Faith Formation Files: Vol. 1, Issue 25 April 21, 2019

I once lived with the man who ran the only chocolate factory in the world to manufacture Cadbury crème eggs. That’s a pretty cool claim to fame…if you like those egg things. It was the fall of 1993 and I was lucky enough to be able to take a semester off college to travel. My best friend and I went to England for 3 months. I had multiple friends who had been international staff at various summer camps where I had worked. So not only was I going to visit them, I was able to stay with them in their homes (the ONLY way this trip would be affordable or possible.) After traveling throughout the country seeing such amazing places as Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Stonehenge, Stratford-upon-Avon, and several ancient ruins of castles and abbeys, I took a job at Mrs. Tiggywinkle’s Kindergarten (a preschool and daycare.) I ended up living with the family of my friend, Juliet. Her dad, Ken, was the manager of the Cadbury factory in Birmingham, UK. At the time, his plant was the only one in the world that made the Cadbury eggs. You can only imagine how well stocked with chocolate the fridge always was. And so, for many years those were my strongest memories at Easter.

When God first created the world, humankind was in perfect communion with Him. He had made man and woman in His image. He placed them in the Garden of Eden providing for their every desire. But then Eve was tricked by Satan to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. She shared it with Adam. In his choosing to eat the fruit, he chose Eve over God, he broke the perfect union they had with God. For centuries the early Jews tried to rectify this broken relationship by offering sacrifices. But none of them were good enough; none of them could repair what had been broken. So ultimately, God sent Jesus, His only son, a perfect unblemished lamb, to be sacrificed for us. Only the sacrifice of God could repair the broken relationship that once was. It is through Jesus’ dying and resurrection that we have been saved. Just as God created humankind out of His love for us, it took Jesus loving us to His death to fix the brokenness. That is what Easter is all about. That is why we have and practice Catholicism.

Years after my time abroad, Kory and I had met and were married, he entered the Catholic faith through RCIA at Easter Vigil. I was his sponsor. I was so proud of him for deciding that he, too, wanted to be a part of God’s family and to be a strong and holy role model for our growing family. My memories of that event now outweigh even crème eggs!

Blessings,

Julie Gould

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This Week:

* Monday, April 22, 7 pm at St. Francis de Sales, Lakeview: Adult Enrichment Class
* Wednesday, April 24, 5:30- 7:00 pm at Fellowship Hall: Potluck and Family of Faith meeting