

# Kids' Chronicle

## John relays message from vision

BY JOE SARNICOLA

The Lord has instructed me, John, your brother, to write letters to the seven churches in Asia. May the grace and peace of Jesus Christ be with you always. I want to describe some of the things I saw while I was on the island of Patmos. I was imprisoned there because I proclaimed God's word and gave testimony to Jesus.

It happened on the Lord's Day. I was caught up in a spirit, and I heard a voice behind me that was as loud as a trumpet say to me, "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

I wondered who had spoken to me, so I turned around to see who was there. I saw a man standing by seven golden lampstands. He wore an ankle-length robe with a gold sash around his chest. His hair was so white, like wool or snow, and his eyes were like flames of fire. In his right hand were seven stars, and his face was as bright as the sun in the middle of summer. I fainted at his feet, as if I had just dropped dead.

The man touched me and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I hold the keys to death and the netherworld."



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

Write down, therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards." Then he explained to me the secret meaning of the stars and the lampstands. The stars were the angels of the seven churches and the lampstands were the churches themselves.

He then gave me a message for each of the churches. For the church in Ephesus, "Repent, and do the works you did at first." For Smyrna, "Do not be afraid of anything you are going to suffer." For Pergamum, "I have a few things against you." For Thyatira, "Hold fast to what you have until I come." For Sardis, "I have not found your works complete."

For Philadelphia, "I will keep you safe in the time of trial." And for Laodicea, "I will spit you out of my mouth."

I will repeat one last thing the man told me, "Whoever has ears ought to hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:  
Revelation 1-3

### Q&A

1. Why was John on the island of Patmos?
2. What did John see when he turned around toward the voice?

### Bible Accent

The Book of Revelation is one of the most difficult books to understand in the Bible. It is the description of dreams, signs and visions seen by John, while he was on Patmos, which was an island used by the Romans as a prison colony. John sees angels with trumpets and scrolls, a throne engulfed in thunder clouds and bolts of lightning, and even a red dragon with seven heads.

In spite of the many fantastic images and visions, the important messages of hope in Revelation are expressed in plain language. The book is a "revelation of Jesus Christ" (chapter 1, verse 1), and God promises a "new heaven and a new earth" (chapter 21) where God will wipe away all tears of sorrow. When Jesus told John, "I am coming soon," John replied, "Come, Lord Jesus!" And let that be the prayer of all of us.

### St. Stephen Harding

Stephen Harding left his native England in the 11th century to gain an education in Scotland and France. On one journey to Rome with a companion, Stephen encountered a group of monks living in poverty in simple huts in a forest. They spent time praying and working the gardens that provided their food. Stephen was so moved by the lifestyles of the monks that he sent his friend on to Rome and he joined the monks.

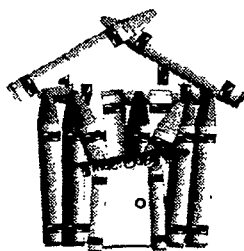
Later he and some of the monks felt the spiritual atmosphere of their religious community had faded, so they moved to Citeaux, a dreary place deep in the forest. After one abbot had left and another had died, Stephen became the abbot of the new monastery. His severe philosophy made it difficult for the monastery to receive money it needed and not many novices joined them. But 30 wealthy noblemen asked to join and the monastery prospered spiritually and financially. Stephen is known as co-founder of the Cistercian Order. We honor Stephen on April 17.

### Puzzle

Circle the seven sacraments of the church that are in the word list below.  
Answers on page 9

- |            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| Vestments  | Confirmation      |
| Contrition | Reconciliation    |
| Atonement  | Marriage          |
| Judgment   | Baptism           |
| Liturgy    | Anointing of sick |
| Passover   | Holy orders       |
| Vatican    | Wisdom            |
| Eucharist  | Salvation         |

### Kids' Club



You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question: **Why do you think the church considers Easter a more important holiday than Christmas?**

Send your essay — including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade — to *Catholic Courier*, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Deadline

for entries is April 19, 2001. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the savings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

There were no entries answering last month's question, **What are some of the things that God was able to do because of the faith of Moses?**

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## MUSIC OF HOLY WEEK 2001

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION, April 8

11:30 AM Blessing of Palms, Passion Narrative, Eucharist  
Choral Music - Gregorian Chant: Hosanna Filio David, Christus factus est. Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor; Bach/Shaw: O Sacred Head, Forti Miserere Mei  
Organ Music - John Cook: Fanfare (Other Masses at 5:15 PM on Sat. 8:00 & 9:30 AM on Sun.)

### HOLY THURSDAY, April 12

7:30 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Supper  
Choral Music - Peeters: Kyrie, Gloria; Sanctus, Agnus Dei; Durufle: Ubi Caritas; Messiaen: O Sacrum Convitium; Gregorian Chant: Adoro Te Devote: Pange Lingua; Hymn: Lift High the Cross  
Organ Music - Alain: Dorian Choral; Edmundson: Pange Lingua  
9:00 PM Adoration until Midnight

### GOOD FRIDAY, April 13

3:00 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion  
Choral Music - Gregorain Chant: Christus Factus Est, Reproaches, Chant/Victoria; Passion Narrative; Lotti: Miserere Mei; Deis: By the Waters of Babylon; Dubois: Adoramus Te; Hymns: O Sacred Head, Were You There, Sing My Tongue.  
7:30 PM Sacred Music: Lamentations: Renaissance & Baroque music for Holy Week. Musica Spei (Music of Hope); Colleen Liggett, soprano; Bonnie Choi, harpsichord

### HOLY SATURDAY, April 14

7:30 PM The Easter Vigil  
Choral music - Gregorian Chant: Exultet, Solemn Alleluia, Vidi Aquam; Peeters: Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei; Franck: Laudate Dominum (Psalm 150); Hymns: Come Down, O Love Divine, Jesus Christ is Risen Today.  
Organ Music - M. Languetuit: Toccata

### EASTER SUNDAY, April 15

11:30 AM Festive Easter Eucharist  
Choral Music - Gregorain Chant: Victimae Paschali, Vidi Aquam, O Filii et Filiae; Peeters: Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei; Franck: Laudate Dominum (Psalm 150) Organ Music: Cook: Fanfare; Peeters: O Filii et Filiae; Lanquetuit: Toccata (Other Easter Masses at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM)

### Saint Anne Church

1600 Mt. Hope Avenue • Rochester, NY 14620-4598

Brink Bush, Organist

Daniel Brundel, Choirmaster