

Kids' Chronicle

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John has a vision

By JOE SARNICOLA

While John was on the island of Patmos, an angel showed him a vision. A river of crystal clear water flowed from the center of a beautiful city.

Then the angel said, "What I am about to tell you is true. Hear what I say, and you will be happy."

John started to kneel down to worship the angel.

"Worship only God," said the angel. "I am only your brother. Share what I tell with you with anyone who will listen. The city that you saw is the new Jerusalem. Those whose names are written in the book of life will live there forever with the Lord their God."

Then Jesus appeared on a magnificent white throne and said, "I will make everything new. I will rid the world of sorrow, death, and pain. Even the memories of those things will be gone. I will give the water of life to anyone who is thirsty without cost. I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

John could see the glory radiating from Jesus as he spoke. Jesus was smiling and looked like a kindly king. The sound of the crystal river was soothing and the beauty of the golden streets and the jewel adorned buildings made John want to live in such a place with the Lord.

Jesus spoke again. "I will return soon. I will reward each person according to how he acted while he was alive on the earth. White robes to wear and fruit from the tree of life to eat will be given to those who have obeyed my word. Come to me, my children."



ILLUSTRATION BY KATHY WELSH

Jesus disappeared and the angel was with John again.

"John," the angel said, "the Lord wants you to write down the things you have seen and heard. The promises of Jesus are for all people. Those that serve the Lord on earth will live with him in heaven."

John promised to do as the angel had said.

John wrote about what the angel had shown him. He wrote about the many other dreams and visions he had while he was on the island. He saw angels, dragons, a lake of fire and the beautiful

city of new Jerusalem. John wrote to the leaders of seven of the most important churches in Asia.

Because John obeyed we have the last book of the New Testament, called Revelations. The angel promised that anyone who listened to John and obeyed the words of Jesus would share in the rewards that Jesus will bring.

Read more about it: Revelations 22

Q&A

1. What was in the center of the city?
2. What tree did Jesus say we would eat from?



Bible Accent

The Mount of Olives is a hilly region east of Jerusalem. Its soil is well suited for the growing of olive trees. The garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus often prayed, is on this hill. The highest point of the mount served as a lookout post. Guards could see any approaching armies for miles in any direction. Messages could also be sent from here in the form of signal fires.

The Mount of Olives plays an important role in Biblical accounts. David hid from his son Absalom, Judas betrayed Jesus, Isaiah saw armies attacking Jerusalem, and Jesus preached here. Jesus was on the mount when he ascended into heaven.



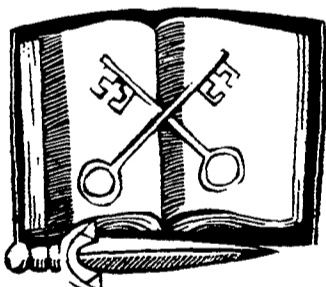
St. Rita

Rita of Cascia, Italy, was born in 1381. At the age of twelve, her parents arranged for her marriage. Her husband was mean and abusive, and Rita feared her two sons would become like their father.

Shortly after Rita's husband was killed in a fight with another man, her sons both became very sick and died. Rita was devastated, but her faith in God remained strong.

At the age of 32, she joined an Augustine convent. There she served as a nurse for the sick. She contracted a sore on her forehead that would not heal, and she spent the rest of her life in isolation.

Paintings of Rita often show her with roses. In some churches, roses are blessed on her feast day, which is May 22.



Bible Trivia

Jesus said, "I am the Alpha and Omega." What language are "Alpha" and "Omega" from?

Send Answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by June 8, 1995. A winner will be chosen at random from the correct entries submitted.

Last month's winner was Annette Beck a fourth-grade student at St. Mary's School in Dansville. She correctly identified Stephen as the first Christian martyr.

Grid Puzzle

How many times can you complete four boxes across, diagonally, or down? The number of the question corresponds to a box of the grid. May be played as a game with your friends. B2 is done for you. Answers can be found on page 6.

- A1. Adam's garden (Gen: 2:8)
- A2. First book of the Bible
- A3. _____, son of Nun (Deut. 34:9)
- A4. Last book of the Bible

- B1. A good neighbor (Luke 10:33)
- B2. First Christian martyr (Acts 7:58)
- B3. He killed Goliath (1 Sam. 17:50)
- B4. He had twelve sons (Gen. 35:2)

- C1. Also called "Saul" (Acts 13:9)
- C2. Also called "Simon" (Matt. 4:18)
- C3. the Baptist
- C4. He replaced Judas (Acts 1:26)

- D1. Biblical songs
- D2. Birthplace of Jesus (Luke 2:6)
- D3. Lamb of God (John 1:29)
- D4. The wise king (1 Kings 3:9)

	A	B	C	D
1				
2		Stephen		
3				
4				

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