

The Junior Observer

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Q & A

Why were so many people in Jerusalem?

What did Peter say the people needed to do to be forgiven?

Read more about it in Acts 2

A Good News Story

Jesus Gives Sight to a Man Born Blind

Catholic News Service

On the day of Pentecost, the Apostles were in Jerusalem praying together. Out of a quiet sky came the sound of a powerful wind that blew into the house where the men were meeting. Tongues of fire formed over the heads of everyone there, and as the men were filled with the Holy Spirit they began to pray in different languages. Because of the noise and commotion coming from within the building, a crowd formed outside.

Many people had come to Jerusalem for the holiday from different parts of the world. They were amazed because each person heard the Apostles praying in their own languages at the same time. They declared, “We hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.”

Someone asked, “What does this mean?”

And another person answered, “They have had too much new wine.”

In order to explain what was really happening, Peter spoke to the people.

“These people are not drunk, as you



(CNS)

suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘It will come to pass in the last days,’ God says, ‘that I will pour out a portion of my spirit upon all flesh.’”

Then Peter continued: “You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazorean was a man commended to you by God with the mighty deeds, wonders, and

signs, which God worked through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man you killed, using lawless men to crucify Him. But God raised Him up, releasing Him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for Him to be held by it.”

When the people heard Peter’s words, they felt them deep within themselves and they asked, “What are we to do, my brothers?”

Peter answered them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Peter reassured the people who were listening about God’s love for them. Many of those people believed and were baptized, and on that day alone nearly 3,000 people accepted the message of Peter.

After that, many people followed the teaching and supported the work of the Apostles, and the Lord performed many wonderful acts. The Apostles and the other believers shared what they had with each other, so no one lacked what they needed.

Point to Ponder

Why is Peter so important to our faith heritage?

Puzzle

Using the Acts of the Apostles as a guide, fill in the blanks with the correct names. Not all names in the list will be used. Chapter numbers have been provided as hints.

Agrippa Ananias Barnabas Cornelius Matthias
Nathaniel Saul/Paul Peter Stephen

1. I was chosen to replace Judas. (Chapter 1)

2. I spoke to the people of Jerusalem on Pentecost. (Chapter 2)

3. I tried to cheat the Apostles. (Chapter 5)

4. I was the first martyr. (Chapter 7)

5. I was blinded by a light from the Lord. (Chapter 9)

6. I was the first gentile to be baptized. (Chapter 10)

7. I was the king who heard Paul’s defense in court. (Chapter 26)

Puzzle answers: 1. Matthias, 2. Peter, 3. Ananias, 4. Stephen, 5. Saul/Paul, 6. Cornelius, 7. Agrippa



(Observer photos/Amanda Hudson)

Students Give Bishop Crucifix

On a visit to Holy Angels School in Aurora in March, Bishop David Malloy received a handmade crucifix from fifth-grade students there. Members of the class made them from wooden clip-style clothespins. The process starts with carefully separating the clothespins from their clips. Arrange the pieces into a cross and a body, then glue the pieces together. Ask an adult to help you find an example from a Catholic mom, Kate Daneluk, on her website at www.makingmusicprayingtwice.com/kids-activities/easter-activities.

