

Belonging To Christ

Leader: Let us begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Leader: God, You ask us to be united with You. We relish the
opportunity to be Your friend as we build Your kingdom.

All: Amen!

Leader: Saint Paul uses the image of the Body of Christ to
describe the community of believers who share in the life
of the risen Christ. Let us think about ourselves as mem-
bers of the Body of Christ while we read the words from
Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

[The students may be divided into groups.]

Group 1: "As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the
parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also
Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one
body."

Group 2: "Now the body is not a single part, but many. God placed
the parts, each one of them, in the body as He intended.
If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as
it is, there are many parts, yet one body."

Group 1: "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor
again the head to the feet, 'I do not need you.' Indeed,
the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are all the
more necessary."

Group 2: "If one part of the body suffers, all the parts suffer with it;
if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

*[All come forward to write the name of two members of
the Body of Christ in the circle on the banner. If possi-
ble, write the name of one "suffering" member and one
"honored" member. During this time, play or sing,
"Each Time that You Love" from the Come, Follow Me
7 music program, or any other familiar hymn.]*

Leader: As the Body of Christ, let us express our beliefs by praying
the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All: We believe!

Reader 1: In God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven
and earth.

All: We believe!

Reader 2: In Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin
Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the
third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is
seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.

All: We believe!

Reader 3: In the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

All: Amen!