

Opening Readings

- ▶ Matthew 10:1-15
- ▶ Matthew 16:13-20
- ▶ Matthew 28:16-20

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**GETTING TO SCHOOL**



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**THEOLOGY OF THE CHURCH**

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### AN OBJECT OF FAITH

- The Church is a mystery
  - St Paul - *mysterion*
  - Eph 3:1-4, 5:32
- Faith is a gift, a theological virtue



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### CCC 781

“God willed to make men holy and save them, not as individuals without any bond or link between them, but rather to make them into a people who might acknowledge him and serve him in holiness.”

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**What is the Church?**

- ▶ The Church is the people that God has gathered around His son, Jesus
- ▶ Kingdom of God: "Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand." Mark 1:14-15
- ▶ From the Greek word "ecclesia"- those who are called out from the world and to God



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**WHY DOES JESUS GIVE US THE CHURCH?**

- To dispense the graces necessary for our own salvation (sacraments)
- To send us out to continue Christ's work (evangelization)

= The Church is both the means by which we are saved and the goal of this plan (to bring others)

- **The necessity of "in person" Church is especially relevant today**



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**Why Church: Created for Community**

In who's image are we created?  
"Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness..." Gen1:26-27

How does God exist?  
As a Trinity  
-A community of Love



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**Why Church: Created for Community**

In the creation account, what is the only thing God says is "not good?"  
"The LORD God said: It is not good for the man to be alone." Gen 2:18

Why is this not good?  
We were meant to be part of a community of Love.



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**THE CHURCH AS THE ARK OF SALVATION**



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**IMAGES OF THE CHURCH**

- The Body of Christ
- The Family of God
- The Kingdom of God
- The Bride of Christ

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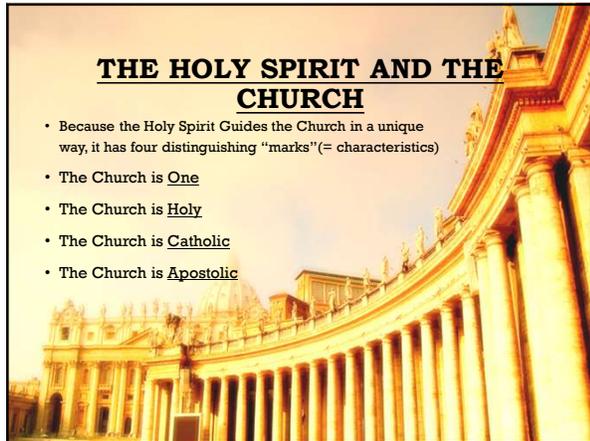
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**THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH**

- Because the Holy Spirit Guides the Church in a unique way, it has four distinguishing "marks" (= characteristics)
- The Church is One
- The Church is Holy
- The Church is Catholic
- The Church is Apostolic

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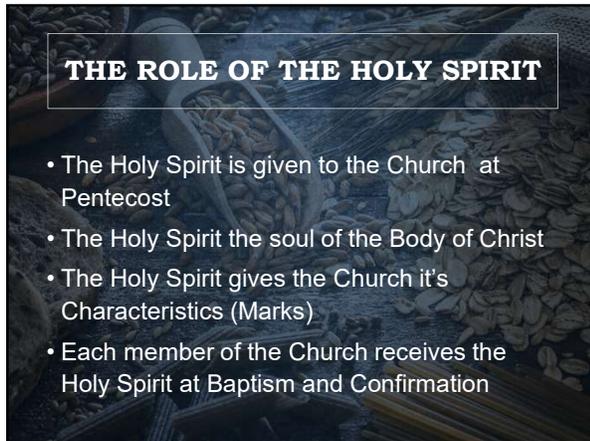
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**THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- The Holy Spirit is given to the Church at Pentecost
- The Holy Spirit the soul of the Body of Christ
- The Holy Spirit gives the Church it's Characteristics (Marks)
- Each member of the Church receives the Holy Spirit at Baptism and Confirmation

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**PENTECOST**

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### PENTECOST



- Pentecost was a Jewish feast celebrating when God established the old covenant at Mt. Sinai (Lev23:15-21; Deut 16:9-11).
- Just like at Mt. Sinai the Spirit again comes as "a strong, driving wind" to renew the face of the earth.
- Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on the Apostles (John 20) As God filled Adam (Genesis 2:7)
- The Apostles receive Fortitude (7 gifts)
- Confirmation unites us to this event

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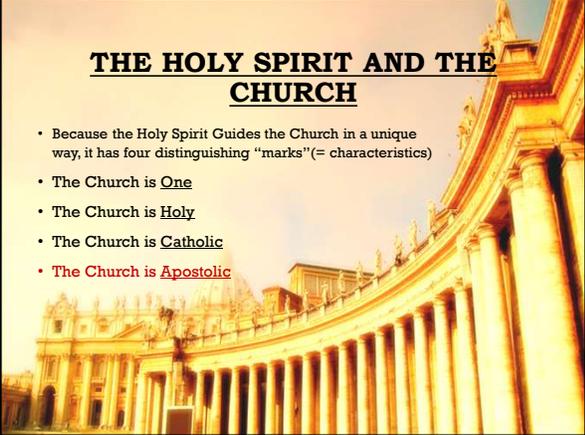
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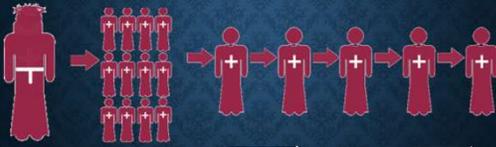
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### APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION



Jesus → 12 Apostles with Peter as Pope → Bishops → with Francis as Pope

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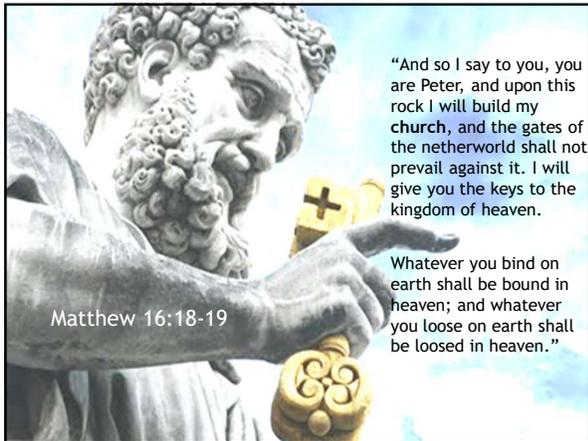
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“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

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## HIERARCHY

- Greek- *heirarkhia*- Sacred Order
- Not a bad word
- Founded in obedience to Christ

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## APOSTLES JAMES AND JOHN

- Their mother “Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left ...”
- “My cup you will indeed drink, but to sit at my right and at my left [this] is not mine to give ....Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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### HIERARCHY OF THE CHURCH

1. Jesus
2. Pope
3. Apostles= Bishops
  - a) Cardinals (Archbishops with a special authority)
  - b) Archbishops (Bishops of larger dioceses)
  - c) Bishops
4. Priests (Monsignors)
5. Deacons
6. *Lay Ecclesial Ministers*
7. Lay Faithful



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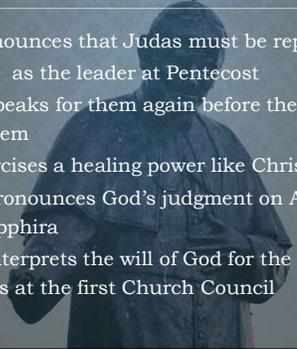
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### PRIMACY OF ST PETER

- He announces that Judas must be replaced
- He acts as the leader at Pentecost
- Peter speaks for them again before the leaders of Jerusalem
- He exercises a healing power like Christ's
- Peter pronounces God's judgment on Anannias and Sapphira
- Peter interprets the will of God for the rest of the Apostles at the first Church Council



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### THE KINGDOM OF GOD



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### THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Matt 28:18-20
- Jesus sends forth (commissions) the apostles to go out and preach the Gospel
- Make disciples through the sacraments
  - We become members of the Church through baptism



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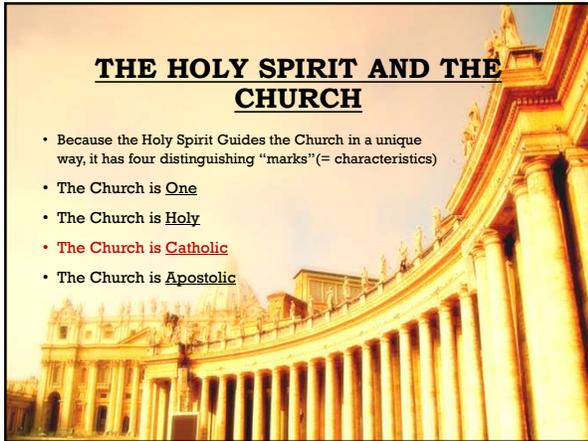
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### THE FAMILY OF GOD



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### GALATIANS 3:26-28

- “For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus”

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### ACTS 1:8

- “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”



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### THE RITES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

		
<b>ROME</b> Latin (Roman) Mozarabic Ambrosian Bragan Dominican Carmelite Carthusian	<b>ANTIOCH</b> Byzantine Syriac Armenian Maronite Chaldean Syro-Malabar	<b>ALEXANDRIA</b> Alexandrian Coptic Ethiopian

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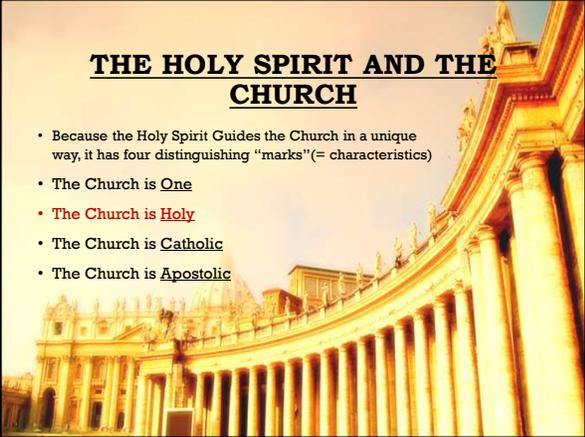
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### HOLY SPIRIT THE ADVOCATE

John 14:16-18

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you

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### INFALLIBILITY OF THE POPE

- **Infallibility**- the gift of the Holy Spirit that enables the Magisterium to proclaim a doctrine of faith or morals that is free from error
- **The Church is infallible when:**
  - The Pope in his office as Supreme Teacher (ex cathedra) in a definitive act
  - At a Church Council
  - When the Pope proposes a doctrine on something that is part of Divine Revelation

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### THE CHARACTERISTICS OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

- Inspired= guided by God
- Inerrant = without error
- Infallible = will not fail



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### THE CHURCH OF HEAVEN & EARTH



#### *The 3 States of the Church.*

- **The Pilgrim Church**- those here are on earth
- **The Suffering Church**- the Church being purified in Purgatory
- **The Triumphant Church** – the Church in Heaven- All the Saints and Angels

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### EPHESIANS 1:4-6

- “He chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, **to be holy** and without blemish before him. In love **he destined us for adoption** to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, **for the praise of the glory of his grace**”

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### THE BRIDE OF CHRIST



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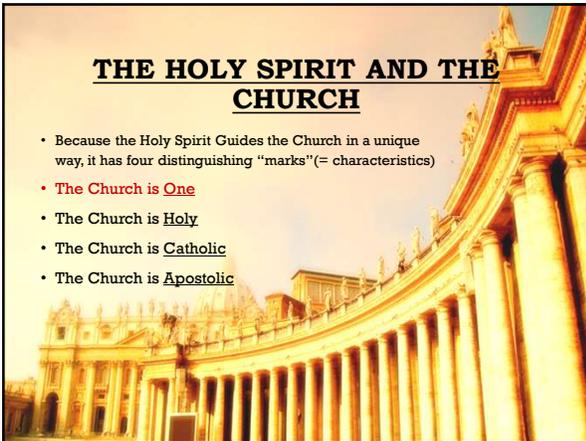
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## EARLY CHRISTIANS

- The Eucharist was celebrated in their homes
- Acts 2:42-They devoted themselves to:
  - Apostles Teaching
  - Fellowship
  - Prayer
  - Sharing things in common

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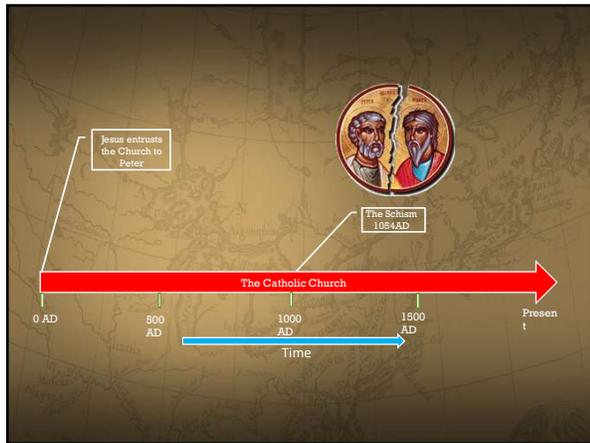
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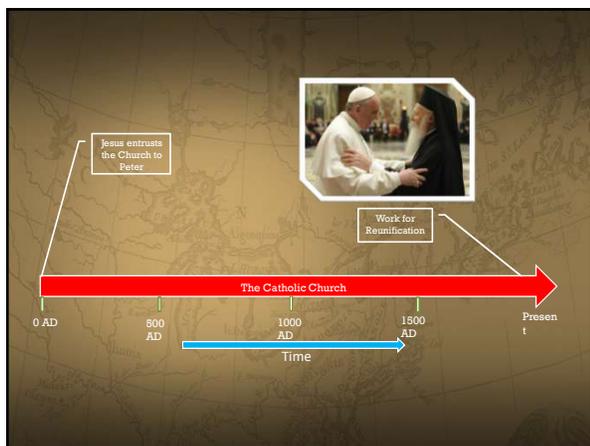
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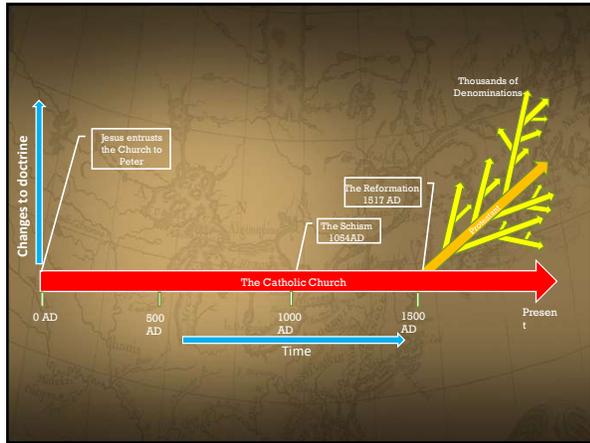
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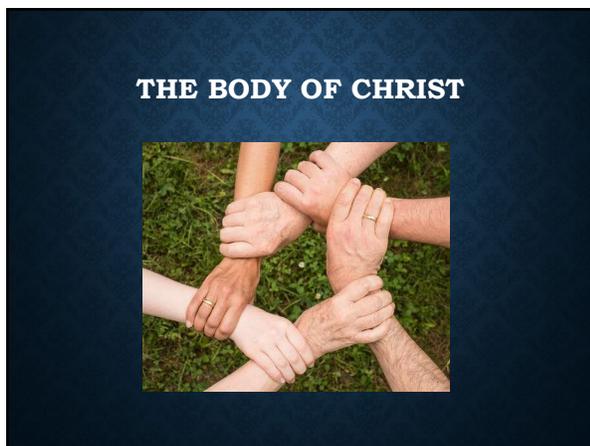
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### ROLES OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Jesus came as a priest, prophet and king
- We share in these roles through our Baptism and Confirmation
- **Priest**- we are called to be holy and bring holiness to the world
- **Prophets**- we are called to grow in knowledge of the faith and speak for God to others
- **King**- We share in Christ's royal role by serving others , particularly those in need

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O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, Hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed,

*Deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being extolled,

From the desire of being praised,

From the desire of being preferred to others,

From the desire of being consulted,

From the desire of being approved,

From the fear of being humiliated,

From the fear of being despised,

From the fear of suffering rebukes,

From the fear of being calumniated,

### LITANY OF HUMILITY

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### HOMEWORK

- Pick one mark or image of the Church that we discussed and explain how it helps you in your faith journey.

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