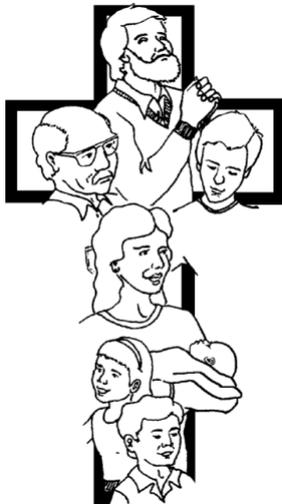


Sunday 23rd January 2022

Epiphany 3



Working together for God

This week, we are going to concentrate on our first reading, which comes from St Paul's first letter to the early Church in a place called Corinth. Listen carefully to the reading – St Paul is teaching us about something very important.

😊 As members of the Church, each of us is part of Christ's body on earth and has a very important role to play. God has given us all special talents and abilities, which we are asked to use in God's service. Sometimes we find things difficult because we are all different, but, as St Paul says, it wouldn't be very helpful if we were all the same or all good at the same jobs! The best thing is if we all use our different talents to work together. If we can do this, we can do amazing things!

How loudly can you clap with only one hand? How well can you write without using a thumb? Even parts of our body that seem insignificant or not as critical can actually be quite important. If your toe hurts, it blocks thinking from quite a lot of other things.

Sometimes in a church, or on a team of any sort, people want to leave if they are not seen as the most important part. But all of us work together to achieve something. Or think of our choir. If everyone sang the same line of music, it wouldn't sound as beautiful or as interesting.

Nobody can do everything...and we are not meant to do so! God wants us to co-operate and use each others' talents and abilities to make anything possible. Sharing resources, time, and especially our gifts is what makes things work. This applies to individual and small group needs as well as on a broader level. Sometimes we want to be someone we aren't...but God chose who he wants us to be.

 **A prayer for this week:**

Loving God, we thank you for the special abilities and talents you have given to each of us. Help us to use them in your service and to work together to build up your Church. Amen.

Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:14-20)

A C N W T I R I P S M B P O C A I
 C J D N B O S Y O J F W H W Q W Z
 O M B G Z L N B P P Z K U O D W N
 N T B V H S A K X B U M G T R S F
 Q V L P U R I R Z N C F P Z A Q N
 F U K T S M H K I X B L F M X X B
 A Q Y Q X I T N G S Q R U C W O Z
 X U Y N O M N D L Z B Q Z I D I E
 E Y E Z A M I N E N O J F Y N G F
 S T R A P M R A P H P C U Y N Y J
 Q J K A V J O H W V Y Z J I H Z K
 J F N H E Z C Y C K D V R Y Q O M
 H F Z D F X T W N T K A M K Y V R
 M A B V K Y J U M C E V R L E O O
 A O U G I E W K P H O T Z A D F A
 C H U H O F V U N X I J M I E O I
 W T G Z T D Y F D F F O O T I B Y

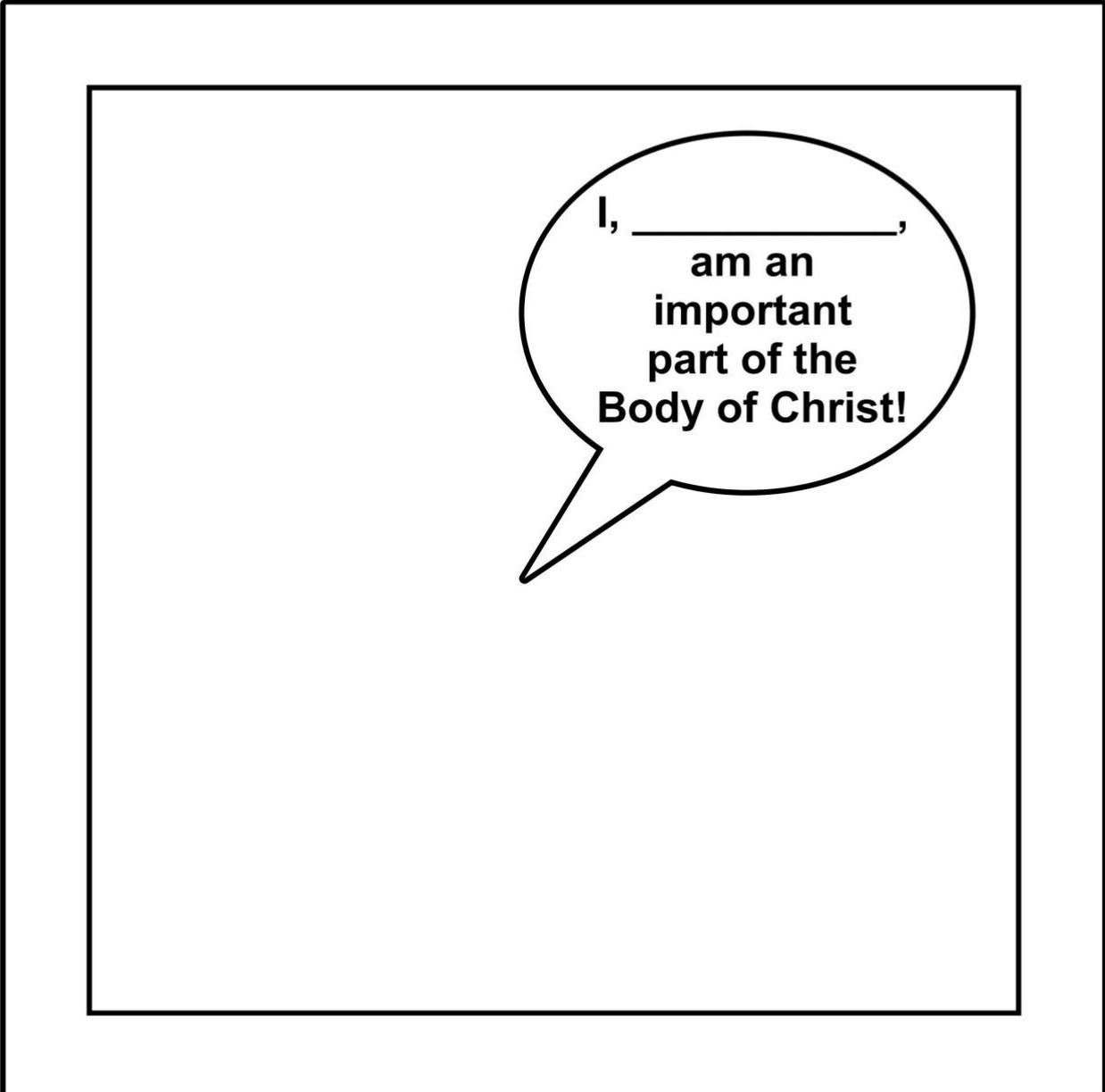
| | | |
|---------|--------|-------------|
| Hearing | Foot | Hand |
| Many | Spirit | Corinthians |
| One | God | Body |
| Eye | Ear | Parts |

"MANY MEMBERS OF ONE BODY"

1 Corinthians 12:14-31

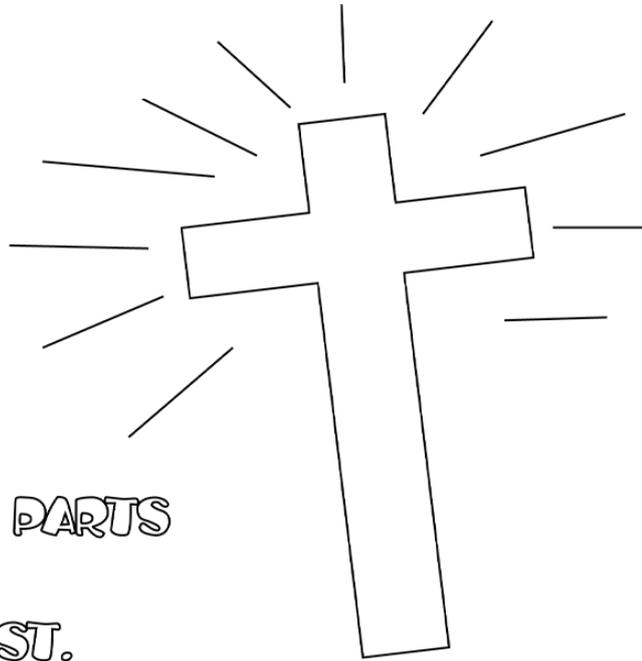
Draw a picture of yourself in the frame below and write your name in the blank to declare, "I am an important part of the Body of Christ!"

Don't forget to decorate your frame also.



I, _____,
am an
important
part of the
Body of Christ!

JUST AS A BODY,
THOUGH ONE,
HAS MANY PARTS,
BUT ALL ITS MANY PARTS
FORM ONE BODY,
SO IT IS WITH CHRIST.



FOR WE WERE ALL BAPTIZED BY
ONE SPIRIT SO AS TO FORM ONE BODY
—WHETHER JEWS OR GENTILES,
SLAVE OR FREE
—AND WE WERE ALL GIVEN
THE ONE SPIRIT TO DRINK.
EVEN SO THE BODY IS NOT
MADE UP OF ONE PART
BUT OF MANY



kidadl