



## The Church

Communion with Jesus Christ  
CCP Webinar, December 14, 2016  
Instructor: Marti Lundberg

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## Church

What is Church?

Ekklesia/Ecclesia- pertaining to or of the church.  
From the Greek ekkalein meaning "called out".

Kyriake- Greek word meaning "what belongs to the Lord." Our modern words of kirche, kirk and church come from this word.

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## Learner Objectives

1. Define the linguistic roots of the word "Church"
2. Name the three primary images of Church from *Lumen Gentium*:
3. List the marks of the Church and explain their importance.
4. Explain how the Church with one mission uses persons in different roles (lay and ordained) to accomplish its mission.
5. Explain what is meant by universal church, diocesan church, parish church, bishop, pastor and describe their relationship to each other.
6. Explain how the Church supports the spiritual life of the faithful.

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Church

CCC Glossary definition- "The name given the 'convocation' or 'assembly' of the People God has called together from 'the ends of the earth.' In Christian usage, the word has three inseparable meanings; the People that God gathers in the whole world; the particular or local church (diocese); and the liturgical (above all Eucharistic) assembly. The Church draws her life from the Word and the Body of Christ, and so herself becomes Christ's Body (CCC 752). In the Creed, the sole Church of Christ is professed to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic (CCC 881).

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Lumen Gentium (LG)

- *(Pronounced Lumen Gent-si-uhm.)*
- Dogmatic Constitution of the Church
- Promulgated on November 21, 1964 by His Holiness Pope Paul VI

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Primary Images of Church from LG

People of God: Brings together the Old and New Testament of God's gracious call and our pilgrim response.

Body of Christ: Builds on the "Mystical Body" image of the Church and makes explicit her sacramental nature.

Temple of the Holy Spirit: Gathers Old Testament images of the temple with the Pentecost beginning of the Church in these end times.

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### Scriptural Images of Church

Scriptures	Images
John 10:1-10	Church as sheepfold
Mt. 21:33-43	Church as vineyard
John 15:1-15	Church as true vine
Rom 11:13-26	Church as cultivated field
Mt. 21:42	Church as a building
Eph. 2: 19, 22	Church as a household
Gal. 4:26	Church is "heavenly Jerusalem"
Rev. 12:17	Church as our Mother
Rev. 19:7	Church as spotless spouse of the spotless lamb

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### Four Marks of the Church

- One
- Holy
- Catholic
- Apostolic

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### One

- The Church is one because of her source of unity flowing from the perfect unity found in the Blessed Trinity. CCC 813
- The Church is one because of the faith first proclaimed by the prophets and brought to fulfillment in the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ. CCC 813

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One

- The Church is one through the celebration of sacraments and the sharing of Sacred Scripture and the reception of Church tradition from the apostles. CCC 815
- The Church is one because of apostolic succession passed from the apostles and by the laying on of hands at Holy Orders. CCC 815-816

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One

“The sole Church of Christ [is that] which our Savior, after his Resurrection, entrusted to Peter’s pastoral care, commissioning him and the other apostles to extend and rule it...This Church, constituted and organized as a society in the present world, subsists in the Catholic Church, which is governed by the successor of Peter and by the bishops in communion in him.” CCC 816, LG 8.2

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A call to be one

From CCC 821

- Permanent renewal of the Church
- Conversion of heart
- Prayer in common
- Fraternal knowledge of each other
- Ecumenical formation of the faithful
- Dialogue
- Collaboration among Christians

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### Church is one through Sacraments

While the Church is one with its sacramental system, there are diverse ways of celebrating these common sacraments. The Roman (Latin) Rite is the way in which we celebrate sacraments in most of the Western World. However, there are 22 different Rites in union with Rome which have their unique way of celebrating our common oneness in Christ.

- Ukrainian Rite
- Byzantine Rite
- Chaldean Rite
- Coptic Rite
- Syrian Rite
- Armenian Rite
- Maronite Rite
- Albanian Rite
- Italo-Albanian Rite
- Ambrosian Rite
- Mazoretic Rite

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### Holy

The Holy Trinity is the origin of the Church and the source for her holiness.

The Church is from God as a part of the plan for our salvation.

Jesus Christ, brought together a community of disciples to continue in His stead.

Jesus died on the Cross for the forgiveness of our sins.

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### Holy

The Holy Spirit continues working in the faithful for the glory of God.

A "charism" is a special gift or grace from the Holy Spirit which directly or indirectly benefits the Church, given in order to help a person live out the Christian life, or to serve the common good in building up the Church. CCC 799, 951, glossary

A communion of charism means that within the communion of the Church, the Holy Spirit 'distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank' for the 'building up of the Church' LG 4

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Holy

The saints are our examples of living lives of holiness.

Mary is our example by which to live.

Through the grace of God we are made holy.

Vatican II speaks of the universal call to holiness on the part of all believers. This begins with Baptism and grows through our response.

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Catholic

“First, the Church is catholic because Christ is present in her. ‘Where there is Christ Jesus, there is the Catholic Church.’ St. Ignatius of Anitoch”

- CCC 830

“Secondly, the Church is catholic because she has been sent out by Christ on a mission to the entire human race.” - CCC 831

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Apostolic

“The Church is apostolic because she is founded on the apostles, in three ways:

1. She was and remains built on the ‘foundation of the apostles,’ (Eph. 2:20, Rev. 21:14) the witnesses chosen and sent on mission by Christ himself, (Mt. 28:16-20, Acts 1:8, 1 Cor. 9:1, 15:7-8, Gal. 1:1)

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Apostolic

- 2. With the help of the Spirit dwelling in her, the Church keeps and hands on the teaching, (Acts 2:42) the 'good deposit', the salutary words she has heard from the apostles." (2 Tim 11:13-14)
- 3. She continues to be taught, sanctified, and guided by the apostles until Christ's return, through their successors in pastoral office, the college of bishops, 'assisted by priests, in union with the successor of Peter, the Church's supreme pastor'." *Ad Gentes* (CCC857)

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Apostolic through Missionary Mandate

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, until the end of time."  
Mt. 28:19-20

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Apostolic through Missionary Mandate

The Universal Catechism notes: "Having been divinely sent to the nations that she might be 'the universal sacrament of salvation' (Ad Gentes 1, Mt. 16:15) the Church in obedience to the command of her founder and because it is demanded by her own essential universality, strives to preach the Gospel to all men." CCC 849

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Apostolic through Missionary Mandate

Grounded in love of the Holy Trinity.

*CCC 850*

Missionary motivation of God that all be saved.

*CCC 851*

Holy Spirit is the "protagonist" and "principle agent"

*CCC 852*

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Ordained and Laity: In Mission Together

- Baptism is the foundation for all the Christian faithful.
- Universal priesthood refers to all the baptized.
- Ministerial priesthood refers to those baptized who are called to serve as ordained.

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Vocations within the Church

There are three primary vocations.

1. Ordained
2. Married
3. Single

Religious Life or Consecrated Life is found in both the vocation of the ordained and the vocation of the single life.

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Vocations

- The ordained vocation provides leadership to the Church. Deacons, Priests and Bishops are the three-fold ordained ministry in the Church. All three are considered "clergy". These can be called the 'ranks' of Holy Orders.
- The vocation of marriage is a separate vocation in the Church that assists the spouses to grow in holiness and pass on their gift of faith through the procreation and raising of children.
- The single vocation is a particular call in the Church to grow in holiness by being grounded in the grace of baptism.

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Ministerial Priesthood

In the aftermath of Vatican II, the 1967 Synod of Bishops established four markers common to all priestly life, both diocesan and religious:

- Obedience
- Prayer
- Celibacy
- Simplicity of Life

Celibacy is a discipline that applies to the Latin Rite.

Religious vows and the charism of religious communities may focus these four markers in particular ways.

(Poverty, Chastity, Obedience...)

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Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome




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### Three-fold Ministry

#### (Arch)diocesan Bishop- Oversight of the a local Church.

The Pope is the Bishop of Rome and provides the "Petrine" ministry serving as Vicar of Christ on earth and focal point of communion among all bishops in the world. The Pope is elected for life by a special "College of Cardinals" who are usually bishops or archbishops and hold elector status.

#### Parish Priest- Ordained to serve in union with the bishop.

Diocesan priests serve the Church of a local diocesan area. Religious order priests serve the Church through following a particular charism of their founder. Both are under authority of the local bishop.

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### Three-fold Ministry

Deacon- Ordained to assist bishop with the spiritual and material needs of the local church. Assists with the liturgy and charity.

- Transitional  At a later date will be ordained a priest
- Permanent  Remains a deacon for life

Their ordination and ministry as deacons are IDENTICAL!

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### Consecrated Life Defined

Glossary from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is "A permanent state of life recognized by the Church, entered freely in response to the call of Christ to perfection, and characterized by the profession of the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience."

See also CCC 914

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Vowed and Consecrated Life

Within these three vocations are states of life. These states of life overlap across vocational boundaries:

Consecrated life refers to vowed religious life marked by the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Some religious communities or institutes may have additional vows.

Married life is marked by permanent lifelong vows the couple profess to each other before the Church assembly and its minister.

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Vowed and Consecrated Life

Many deacons and some priests in the Eastern Rite churches in union with Rome are married.

Some priests are in consecrated life as members of institutes and religious orders such as brothers. Most priests are "diocesan priests" assisting the bishop of a diocese.

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Vowed and Consecrated Life

Those holding the title of "sister" or "brother" are generally part of religious orders or institutes. They are not ordained but a special group of single laity who become part of consecrated life through their profession of vows.

"Nuns" and "monks" are cloistered in monastic communities. This is a special type of consecrated life. Some "monks" may be ordained for their monastic community as "priests".

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Laity Defined

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*  
Glossary- "The faithful who, having been incorporated into Christ through baptism, are made part of the people of God, the Church. The laity participate in their own way the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ. Laity are distinguished from clergy (who have received Holy Orders) and those in consecrated life."

See CCC 897

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Universal Church

Universal Church- Refers to the world-wide communion of one billion believers around the world. Led by the Pope who, as bishop of Rome and successor to Peter was first directly appointed by Christ to lead the Church on earth.

CCC 816, 830

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Universal Church



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Diocesan Church

Diocesan Church- The ordinary celebration of the Eucharist happens with the bishop in the presence of the local Church's ministers. For this reason the bishop, who serves as head of a local or diocesan church is often called the "ordinary". In the same way the Holy Father, the Pope, serves as focal point of unity for the universal church, the diocesan bishop, appointed by the Pope, serves as the leader and center of communion for the local church. Dioceses themselves are grouped into provinces where one bishop is designated as "Archbishop" and serves the "Metropolitan" for the group of bishops and their dioceses. CCC 1369, 1560

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Diocesan Church



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Parish Church

The diocese is subdivided into parishes. Parishes are foundational organization of the Church. Some parishes have missions and stations especially if the parishes cover large geographical areas. Only priests who serve as the leader of a parish hold the office and title "pastor". Priests receive their canonical appointment as pastor from the local bishop of the diocese in which they serve. Priests who assist the pastor in their respective parishes also receive their assignments from the bishop.

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### Parish Churches




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### Spiritual Lives of the Faithful

- Liturgy
- Devotions
- Education
- Social Justice
- Friendship and community
- Social events
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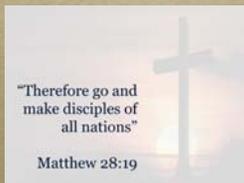
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### Closing Thoughts and Prayer

*The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."*




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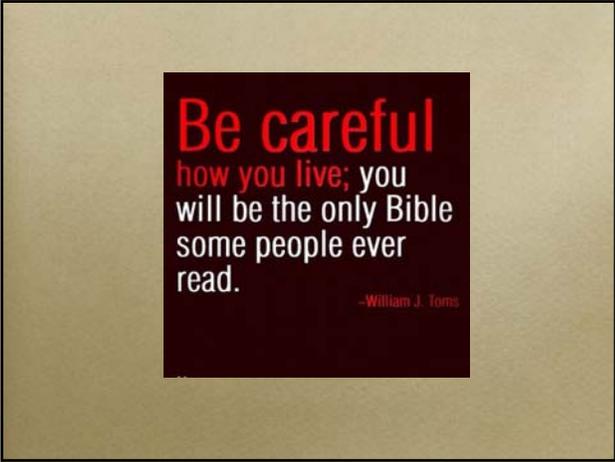
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