
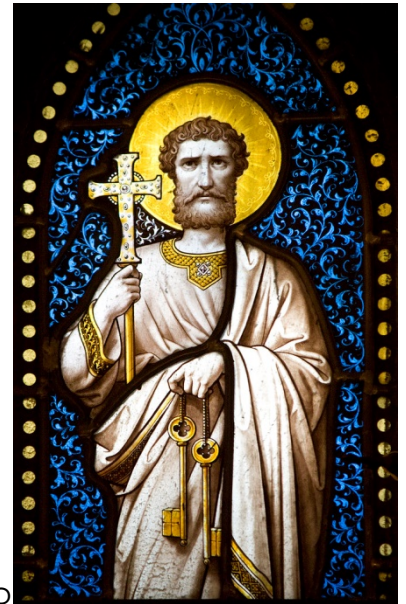


The Church, Reflecting the Light Of Christ

Opening prayer: The Our Father

- The Church is the body of Christ
 - The Church reflects Christ's love
 - The Church as the body and Christ as the head make the whole Christ
 - We are united with Christ through the Church but retain our individuality
 - The Church asks that you 'become what you are'
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- More than a club
 - The Church is more than the will of its members
 - St. Augustine called the Church a hospital for sinners
 - Membership in the Church is the basis of our relationship with Christ
 - “The world was made for the sake of the Church”
 - The Church is a sign and instrument of our unity with God and with each other
 - We should see ourselves, first and foremost, as members of the Church
 - Four Marks of the Church (in the Nicene Creed)
 - The Church is One
 - The Church is Holy
 - The Church is Catholic (Universal)
 - The Church is Apostolic
 - **The Church is Apostolic**
 - The Church is guided by the successors to the original twelve apostles who were chosen by Christ.
 - Love is the soul of the apostolic mission
 - The kingdom of Christ grows mysteriously in those incorporated into Him

- Matthew 16-18: “...you are Peter and upon this Rock I will build my Church”
- 1st century: The later life of Saint Peter according to tradition
 - He settled in Rome
 - Lead the Church of Rome for 25 years
 - He was martyred in Rome
 - He named Linus, Anacletus and Clement as his successors
- First several centuries: Papal elections
 - Local people and clergy of diocese chose their Bishops
 - Rome was probably no different.
 - We don't know exactly how
 - Local rulers interfered in elections
- 313: Christianity legalized by Roman Emperor Constantine the Great in 313
- 4th century
 - Constantine and his son and successor Constantine built original St. Peter's Basilica
 - Old St. Peter's built quickly with pieces of other buildings
 - Cathedral of Rome and seat of the Popes is St. John Lateran, not St. Peter's
 - St. Peter's became destination of pilgrims to Rome
- 452: Pope Leo the Great persuades Attila the Hun to not attack Rome
- 533: 1st Papal name change. John II changed his name from Mercury. Mercury was the name of a Roman god and thought too pagan
- 7th and 8th centuries
 - Byzantine Emperors demanded right to approve Papal
 - Church never formally consented to this
- 769: Roman Synod issued a decree on Papal elections
 - Only Roman clergy could vote, no laity or rulers



- Only Cardinal priests and deacons could be elected, Bishops were ‘married’ to their diocese
- **The Church is Holy**
 - The Holy Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy.
 - Christ loves the Church and He suffered on the cross to sanctify her
 - The Church is both holy and in need of purification
 - Church looks forward to the perfection of this gift
- Cardinals are important officers in the Church
 - Latin word *cardo* means hinge
 - Cardinals were important clergy from the area around Rome
 - Originally the College of Cardinals consisted of 28 Cardinal Priests, 7 Cardinal Bishops, 18 Cardinal Deacons
 - Often fewer than a dozen Cardinals in medieval period
 - This led to many deadlocks
- 10th century: Name changes became common
 - A Pope with the baptismal name of Peter changed his name to John XIV
 - There has never been a Peter II
 - Legend that the world will end when Peter II is elected
- 1241: 1st Conclave
 - Attempt to break a deadlock by locking the Cardinals in a church
 - Latin *con clave* means with key
- 1269: People tried to break a deadlock by removing the roof of a church in which the Cardinals were locked in a Conclave
- 1274: Gregory X issued rules for Conclaves
 - 9 days of mourning after Pope’s funeral, conclaves to begin on 10th day
 - Cardinals locked in with one assistant each
- 1305-1417: Papacy in Avignon
 - 1305 to 1378, Papacy left Rome for Avignon France because of chaos in Rome
 - This caused the Great Schism in 1378 when Romans appointed their own Bishop
 - At times from 1378 to 1417 there were two to four men claiming the Papacy

- During this period, candidates would have to agree to a series of conditions, or Capitulation, before being named Pope
- Rome reduced to small, deteriorated town
- 1417: Election of Martin V
 - Papacy reunited in Rome
 - Starts to rebuild Rome and reunite the Church
- 1506: Julius II
 - Hired Bramante to demolish Old St. Peter's and build new church
 - New church originally designed with nave and transepts the same length
 - Cornerstone laid on April 18, 1506



- 1517: Sold indulgences (get out of purgatory free cards), partially to finance building of St. Peter's. Martin Luther objected to this and started the Protestant Revolution
- 1521: Leo X excommunicates Martin Luther
- 16th through 19th centuries: Monarchs believed their power came from God, Divine Right of Kings. One king, one people and one religion in each country
- 1534: Henry VIII of England breaks with Rome. Has himself declared head of the Church of England
- 1545-63 Paul III
 - Calls Council of Trent. Council rejects Protestant theologies of reliance on the Bible alone and predestination. Council also ends abuses in the Church.

- Hired Michelangelo to design dome for St. Peters



- 1566: Pius V was a Dominican. Dominican priests wear white cassocks. Popes have worn white ever since.
- 1591: Gregory XIV banned choosing Pope by adoration and betting on elections
- 1605-21 Paul V
 - Hired Maderno who extended the nave of St. Peters to accommodate larger services
 - New St. Peter's completed in 1620
- 1621: Gregory XV limited the number of candidates a Cardinal could vote for to one, instituted secret ballots, and required Cardinals to disguise their handwriting
- 1623-44 Urban VIII
 - Hired Bernini to build the colonnade around the piazza
 - Bernini also built the main altar with its cupola
- 17th and 18th centuries: The Enlightenment, many intellectuals believed reason was important than faith and love
- 1792: French Revolution: revolutionaries tried to abolish the Church and start cults based on reason

- 1799: Pius VI arrested in Rome by the French and died in exile. Emperor Francis of Austria allows a conclave to choose next Pope in Venice
- 1801: Pius VII
 - Makes peace and signs concordat with French ruler Napoleon in 1801
 - Later arrested by Napoleon and exiled. Napoleon loses power in 1814
 - Returns to Rome; restores the Jesuits
- 1869-70: Pius IX calls 1st Vatican Council. Council defines papal authority and infallibility. Ends suddenly because of an Italian revolution.
- **The Church is One**
 - Its source is Christ
 - “Love binds everything together in perfect harmony” Colossians 3:14
 - Other religions are united to the Catholic Church to the extent that we agree
- 1962: John XXIII calls 2nd Vatican Council.
 - Aims of the council: “... to impart an ever-increasing vigor... to adapt more closely to the needs of our age... to promote union... to strengthen whatever can help to call all mankind in the Church’s fold.” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium* §1)
 - Council called for greater role for laity: “Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy.” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium* §11)
 - The council supported dialogue with other religions: “This Church constituted and organized in the world as a society, **subsists** in the Catholic Church, which is governed by the successor of Peter and by the bishops in communion with him, although many elements of sanctification and of truth are found outside of its visible structure.” (*Lumen Gentium* §8)
 - The council saw that human dignity requires a connection between the Church and the modern world: “Since all men possess a rational soul and are created in God’s likeness... have been redeemed by Christ and enjoy the same divine calling and destiny, the basic equality of all must receive increasingly greater recognition.” (*Gaudium et Spes* §29)
 - The council taught that Christ is the answer to the world’s problems: “She likewise holds that in her most benign Lord and Master can be found the

key, the focal point and the goal of man, as well as of all human history.”
(*Gaudium et Spes* §10)

- 1975: Paul VI revised the rules for Conclaves
 - The number of Cardinal was expanded from 130 to 183 to allow more Cardinal from third world countries
 - Only Cardinals under 80 years of age to eligible to vote
- 1978-2005: John Paul II
 - Traveled widely
 - Inspires protests that leads to fall of Communism
 - Decreed in 1994 that the Papacy could only become vacant by death or resignation
 - Since Vatican II, popes and leaders of all faiths have increasingly address global problems such as poverty, war, and injustice.
 - “(The Preferential Option for the Poor) affects the life of each Christian inasmuch as he or she seeks to imitate the life of Christ, but it applies equally to our social responsibilities and hence to our manner of living, and to theological decisions to be made concerning the ownership and use of goods.” (John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, §42)
- 2005-2013 Benedict XVI, 2013-2025 Francis
 - February 28, 2013: Benedict XVI becomes first Pope to resign the office since 1415
- **The Church is Catholic (Universal)**
 - Christ is present in the Church
 - The Church has been sent by Christ to all people
 - The Church has an obligation to evangelize
 - 2025: Distribution of Cardinal: 17 Italians, 31 other European, 21 Central and South American, 15 North American, 22 Asian, 17 African and 4 from the South Pacific
- Papal Conclave
 - In past, Cardinals slept on cots in the Sistine Chapel
 - John Paul II built St. Martha’s Hotel at the Vatican which houses the Conclaves
 - Once in Conclave, the Cardinals cannot contact the outside world
 - All Cardinals swear an oath to uphold the rules of the Conclave

- Average length of Conclaves in the 20th century is 3 days
- Saying: “he who enters the Conclave as Pope leaves as a Cardinal”
- May 8, 2025: Leo XIV
 - “Habemus Papam” (We have a Pope)
 - Once he is elected, the candidate is asked if he accepts
 - If he does, he is Pope at that moment
 - The Dean of the College of Cardinals asks what name he takes
 - The Pope is lead to the balcony and introduced.
 - The new Pope gives a short blessing
 - Solemn installation mass held a few days later
 - The Pope is called the Pontifex Maximus, Latin for Great Bridge-BUILDER
 - Every Pope is called a successor to Peter, not his immediate predecessor



Next week: Jesus Christ, Chapters 7 & 8