

# Kids' Chronicle

## The Apostles help each other

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Before Jesus rose into heaven in a cloud, he said to his Apostles, "I will not leave you alone, even though I will no longer be here on earth with you. The Holy Spirit will live in you and fill you with his power. Wait in Jerusalem until he comes."

The Holy Spirit came while everyone was celebrating the feast of Pentecost. The room where the Apostles were praying was filled with a mighty wind and tongues of fire danced above their heads.

The people who saw the miracle were amazed at the power of God. People were visiting Jerusalem from all over the world, yet everyone heard the Apostles pray in their own languages at the same time.

The people of Jerusalem had never seen anything like this before. Someone asked, "What do we need to do to know Jesus?"

Someone else asked, "How can we avoid God's anger?"

"God asks very little for the gift of eternal life he offers," Peter answered them. "Change from your sinful life and be baptized. Then he will forgive your sins and call you his children."

Thousands of people listened to Peter and became Christians that day, and many more did the same day after day the Apostles traveled throughout the country preaching, healing the sick and performing miracles in the name of Jesus.

The new Christians prayed in the



Illustration by Zoe Woodruff

temple every day with each other and for each other. If one family needed money or supplies, another would sell one of their possessions and give the money to the family in need. At night they would eat meals at home, thankful for all the things God had done for them.

But the life of the Christians was not always easy. Some of the religious leaders were jealous of the miracles and wonders because they could not do them. And they resented the fact that many of the Apostles were not religious scholars, but ordinary people. So they tried to find ways to stop the Christians from preaching about Jesus. They even had them jailed.

One time, for example, Peter and John were called before the elders after they had healed a man who

had been begging outside the temple.

"How did you do this?" the elders demanded to know. "And by whose authority?"

Peter stood up without fear because of the courage given to him by the Holy Spirit and said, "This man was healed by Jesus, who was nailed to a cross by you and raised from the dead by God."

### Q & A

READ MORE ABOUT IT:  
Acts 4

1. What promise did Jesus make to his Apostles?
2. What happened if one of the Christians needed money?

### Bible Trivia

How many days are in the season of Lent?

Send Answer to: *Catholic Courier Bible Trivia*, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by March 13, 1997. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

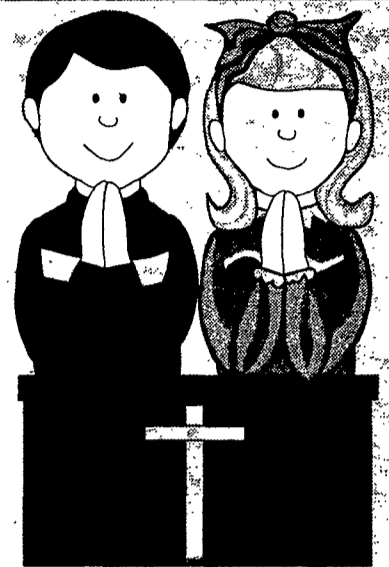
Last month's winner was **Katie Ramsey**, a student at Penn Yan Middle School. She correctly identified Babylon as the the great city destroyed in Revelation 18.

### Puzzle

Answers on page 11.

According to Acts 1, are the following statements true or false?

1. Jesus appeared for 90 days after his resurrection.
2. Jesus told his disciples to stay in Jerusalem.
3. The Apostles saw Jesus ride a chariot into heaven.
4. The Apostles prayed often while waiting for the Holy Spirit.
5. Barsabbas was chosen to replace Judas.



### Bible Accent

An apostle is someone who is sent to carry out important duties in the place of someone else. Jesus appointed his Apostles to deliver his message of the kingdom of God to the rest of the world, especially after he had ascended into heaven. Jesus gave his Apostles the authority to heal the sick, to cast out demons, and to perform other miracles.

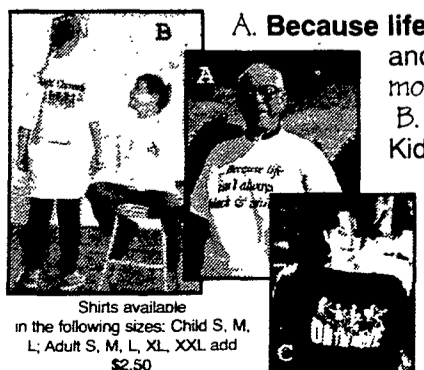
After the Holy Spirit came upon the Christians on Pentecost, the Apostles received great faith and boldness. They preached the Gospel without fear, even though it may have meant their persecution or death. The example of their faithfulness remains recorded in the Book of Acts. We should pray daily to have the faith the early Christians had.

### St. Catherine

St. Catherine of Sweden was born in 1331. She was educated at a local convent, and from the time she was very young, she knew she wanted to live a life of service to God.

After her husband died in the early years of their marriage, Catherine joined the convent of Vadstena, Sweden, and eventually became its abbess. The order had been established by her mother, St. Bridget.

After her mother died, Catherine made a journey to Rome to appeal to the pope to grant the canonization of her mother. The pope denied the request at that time, but gave his official sanction to the convent of Vadstena. Catherine died at the age of 50. We honor her on March 24.



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