Spirit? To unify God's people "kind of a sacrament or a old of the body that makes Christ is here!" died He gave them the sign of baptism, and to make visible Body of Christ, the Council has

This was the sign that drew tion this throws on all of us: disunites! For disunity in the mas, for judgment and con-

The Council, therefore, utter-What a tremendous obliga- cord, dissension-anything that ed no condemnation, no anathe

His presence — the Eucharist. this inner unity by giving them caused the biblical notion of she defined the church as a On that same night, He prom-divine love for God and each the Church as Body of Christ men to the function of the Church is Church tears down the sign, demnation do not befit the as-heaven" (Apoc. 12:1). Now a sign of dou's pressible to the world and thus im not hate, especially a mother is gets unity through the "red sea" of His body with all its various parts ontologically. Dynamically, as the instrument of the activities ciplina). Pagans could know the the instrument of the activities ciplina). Pagans could know the the sign is to be the people of will are the overwhelming ma child cannot hate. It does not acted in the fullness of His "body" this many needed with the sign of the presente of the note. we cannot see — thus smoke is initiations of first number of the sign of first and what is the acted in the fullness of first "body", this many people who the sign of the presence of the people of God. When a sign of first and what is the divinity, as true Son of God, constitute the Church, becomes person who acts. Robert Burns they saw, as St. Luke tells us, to be the light of the world and sent the Holy Spirit to one body, "a community of the world "body" in this "how they were togeher, were sign of the presence of God in the presence of God i

sign of the presence of God in and sent the nory Spint to one body, a communion of used the word "body" in this "now they were togeher, were the word "body" in this "now they were togeher, were the sent of the body of one heart and soul, had all the body of one heart and soul, had all they been nour power is dissipated through dis judgment or word flit across it is decree on Ecu mind or lips. Hatred is the unity of the Church but within into it by the Holy Spirit in meet a body" - should some things in common" (Acts 2:44; ished by the Sacrament of unity. The second of the presence of God in the presence of God in the presence of God in the presence of a person, so another person. The function of how these Christians love one heart spoke so of the basic motives for unity whereas love is the sun that the basic motives for unity whereas lov vsible to the world? The answer first Easter when He breathed this "body" becomes the visible the body is not just to be the adorns her, making the sign of the fact that "discord... pro- adorns her, making the sign of the body is not just to be the body is not just to be the sign of the fact that "discord... prois — the people called by the upon them; and He did it pub- sign of God's presence on earth instrument of the actions of a ed, this is not the human thing Son of God and made one with liely on Pentecost Sunday when through the love that welds all person, but first to make the to do. To getemen, who cannot God the Father and with each He rained down tongues of fire its members into a community person himself present. The even agree on politics, united law - the law of love: "By this the most hely eause of proclaim- Church and drawing all men to great achievement of the Counton the most difficult thing in shall all men know that you ing the good news to every her. of love.

into their hearts by God the Holy Spirit. "The Church shines forth as 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit'. This is the visible sign of God's presence in the world: a people of God, a people called by God, a people united to God, a people united by God to each other. For after all, God is love and God's life is a community of life — a community of three Persons united by divine love And so, the sign of His presence must needs be a community like that of the Trinity. Hence a community of love. Hence the great sign that appeared in heaven is likened to a woman, for woman is not only earth's loveliest creature, but the creature on earth most fill. ed with love.

Thus when God first wanted to make His presence visible on earth, He called -together a people - the chosen people. The very word "church" means "those called together." (If we trace the word back by way of the Romance languages, "church" comes from eglise, chiesa, which comes from the Latin ecclesia, which in turn comes from the Greek ekklesia, which is derived from two Greek words meaning "to call together." Thus the people of God in the Old Testament are also called "the church of God' of Qahal.) He made a covenant with this people; for He_had chosen them, not for privilege, but for mission. He gave them a job to do: they were to be witnesses of God's presence to the nations; in the words of

His Son. The Son "called together" Israel first of all out of deference for her hallowed past. But Israel would not hearken to ilis voice. Jesus



St. Louis — (Edward T. O'l Society for the **Bishop Sheen** the two old fr

St. Louis — (RN Edward T. O'Meara has been named na tor of the Society fo gation of the Faith. Bishop Fulton J. Sh

The appointment firmed in a letter Cardinal Ritter fro Cardinal Agagianiar the Sacred Congr the Propagation of Msgr. O'Meara h rector of the arche ciety for the Propag

> be hard," Msgr. O the St. Louis Review san newspaper, in a