

Kids' Chronicle

Isaiah speaks God's words

BY JOE SARNICOLA

My name is Isaiah. My father's name was Amoz. He was a quiet and peaceful man, and I have tried to follow his example in my life. But there are times when I have visions that come from God. Other times he gives me words to say to the people of Israel. Whatever the Lord asks me to do, I do. Sometimes the people receive the words of God with joy; other times they do not. There was a time when I saw Judah and Jerusalem in a vision. I could not help but tell Israel what I had seen.

"In the days to come," I told them, "the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say, 'Come and let us climb the Lord's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths.'" When the Lord tells me that people will come from all over the world to worship him and to hear his holy words, I am filled with joy. I am honored that he would choose me to be one of the men who share the words of God with his people. God told me that Jerusalem will be the center of his kingdom. I shared this news with anyone who would listen.

"From Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and impose terms on many peoples."

And the Lord told me that instruments of war would be turned into instruments of peace. Violence would end and there would be harmony in the world. "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again."

Who could not want such a thing to

come to pass? My soul is thrilled at this news. I tried to share my enthusiasm with everyone. "O house of Jacob, come. Come! Let us walk in the light of the Lord."

But some people are proud and do not want to hear God's words. And to them God sends a warning. There is no one greater than our God. "For the Lord of hosts will have his day against all that is proud and arrogant. And the Lord alone will be exalted on that day."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Isaiah 2

Q&A

1. What did Isaiah do after he saw the vision?
2. What did Isaiah say about swords and spears?

Bible Accent

The liturgical calendar is the church's guide to the various times, feasts, and holy days of the year. The church year begins on the first Sunday of Advent, the season which is the preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ. Advent is followed by the Christmas season, which ends with the celebration of the baptism of Jesus. A short period of "ordinary time" passes from the end of Christmas to Ash Wednesday, which begins Lent, the 44 days before Easter. The last week of Lent starts with Palm Sunday (Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey) and includes Holy Thursday (the Last Supper), Good Friday (Jesus was crucified), and Easter Vigil (Saturday) Easter, the day on which Christ rose from the grave, is the church's highest holy day. Easter season ends on Pentecost. Then we are in ordinary time again until the feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the liturgical year.

St. Benen

St. Benen (also called Benignus) met St. Patrick when Patrick was traveling through the town where Benen lived. In fact, Patrick stayed with Benen's family. Benen was impressed by the Gospel as Patrick preached. When it was time for Patrick to leave, Benen pleaded to be able to go with him. The arrangements were made and Benen became a companion and close friend of Patrick. Because Benen had such a beautiful singing voice, people often called him "Patrick's psalmist." After Patrick had founded a church in Drumlease, it is believed that Benen was placed in charge of it. After the death of St. Patrick, Benen succeeded him as chief bishop of the Irish church. We honor Benen on Nov. 9.

Puzzle

Match the words with their definitions. Answers on page 18.

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|----------------|---|--|
| 1. Advent | — | a. receiving the body of Christ |
| 2. Bible | — | b. bishops, priests, and deacons |
| 3. commandment | — | c. the day the Holy Spirit came to earth |
| 4. Eucharist | — | d. four weeks leading to Christmas |
| 5. Holy Orders | — | e. a book about the history of our faith |
| 6. Lent | — | f. 44 days before Easter |
| 7. Pentecost | — | g. disobeying God |
| 8. sin | — | h. a rule or law |

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Bible Trivia

What is the title of the man who holds the church's highest office?

Send answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Please include your name, address and school name. All entries must be received by Nov. 29, 2001. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. There was no winner to the last trivia question, How many men did Jesus choose to be his first disciples?

FATHER RICHARD MCALEAR, OMI

Triduum in honor of the Immaculate Conception, by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

Fri., Nov. 30	7 pm	Marian Vigil
Sat., Dec. 1	7 pm	St. Eugene deMazenod Intercessory Prayer Prayers for Healing of Families
Sun., Dec. 2	3-5 pm	Healing Service With Voices of Mercy
Mon., Dec. 3	7:30 pm	Our Lady of Hope Novena

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