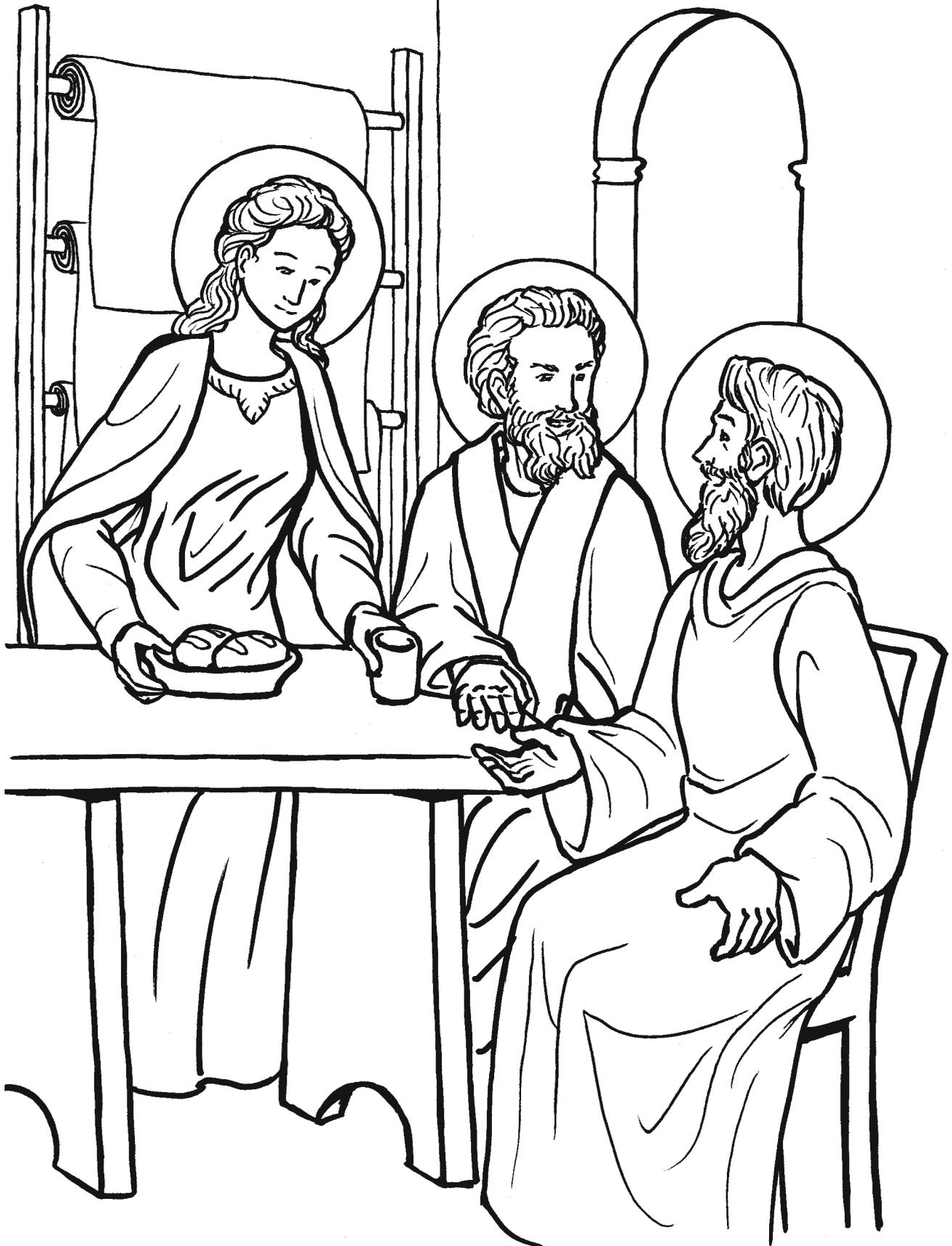


# Sts. Priscilla and Aquila

July 8



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Biblical figures

St. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles whose mission was to spread the Gospel of Jesus to Jews and non-Jews alike, had come to Corinth. There, he met a Jewish man named Aquila, who was a tentmaker. Now, Paul was also a tentmaker, and so Aquila invited Paul to his home, where Paul met Aquila's wife, Priscilla. The husband and wife explained that they used to live in Rome, but had come to Corinth because Emperor Claudius had expelled all the Jews from the capital.

Aquila sat Paul down at the table and made sure that he was comfortable, while Priscilla served a wonderful meal. Paul explained to the couple that he had just arrived in Corinth and needed a place to stay. Husband and wife exchanged glances, both thinking the same thing. Together, they invited Paul to stay at their home for as long as he needed.

Aquila, Priscilla, and Paul worked on their tentmaking business, and it might have been during this time that Aquila and Priscilla became Christians, too. When it was time for Paul to leave for Ephesus to continue preaching the Gospel, Priscilla and Aquila traveled with him.

For three years in Ephesus, the couple kept Paul in their home, and Priscilla served all the Christians who gathered to hear him. The couple's home became a little church. There, Christians would pray and read the Scriptures, and Paul would say the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

In Ephesus, pagan rioters tried to drive Paul and the Christians out for his preaching, and Aquila and Priscilla returned to their old home in Rome after the death of Emperor Claudius. Unfortunately, Claudius's great-nephew and heir was Nero, a terrible persecutor of Christians whose cruelty caused Priscilla and Aquila to return to Ephesus. But no matter where they went, their home was always a church for Christians.

As Paul continued in his travels, he would write letters (which you can read in your Bible) to the different churches, and in them, he would send his greetings to Aquila and Priscilla and the Christians in their home. Priscilla and Aquila served their fellow Christians until they died holy deaths.

Sts. Priscilla and Aquila, help my home always welcome others with the love of Jesus!