

Kids' Chronicle

St. Paul tells the Corinthians not to feud

By Joe Sarnicola

Dear Friends in Corinth:

I have heard that there has been some disagreement among you regarding the teachings of our Lord. As brothers and sisters in faith, you should be working together. Is it true that some of you claim to be followers of Paul or of Cephas? We did not die for your sins, and you were not baptized in our names. Christ was crucified so that we can live, and we were baptized in his name. You should see yourselves followers of Christ, as we do.

Consider what we do when we come together in the name of Jesus. When we drink from the cup, we are sharing in the blood of Christ. Do you realize this? And again, when we break the bread, we are breaking the body of Christ. There are many of us, but we are all able to eat from one loaf of bread, which represents one body with many parts. This is the wonder of our celebration of the sacrifice Christ made for us.

This is not something that we, as apostles, created for you. The Lord himself set an example for us to follow on the night he was betrayed. When he was with disciples, he took bread, said a prayer of thanksgiving, and said, "This bread is my body, which will be broken for you. Do this as a memorial for me."

After they had eaten, Jesus raised his cup and said to his friends, "This cup is my blood, which is the new covenant. Whenever you drink from it remember me."

Because of this great mystery,



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

whenever we eat the bread and drink from the cup together, we are proclaiming the death of the Lord until he returns.

We should treat the body and blood of Christ with the reverence they deserve. Before you partake, examine yourself. Have you offended your brother? Have you sinned against God? Settle these things before you eat or drink from the Lord's table.

And you should keep these things in mind as you go about your daily business. Avoid offending anyone. Instead of trying to please yourself, try to please your neighbor, or even

a stranger you have just met. Most importantly, try to please God and glorify him in every thing you do.

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

1 Corinthians 10 and 11

Q&A

1. Why did St. Paul write this letter?
2. Why do we celebrate the Eucharist?

Bible Trivia

Eucharist is one of the sacraments of initiation into the church. Can you name the other two?

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 June 3, 1999. A winner will be selected at random from the correct entries submitted and sent a prize.

Last month's winner was Christina DeLeon, a student at Nazareth Hall Middle School. She correctly identified Revelation as the fourth book in the Bible said to have been written by St. John.

Bible Accent

St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth because they were confusing some of the commandments Jesus had given and also some of the teachings of the Apostles. Because he knew how important the sacrament was, St. Paul tried to explain the mystery of the Eucharist in language the people would understand.

Some of the Corinthians began dividing up into factions, and would not share food with the poor when they gathered together. St. Paul wanted everyone in the city to understand that the only thing that is really important is faithful obedience to Jesus with a humble attitude. St. Paul saw himself as a servant of God, and that is how he told the Corinthian Christians to think about themselves.

St. Paul's letters to the Christians in some of the early churches make up an important part of the New Testament.

St. Bernardino

St. Bernardino was the son of an Italian governor. His parents died before he was 7, so he was raised by his aunt. His aunt was very religious and she provided him with a strong religious and academic education. At age 11 or 12, he was sent to Siena to study.

In 1400, when St. Bernardino was in his teens, the plague spread to Siena, and he and some of his friends volunteered to work in the hospital. He eventually joined the Franciscans and was ordained a priest. He discovered he had a gift for preaching and began to preach throughout Italy. He would attract large crowds of people who wanted to hear him. They called him "the people's preacher."

Later, St. Bernardino became vicar general of his order. His insistence that the monks receive training in religious law and theology brought more monks into the order and better prepared them for their ministries.

We honor him on May 20.

Puzzle

Answer the following questions as either true or false. If the statement is false, do you know the correct answer?

Answers on Page 2.

- T F 1. Emmanuel means "God is with us." (Matthew 1)
- T F 2. Simon and Andrew were father and son. (Mark 1)
- T F 3. Jesus was baptized by Paul. (Luke 3)
- T F 4. There was a wedding in Cana. (John 2)
- T F 5. The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost. (Acts 2)
- T F 6. Timothy was the first Christian martyr. (Acts 7)
- T F 7. Paul wrote letters to many churches.
- T F 8. The last book of the Bible is Genesis.

Don't forget! Early advertising deadline of noon on May 26 for the June 3 issue.