

Christ & His Church Glossary

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Abbé Balley

St. John Vianney's mentor.

Abbot

The leader of an abby or monastery. Has the same authority as of a bishop within his monastery.

Abdicate

To freely give up power.

Act of Supremacy

The official declaration made by English Parliament which states that the English monarch is the head of the English Church.

Age of reason

The age at which a person is able to determine moral actions and understand what is right and what is wrong; usually considered to occur around the age of 7 or 8 years old.

Al Smith

Former New York Governor; first Catholic to run for President of the United States.

Albert of Mainz

Luther's bishop. Purchased his diocese and went into debt. Commissioned the sale of indulgences in order to finance his acquisition.

Albigensianism

A Heresy. Albigensians believed the soul was good and the body was evil. Believed freeing the soul from the body would bring salvation. Promoted suicide and abortion. Against procreation.

Alexander the Great

Conquered and controlled land from Greece to India; spread Hellenism to all places he conquered.

All Saints Day

The day set aside on the Church's calendar to honor all saints in heaven, not only the saints who have been canonized. All Saints Day.

Alms

Money donated for the poor.

Alphonse Ratisbonne

Anti-Catholic Jew who hated the Church; was challenged to pray to Our Lady and wear the Miraculous Medal; had a vision of Mary and converted.

Anabaptists

A protestant sect that believed that Baptism should reserved for adults only and could be administered to the same person multiple times.

Angel Gabriel

God's messenger to Our Lady at the Annunciation. "Hail, Mary! Full of Grace! The Lord is with thee!"

Anger

Also known as wrath; the vice of responding to difficulty or adversity with violence, aggression, and rage.

Anne Boleyn

Originally the mistress of King Henry VIII. Later married Henry but wasn't able to produce a male heir. Executed upon charges of adultery, incest, and high treason.

Annunciation

The moment "Word became flesh." Mary's "yes" to God's invitation through the message of the Angel Gabriel when Jesus was conceived in His mother's womb.

Antioch

The Christian center of the early Church. The first bishop of Antioch was St. Peter before he moved on to Rome. St. Ignatius of Antioch is the most notable bishop of Antioch in the early Church.

Antipope

A man who is believed to be pope, though he is not actually the pope.

Antipope Alexander V

Elected after the Council of Pisa. Alexander was not accepted by either the followers of the pope in Rome or the antipope in Avignon.

Antipope Clement VII

Elected after the death of Pope Gregory XI. Cardinals gathered to choose Gregory's successor and

picked an Italian (Urban VI). French cardinals returned to France and held a new election, choosing Clement VII, who would reside in Avignon. Caused the Great Western Schism.

Apologetics

A theology that explains and defends the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Apologists

An apologist is someone who defends the faith through their teachings and writings; a theology that explains and defends the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Apostle to the Gentiles

St. Paul's special title given to him by Jesus Christ, signifying his mission in the Church.

Apostles

The word Apostle means one who is sent out with a mission.

Apostolic Constitutions

A Constitution is a formal teaching specifically from the pope in communion with the Catholic bishops of the Church. These Constitutions are infallible, in that they teach the members of the Church the truth.

Apostolic Fathers

Men who were taught by the Apostles, who in turn taught the next generation of Christians.

Apostolic Succession

The line of succession that extends from the twelve Apostles to the bishops of the world today.

Arianism

The belief that Jesus was not God; not divine.

Aristotle

Ancient philosopher (lived from 385 BC – 322 BC). His philosophy influenced St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*.

Aristotle's *Metaphysics*

One of Aristotle's greatest works. This work examined and explained the concept of "being" and existence itself.

Arius

Egyptian priest; created a school of thought that believed Jesus was not God (Arianism).

Armagh

The center of Christianity in Ireland after St. Patrick converted the pagans.

Ascension Thursday

40 days after Easter. The day Jesus ascended into heaven.

Asceticism

The practice of self-discipline, particularly fasting and other bodily penances, in order to obtain virtue. The word derives from the word, “ascesis,” which means “struggle.” It was first used to describe the struggle of the athletes of the original Greek Olympics to achieve physical and athletic discipline.

Aspirancy

The first stage of entering a religious community, such as the Society of Mary. Aspirants are new members who are learning the way of community life.

Assisi Underground

System established to provide safe travel for Jews under Nazi persecution to safe places protected by the Church.

Assumption of Mary

Doctrine infallibly defined by Pope Pius XII; celebrated on August 15th.

Attila the Hun

Leader of the barbarian tribe, the Huns. Was turned back by Pope St. Leo the Great when he tried to attack the city of Rome.

Augsburg Confession

The earliest summary of Lutheran theology.

Auschwitz

One of the main Nazi work camps in Poland.

Auxiliary bishop

An assistant to the bishop of the diocese. Has full privileges of the office of Bishop, however is obedient to the head bishop of the diocese.

Avarice

Also known as greed; the vice of desiring to accumulate great wealth or material possessions, not out of need, but out of desire.

Avignon Papacy

The period of the Church 1309 to 1378 in which the pope lived in Avignon, France, under the influence of the French kings.

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Baptism

The Sacrament that makes us members of the Church.

Barbarian Tribes

Warlike nomadic tribes living beyond the borders of the Roman Empire. Responsible for the fall of the Roman Empire.

Basileiad

Started by St. Basil the Great, a center for the taking care of the homeless, the sick who have no money to pay for care, and the training of the poor in skills so they can find work.

Basilic

A basilica is an architectural structure that utilizes long rows of columns. Many churches are built in this style, which comes from the ancient Romans. Some churches of importance have the word “basilica” in their name to differentiate them from important “cathedrals” which are churches that serve as the head of the diocese for the local bishop.

Basilica of San Clemente

A basilica in Rome built at the site believed to be the location St. Clement worshiped in Rome as the fourth pope and bishop of Rome. The current basilica is from the eleventh century. Beneath the current basilica a fourth century basilica is found, which has been built atop first century Roman ruins.

Battle of Milvian Bridge

The battle in 312 between Constantine and Maxentius that decided which co-emperor would control the city of Rome and the Western Roman Empire. Constantine was victorious after receiving a vision of a Christian symbol and painting it on his army’s armor.

Battle of Tolbiac

Battle between Clovis and the Franks against the Alemanni. Clovis won and converted to Christianity.

Bishop Fulton Sheen

Catholic bishop in New York; had popular television show in the United States; currently venerable in the Church.

Blessed (Beatification)

When a miracle occurs due to the intercession of a person who has been declared venerable, the Church may “beatify” the person, giving them the title of “Blessed.”

Blessed Jacob Gapp, S.M.

One of the Marianist Martyrs; killed by the Nazis by speaking out against their regime.

Blessed John Duns Scotus

Contemporary and critic of St. Thomas Aquinas’ use of Aristotle.

Blessed Miguel Pro, S.J.

Jesuit priest killed during Christian persecution in Mexico.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

Italian man; desired to live his life for God in big ways; to use his gifts to reach great heights; great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

Blessed Pope Pius IX

The longest reigning pope (after St. Peter); faced the difficulty of modern regimes that threatened the livelihood of both Christian and non-Christian societies.

Blessed Pope Urban II

Called for the crusades.

Blessed William Joseph Chaminade

Founder of the Society of Mary. Re-Christianized France following the French Revolution.

Breviary

A breviary contains the prayers, psalms, and readings for each day for the Liturgy of the Hours in a single place.

Bubonic plague

Parasitic plague in Europe that wiped out over 25 million people.

Byzantine Empire

The Eastern half of the Roman Empire. After the fall of Rome in the west, the Byzantine Empire continued up until the fifteenth century.

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Caesaropapism

The practice in which the emperor acts as the head of the Church as well.

Calvin's "Elect"

The "Elect" are those who are saved by God; they have been predetermined to go to heaven regardless of their actions or faith, because it is the will of God.

Calvin's Geneva

Calvin's theocracy in Switzerland where he was free to impose his theological agenda.

Calvin's *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Calvin's theological treatise outlining his beliefs and protests with the Church.

Calvinism

The teachings of John Calvin.

Canon Law

The laws of the Church pertaining to Church policy, procedure, and practice. These laws are man-made and can change over time.

Canon of Saints

The Church's official list of saints. There are thousands and thousands of saints on this list.

Canonization

The formal process by which the Church declares that a person's soul is in heaven. A "canon" is a list. Canonization is when a person is added to the "list" of saints.

Canons

A type of priest who is not in a religious order, though still follows daily lifestyle rules normally followed by monks or brothers in a religious community.

Carbonari

A secret society dedicated to the destruction of the Catholic Church in Italy.

Cardinal Virtues

The four virtues upon which the other virtues are hinged.

Carolingians

The dynasty originating from Charles Martel. Charles Martel, Pepin the Short, Charlemagne.

Carthusian Order

Religious order started by St. Bruno.

Catacombs

The underground system of tombs where Christians were safe to celebrate the sacraments in the time of the early Church.

Catechism

A catechism is a single book that explains all of the teachings of the Church in one place.

Catechumenate

The status of those in the process in learning the faith in preparation for baptism. This practice continues today in which new members of the Church are enrolled into the catechumenate before their baptism on Easter.

Catholic

The term catholic (*katholikos*) means "universal" in Greek, in that the Church is universal to all people, in all places, at all times. It is not exclusive to a certain nation, race, or other type of group.

Catholic Action

An organization of Catholic laypeople called to bring the teachings of the Gospel into the world wherever they found themselves; Established by Pope Pius XI.

Catholic Association

An Irish coalition formed to establish the rights of Catholics in the British controlled areas of the United Kingdom.

Catholic Church

The Christian church that was founded by Christ upon the Apostles. After the Great Schism, the Catholic Church refers to the Church that follows the leadership of the Bishop of Rome.

Catholic identity

The concept of who we are as Catholics and what it means to be Catholic. We learn this through studying our history and what God has revealed to us through Scripture and Tradition.

Catholic Social Teaching

The teaching office of the Church that teaches moral truths to society, not directly about faith and/or morals, but based on the faith and morality revealed by God to the world.

Catholic Worker Movement

A movement started by Dorothy Day in New York to help the poor and promote the social teachings of the Church.

Catholic–Orthodox Joint Declaration of 1965

The declaration of Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras lifting the mutual excommunications declared in 1054.

Cause for canonization

The name given to the beginning of the process of canonization. During the cause for canonization, preliminary materials and accounts of the potential saint's life are gathered and sent to Rome.

Cenobitical life

Religious life lived within a community according to a Rule, or constitution, and under the leadership of an abbot, or religious superior.

Cephas

The name given to Simon, meaning "rock," translated as Peter.

Chancellor of his diocese

One of the main advisors to the bishop in his diocese.

Chaplet

A collection of prayers repeated for a specific length, usually devoted to a particular saint or cause. The most common chaplet is the Rosary.

Charity

The theological virtue that reflects God's gift of grace in our actions towards others; to love our neighbor as ourself.

Chastity

The virtue that opposes lust; respecting one's sexuality according to their status in life.

Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

Chaucer's story of characters on a pilgrimage from London to Canterbury. His work is said to be the first popular use of the English language in literature.

Christendom

The idea that Jesus Christ and His teachings influence all areas of culture in a unified way.

Church

The main instrument used by God to bring the human person into relationship with Himself.

Church Father

The Church Fathers, also known as Early Church Fathers, Christian Fathers, or Fathers of the Church, were influential Christian teachers, theologians, and apologists. Some Church Fathers were clergy, but not all. Some Church Fathers are canonized, but not all.

Church of England (Anglican Church; Episcopal Church in the United States)

The church that formed after King Henry VIII broke away from the authority of the pope. They consider themselves apostolic, like the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, however they have changed or abandoned significant parts of Sacred Scripture and Tradition, that they are largely Protestant today.

Cicero

Ancient Roman poet, philosopher, and author. Bridged the gap between Greek and Roman culture by his writings and experiences.

Circus Maximus

The largest of Rome's circuses. The origin of the Great Fire of Rome was near this location, close to Nero's palace.

Cistercian Order

Order founded by St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Robert Molesmes. A simpler version of the Order of St. Benedict. Attempted to focus more closely on adhering to the Rule of St. Benedict than the Benedictines at the time.

Civil Constitution of the Clergy

The document proposed after the French Revolution that clergy were required to follow. It required all members of the Church, specifically priests and bishops, to subordinate themselves to the government.

Clericis Laicos

By Boniface VIII. Stated that neither the clergy nor Church property could be taxed without a papal consent.

Cloistered

Monastic life lived in seclusion from the outside world.

Cluny

A monastery in France that became a source of reform and hope during the tenth century. Sts. Bruno and Odo led these reforms which revolutionized monastic life in the Church and saved Europe's struggling society.

College of Cardinals

The members of the episcopate who are able to elect the next pope. All cardinals are bishops in the Church; not all bishops are cardinals. Cardinals under the age of 80 are able to participate in papal elections.

Concordat of 1933

A treaty between the Holy See and the Nazi regime to protect the rights of the Church in Germany; Hitler immediately failed to honor this treaty.

Confessors

Men and women whose lives were spent spreading the joy of the Gospel, the teachings of Christ, and bringing new people into the Church.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

The educational system of the Church that educates those preparing to receive the Sacraments for the first time.

Congregation for the Causes of Saints

This group of priests and bishops, "deals with everything which...leads to the canonization of the servants of God." (*Pastor Bonus*, 71).

Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians)

Founded by St. Vincent de Paul as a congregation of priests who live to serve the poor communities and to train clergy to serve in foreign missions. The members of the Congregation of the Mission, commonly known as Vincentians, also operate universities in United States and the Philippines. St. John's University in Queens, NY is a Vincentian university.

Constantinople

The capital city of the Roman Empire after Constantine became emperor. Formerly named Byzantium.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy - *Sacrosanctum Concilium*

The document from Vatican II that called for revisions to be made to the way the Church celebrated the Mass in order to make the Mass better for the global Church in the modern world.

Constitutions of Clarendon

A twelfth century declaration that assumes the king's authority to make church appointments and handle matters of the Church inside the kingdom of England.

Consubstantial

Being of the same substance or nature. God the Father is consubstantial with God the Son because they both have a divine nature, though they are distinct and have different personas.

Consubstantiation

Luther's belief that, at Mass, the substance of the bread and wine used for communion remains while the substance of Jesus Christ is also made present along with the bread so that communion is both bread and Jesus.

Corinth

Paul traveled to Corinth during his first journey. Very important city connecting the Peloponnese with the mainland of Greece. Paul wrote at least four letters to Corinth, two of which are included in the New Testament.

Cornelius Jansen

Founder of Jansenism.

Council of Constance

This council ended the Great Western Schism after the pope in Rome and antipope in Avignon abdicated and the antipope in Pisa lost support. The Council of Constance then elected Martin V to lead the Church as pope in Rome.

Council of Constantinople

This council finalized the Nicene Creed which we say at Mass on Sundays.

Council of Florence

The ecumenical council that tried to heal the wounds caused by the Great Schism in 1054.

Council of Jerusalem

The local Church council (not ecumenical) that decided that Gentiles did not have to follow Old Testament Jewish laws when they converted to Christianity.

Council of Nicaea

The first ecumenical council in the Church's history. Called for in 325 by the Emperor Constantine in order to solve the Arian controversy.

Council of Pisa

Attempted to end the Great Western Schism. With two men claiming to be pope, Church leaders met in Pisa to elect an alternative they hoped would be a compromise for both sides and chose antipope Alexander V. Pisa's decisions were not supported by either Rome or Avignon.

Council of Trent

The Catholic Church's response to Protestantism. Begun in 1545, the Council of Trent put into

words and clarified an incredible amount of Christian teachings for the first time in defense of Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition that Protestant reformers had distorted.

Counter Reformation

The time period of the Church following the Protestant Revolution in which the Church tried to recover what had been lost following the Protestant revolt.

Creed

A statement of beliefs. There are several creeds in Christian Tradition. The Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed are the most commonly used.

Crusade

A series of military efforts to safeguard the Holy Land and defend the innocent lives under attack by Muslim militants.

Curé of Ars

Literally the *Caretaker of Ars*; the affectionate title St. John Vianney was known as during his work in Ars, France.

Custodian of the Truth

The Church's mission to preserve, protect, and pass on the teachings of Jesus Christ to the rest of the world for every generation.

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Damascus

Where Saul/St. Paul was traveling when he met the Risen Jesus.

Daniel O'Connell

Founded the Catholic Association in Ireland; fought for the rights of Catholics.

Dante Alighieri

Author of the *Divine Comedy*.

Dante's *Divine Comedy*

One of the greatest renaissance works. Dante's *Comedy* is the story of his journey through hell, purgatory, and heaven. Dante's poetic depiction of sacred and secular culture of the time gives us great insight to the period.

Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Religious community of women dedicated to Mary. The first community founded by Blessed William Joseph Chaminade.

Deacons

Ordained men who serve the needs of the local Church community, either by serving at the altar or by assisting the bishop of the area. The word “deacon” comes from the word meaning “to serve.”

Decree of annulment

A declaration that states two individuals who were thought to be married actually never were validly married. This is not the same as a divorce.

Depose

A coup to forcibly remove someone from office.

Deposit of Faith

The truths revealed by Jesus Christ to his apostles which has been passed down in the two forms of Scripture and Tradition.

Desert Father

The name associated with the earliest monks who began to live monastic lives in the deserts of northern Africa and the Middle East.

Devotion

Having a certain affection towards saints or other things of God.

Devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus

Devotion to the Precious Blood that washes us from our sins, that is offered to the Father for our salvation at every Mass, and most importantly, it is the Precious Blood that runs through the veins of Catholics around the world, a blood line that goes beyond race or nation, but makes a part of the Divine family, the Church, the Body of Christ.

Devotions

Acts and prayers of the faithful which lead to deeper expression of their faith-life such as the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, etc.

Dictatus Papae

Issued by Pope Gregory VII and explained the powers of the pope are bestowed upon him by God alone, not by civil authorities.

Diligence

Opposed to the vice of sloth; the virtue of caring out one’s responsibilities in a routine way.

Discalced (or “Shoeless”) Carmelites

St. Teresa of Avila founded this version of the Carmelites; These communities of men or women live a cloistered life in prayer and contemplation.

Disciples

Those who follow another; in this case, the followers of Christ.

Dispensation

Special permission to do something that is normally not permitted under Canon Law. Most dispensations can be issued by the local bishop. More serious matters require the direct dispensation of the Holy See.

Doctor of the Church

A person who has contributed a great deal of the Church's teaching on important theological issues. The title is bestowed upon a person by the pope after their death. There are currently 36 doctors of the Church.

Dogma

The word dogma means "teaching" as in a teaching of the faith; a truth revealed by God regarding faith or morals passed down from the Apostles in the Scriptures or in Tradition, and taught by the Church for the acceptance of its members.

Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation – *Dei Verbum*

The document from Vatican II that discusses Sacred Scripture. Sacred Scripture is the written account of God's revelation to us. It was written by real authors using their actual words and accounts, guided by the grace and inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church - *Lumen Gentium*

The Vatican II document that addresses the Church's mission to be holy and outlines the callings that all Christians have to be holy.

Donation of Pepin

The land given by Pepin the Short to the pope in return for acknowledging him as King of the Franks; became known as the Papal States.

Donatism

A Heresy. The belief that the effectiveness of the sacrament corresponded with the holiness of the priest.

Dorothy Day

Catholic layperson in the United States; started the Catholic Worker Movement in New York to help the poor and promote the social teachings of the Church.

Double Predestination

Calvin's teaching that God has decided which people will go to heaven and which will go to hell, and that it is not up to the actions of the individual.

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Ecumenical council

A world-wide meeting of the Church's magisterium under the authority of the pope in order to discuss issues pertaining to the universal Church.

Ecumenism

Ecumenism is the realization that Christians from other faiths, share more in common than they differ in the beliefs that separate their congregations and church communities.

Edict of Milan

Constantine's edict which legalized Christianity in the Roman Empire. Full text (214 words) found here: <https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/persecution-archives-edict-of-milan/>

Edict of Nero

Declaration in 64 AD which outlawed the practice of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire. This formally began the age of Christian persecution throughout Rome.

Eldest Daughter of the Church

A title given to France; The Franks were the first barbarian tribe to convert to Christianity.

Emancipation Act

This act allowed Irish and English Roman Catholics to hold seats in parliament for the first time.

Emmaus

The village two disciples were traveling towards when they encountered the Risen Jesus.

Emperor Constantine

First Christian Emperor; united the Roman Empire under a single authority.

Emperor Nero

First to persecute the Christians. Blamed the Great Fire of Rome on the Christians.

Encyclical

A letter sent from the pope to all the clergy, religious, laity, and citizens of the world containing the pope's teaching on a particular area of Sacred Scripture or Sacred Tradition and its application to current situations in the world.

English Book of Common Prayer

The official text of the prayers and rites of the Anglican Church. Replaced the Roman Missal.

Envy

The vice that causes a person to hate another for the good that they have.

Ephesus

Paul visited Ephesus during his third journey. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians is directed towards this community.

Episcopate

The word used to mean the office of the bishop.

Eremitical life

Life lived away from the world in solitude in order to seek God.

Evangelical counsels

The vows made by members of religious communities; poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Evangelization

From the Greek meaning, “to spread the Gospel.”

Excommunicate

To put yourself outside of the community of the Church by a certain action or by teaching a heresy. The Church does not excommunicate people. Individuals excommunicate themselves when they do or teach something that is contrary to the teachings of Christ

When the Church “excommunicates someone,” the Church is informing them that whatever they did contrary to the teachings of Christ has resulted in their formal break with the community of the Church.

F**[Back to top.](#)****Faith**

Faith is a supernatural virtue by which we with the inspiration and assistance of God's grace, believe those things to be true which He has revealed.

Father of Eastern Monasticism

St. Basil the Great.

Feast day

Saints are given a special day on the Church’s calendar devoted to them. At Mass, we pray for their special intercession on this day.

Fiat

Latin word meaning, “let it be done to me.” This was Mary’s yes to God.

Filioque

Latin for, “and the son.” Was added to the Nicene Creed to clarify the relationship between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The word *filioque* is not used in the Orthodox Churches or Eastern Churches.

First Crusade

Called for by Blessed Pope Urban II in 1096 to reclaim and defend the Holy Land from Muslim brutality.

First Vatican Council

20th ecumenical council; called to address concerns of modern secularization of society and the idea of papal infallibility.

Fortitude

Brave endurance of stressful, difficult, dangerous, or otherwise unwanted circumstances.

Four Canonical Gospels

The gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Other accounts of Christ existed in the early Church, but the Fathers of the Church agreed that these were the ones that proved to be the best, most accurate, and most inspired accounts of the teachings, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Matteo Ricci, S.

Jesuit missionary to China and the far east.

Frederick of Saxony

Hid Martin Luther so he wouldn't be found by the Holy Roman Emperor.

Freemasonry

An organized movement that encouraged secrecy among its members, but dedicated itself to spreading the ideas of Liberalism, particularly freedom from the influence of the Catholic Church as well as monarchies.

French Revolution

The period in France where the monarchy was overthrown by the lower class. Christianity was outlawed. Christians were persecuted. Priests and religious were arrested or forced into to exile.

Fresco

A style of painting in which the artist paints directly onto wet plaster, so that when the plaster sets, the painting also is set.

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Galatia

Paul traveled to Galatia during his third journey; received Paul's Letter to the Galatians. The Galatians were known for their immorality.

Gamaliel

Greatest of the Jewish scholars in the first century. Taught St. Paul the Old Testament, which he had memorized.

General Confession

A General Confession is when a person reflects upon their entire life and confesses every single sin they've ever committed during the Sacrament of Confession. (Normally, only the sins committed since the previous time a person received the Sacrament of Confession are confessed.)

Generosity

The virtue of giving freely to those in need from the surplus of what we have be blessed with; opposed to greed.

Genseric

Leader of the Vandals. Sacked Rome in 455.

Gentiles

Gentiles are what the Jewish community called any of those who were not Jewish— meaning, anyone who was not part of the covenant of Abraham. Jews feared the Gentiles, who were largely pagan and practiced wicked ways. The Christian Church aimed to evangelize their hearts and bring them the Good News of Christ.

Geoffrey Chaucer

Wrote *Canterbury Tales*.

Germanic tribes

The barbarian tribes that settled in Northern Europe.

Gift of Reading Souls

The miraculous spiritual ability to tell people sins they had forgotten or not wanted to confess in confession, or tell people what their calling in life was.

Giotto di Bondone

Commonly known as simply “Giotto”; one of the great Italian Renaissance artists and architects.

Girolamo Savonarola

A Dominican priest who was openly critical of the practices of bishops and popes during the Renaissance. Was persecuted by officials in the Church for his views.

Gluttony

The vice of misusing food and drink; excessive indulgence in food or drink.

Gnosticism

The denial of Jesus' human nature; believed in the spiritual world and the physical world were two opposing forces; the physical world is corrupt and the spiritual world is pure. Therefore, if Jesus, who is all good, came to this world, he wouldn't have actually had a physical body, but only appeared to have one.

Good Friday

The day Jesus died.

Gothic architecture

A style of architecture defined by its pointed arches, expansive and elaborate stained glass windows, and flying buttresses.

Grace

Grace is the free and undeserved help that God gives us to respond to his call to become children of God, adoptive sons, partakers of the divine nature and of eternal life.

Gratitude

The virtue to be thankful for what one has in life; opposed to the vice of envy.

Great Famine of Ireland

Time period of poor crop yields that forced millions of Irish to emigrate or be left to starve.

Great Fire of Rome

A fire in 64 AD that burned throughout the city of Rome, which burned through the city for six days. Nero blamed the Christians for the start of the fire.

Great Schism

The formal splitting between the eastern Orthodox Churches and the western Roman Church in 1054.

Great Western Schism

The split that occurred when multiple men claimed to be the rightful pope. The European continent was divided on who was the rightful leader of the Church.

Gregorian Chant

A simple, monophonic music style of Church music that is easy to sing and designed to be used in liturgical settings, such as Mass.

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Habit

The special attire that members of religious communities wear. Different habits are worn by different communities. The Marianists habit for the brothers is the black suit, white shirt, and black tie. Marianists who are priests wear a cassock.

Hellenism

The influence of Greek culture.

Heresy

A false teaching on Christianity, the Church, the Trinity, or any other teaching of the Church revealed by God.

Heretics

Someone who teaches a heresy.

Hermits

Men and women who live an eremitical life.

Hierarchy of the Church

The system of leadership within the Church designed to protect, preserve, and pass on the teachings of Christ.

History

The science that explores past events and persons (as affecting the world, a nation or people), based on a critical examination of source materials and usually presenting an explanation of their causes.

History of the Catholic Church

The study of God's grace working in the lives of men and women, and how this grace enabled them to be transformed individually as well as transform the society around them.

Holy Orders

The sacrament by which a man is ordained a deacon, priest, or bishop.

Holy Roman Emperor

The leader of the kingdoms that made up the Holy Roman Empire.

Holy Roman Emperor Charlemagne

First Holy Roman Emperor; King of the Franks.

Holy Roman Emperor Charles V

The Holy Roman Emperor during Luther's protest and Henry VIII's disagreement with the Holy See; one of the most powerful men in history.

Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II

Tried to assert his authority as Holy Roman Emperor over the authority of the Church; feuded with Innocent III.

Holy Roman Empire

From Encyclopedia Britannica: the varying complex of lands in western and central Europe ruled over first by Frankish and then by German kings for 10 centuries (800–1806).

Holy Thursday

The Thursday before Easter. On this day, Jesus celebrated the Passover (Last Supper) with His Apostles during which He gave us the Eucharist and the priesthood.

Homily

The portion of the Mass during with the priest or deacon addresses the congregation on the message of the readings proclaimed that day.

Hope

The trust that one will be saved by God; opposes despair.

Hospitalité de Notre Dame de Lourdes

The international volunteer organization in Lourdes, France that assists the millions of pilgrims who visit from all over the world.

Humanae Vitae

Paul VI's encyclical on the goodness of human life and the dangers of contraception.

Humanism

Humanism sought to find meaning for all things through the study and tradition found in classical art, poetry, literature, and philosophy.

Humility

The remedy for the vice of pride; not believing oneself is more important or less important than they truly are; having a correct opinion of oneself.



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Immaculate Conception

The conception of Mary without original sin in her mother's womb.

Incarnation

When God the Son took on human flesh.

Incorruptible Saint

The miraculous preservation of the body of a saint after they have died.

Index of Forbidden Books

A list made following the Council of Trent containing literature that taught heresy.

Indifferentism

The idea that it doesn't really matter what religion you belong to, or if you belong to a religion at all, just as long as you were sincere, for, according to Indifferentism, it is impossible to know any truth with certainty.

Indulgences

In most cases, the pope issues a special prayer or good work to be done, upon completing which, earns the individual remission of all time spent in Purgatory. Indulgences are very much related to penance in this way.

Intercession

Prayer on behalf of another person. Saints intercede for us and we can intercede for each other.

Islamic Caliphate

The militant, political, and religious empire that followers of Mohammad have fought to establish since the time of Mohammad's first military missions.

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Jansenism

Jansenism believed in total human depravity, believing that the human nature, even after baptism, was still corrupt and vile in the eyes of God.

Johann Tetzel

Dominican; Sold indulgences in Martin Luther's diocese for Pope Leo X and Albrecht of Mainz.

John Calvin

French reformer; founder of Calvinism; founder of a theocracy in Geneva.

Judas

The Apostle who betrayed Jesus and hanged himself out of despair.

Justice

The virtue which regulates man in his dealings with others.

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King Charles Martel

The first Carolingian king of France.

King Clovis

King of the Franks; converted after his victory in the Battle of Tolbiac.

King Ethelbert

King of the Saxons; Baptized on Christmas Day by St. Augustine of Canterbury along with 10,000 Saxons.

King Ferdinand

King of Aragon and Castile (Spain); father of Catherine of Aragon; abused his power by establishing the Spanish Inquisition; financed Christopher Columbus.

King Henry II

Wanted control over the Church; responsible for the martyrdom of St. Thomas Becket.

King Henry VIII

Wanted a son; wanted out of his marriage so he broke away from the Church and declared himself the head of the Church of England.

King Louis XVI

Last king of France.

King Pepin the Short

Son of Charles Martel and father of Charlemagne; gave the Holy See the land of central Italy (the “Donation of Pepin”), which became known as the Papal States.

King Philip IV

Feuded with Pope Boniface VIII over authority to name bishops and other Church officials. Had Pope Boniface VIII beaten nearly to death.

Kulturkampf

German word that means “culture struggle,” denoting the conflict between the pope and the prime minister in regards to leading the common people of Prussia.

L**[Back to top.](#)****Lateran Treaty**

Treaty between the Holy See and Italy mutually recognizing their sovereignty.

Laus Dei

The “praise of God”; one of the focuses of daily monastic life.

Lay Investiture

The practice of civil governing authorities appointing people to positions of authority within the Church.

Lectio Divina

One of the most ancient ways of doing this is through the practice of *Lectio Divina*, which consists in reading a piece of Scripture in four stages:

- **Reading (*lectio*)** - Read the passage to yourself. Get an idea of what's happening, who's saying what, who they're saying it to, and what's being said.
- **Reflecting (*meditatio*)** - Read the passage again slowly. Think about what God is saying to you through the passage you're focusing on. Spend time reflecting on any words or phrases that jump out at you.
- **Responding (*oratio*)** - Read the passage again slowly. How has God asked you to respond to this passage? What is it going to mean for you in your life? How are you going to act differently?
- **Remaining (*contemplatio*)** - Remain in the presence of God. Stay still and quiet. Allow yourself and your thoughts to dissolve as you relax and rest in the presence of God.

Leonardo Da Vinci

One of the greatest Italian Renaissance artists and architects.

Liberalism

Tendencies in the intellectual, religious, political, and economic life, which implied a partial or total break or separation of human beings from the order God has established regarding morality, our goal of reaching heaven, and his purpose for our lives, along with the placing of religion from the public life into the private domain of one's individual conscience.

Liturgical Movement

A movement to bring ordinary Catholics into a deeper experience of the Liturgy of the Church, particularly of the Mass, so that it could be truly prayed by the people, and be a means for grace to touch their hearts.

Liturgy

The public worship of the Church. Basic forms of liturgy include the Mass, the other sacraments, and the Liturgy of the Hours.

Liturgy of the Hours

The official prayer of the church. This prayer consists in Psalms readings from Scripture as well as the saints, as well as other prayers of the church. The monks would chant the liturgy of the hours eight times a day starting before sunrise and even the middle of the night.

The Liturgy of the Hours is what is prayed at Midday Prayer at Kellenberg.

Logos

The philosophical idea of the "logos" has many meanings, but primarily means "word," "wisdom," "logic," or "reason." St. John calls Jesus the "Logos" of God, meaning the Word of God.

Louis the Pious

Charlemagne's son; lost most of the power/land that Charlemagne had acquired.

Lust

The vice of misusing sexuality, specifically for one's own desires.

Luther's *Ninety-Five Theses*

Luther's list of objections to the Church's teaching and his complaints regarding local church abuses. Sparked the Protestant Revolution.

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Magisterium of the Church

The Magisterium of the Church is the official teaching office of the Church made up of every bishop from around the world under the leadership of the Bishop of Rome (the pope). The Magisterium began with the Apostles under the leadership of St. Peter and has full authority to teach on matters of faith and morals.

Manichaeism

A heresy/religion that believed in two opposing forces; good and evil. The body desired evil things and the soul desired good things. So when you did something that was bad, it wasn't really you, it was your body. When you die, your soul is free to return to the supreme goodness in the afterlife.

Margaret Bryne

Witness of the apparition of Our Lady of Knock.

Marianist Martyrs of Spain

Beatified by Pope John Paul II: Brother Carlos Erana, S.M., Brother Jesus Hita, S.M., and Brother Fidel Fuidio, S.M. Beatified by Pope Benedict XVI: Father Miguel Leibar, S.M., Brother Florencio Arnaiz, S.M., Brother Joaquin Ochoa, S.M., and Brother Sabino Ayastuy, S.M.

Marianist's vow of stability

The Society of Mary makes the vow of stability in a life-long dedication to Mary and her mission in the Church. This devotion to Mary is also witnessed in the often mentioned mantra, "to Jesus, through Mary."

Martin Luther

Responsible for the Protestant Revolution; wrote the *Ninety-Five Theses*; promoted his own beliefs over the teachings of Christ, the saints, and the Christian Tradition.

Martyr

A martyr is anyone who is killed because of their faith. The word "martyr" means to bear witness to the faith by being willing to die rather than renounce their beliefs.

Mary McLoughlin

Witness of the apparition of Our Lady of Knock.

Mary, Mother of God

The virgin mother of Jesus Christ; betrothed to St. Joseph; the New Eve; the Ark of the New Covenant; *theotokos*; Our Lady.

Maximilien Robespierre

Major figure during the French Revolution. Authorized the killing of anyone who opposed the new regime.

Mendicant orders

From the Latin word "*mendicare*" which means "to beg." These religious communities supported themselves by begging rather than by working as the monastic orders do. These monks lived in extreme poverty and to exemplify the humility and the simplicity of Jesus Christ.

Michelangelo

One of the greatest Italian Renaissance artists and architects.

Militia of the Immaculate

Founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe to win the world for Our Lady.

Miracle

A miracle is something that occurs that is scientifically unexplainable. Most miracles that take place have to do with healings that are otherwise impossible. Other miracles involve anything that seemingly goes against the natural way things usually happen. All miracles bring about good (spiritually or physically) and are the will of God.

Miraculous Medal

The medal struck at the request of St. Catherine Labouré with the inscription: O Mary Conceived Without Sin, Pray for us Who Have Recourse to Thee.

Missionaries of Charity

The religious community that cares for the poor and abandoned; founded by Mother Teresa.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

The group of religious sisters founded by St. Frances Xavier Cabrini.

Mit Brennender Sorge

Letter written by Pope Pius XI to the Church in Germany encouraging them to resist the Nazis.

Moderation

The virtue of not overdoing it, and not over restraining oneself; to have balance in life.

Modernism

The rejection of traditional thoughts and ideas in favor of new teachings that were thought to be more true because they were modern, supported by science, or simply newer was a practice. The

Modernists believed that doctrines can evolve and that what was taught in the Bible must be seen only in the context of the times it was written, and therefore should not be taken literally.

Monastery

Residence of monks and religious. Usually found in a place of solitude. Monasteries are self-sufficient and are under the authority of an abbot or abbess.

Monastic Rule

A constitution followed by all monks or nuns in a religious community. Usually written by the founder of the order or community. Basic components of monastic rules are prayer and work.

Monasticism

Monasticism is a way of life characterized by prayer and self-denial lived in seclusion from the world and under a fixed rule with professed vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience (evangelical counsels).

Monsignor

An honorary title usually given to a priest who either works closely with the pope or has been requested to be given the title by his bishop for his contribution to the Church.

Monte Cassino

Site of St. Benedict's large monastery.

Moral relativism

Moral relativism is the belief that there is no absolute truth when it comes to morals or ethics. In other words, if two people to believe in opposite things they can both be right because according to their own beliefs, what they believe is true.

Mystery Religions of Egypt

The belief that one would come to a secret understanding of the universe by participation in mysterious rituals.

Mystic

People who experience incredible closeness with God through visions or by experiencing other miraculous private revelations by God. It is a sort of relationship with God that is so deep, so personal, so intimate, that its details cannot be expressed by ordinary means, and if it could, a person would not be able to understand fully what the spirituality entails.

Mystical Body of Christ

Every member of the Church, united with Christ, forms the Mystical Body of Christ. This term is synonymous with the word Church.

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Napoleon Bonaparte

French general/emperor following the French Revolution. Sought to expand the ideals of France's secular revolution throughout Europe by uniting all territories and eradicating any Christian influence.

Nationalism

Belief that one's national identity or nation should be first over all other things, including religion; also the belief that one's nation is superior to every other nation.

Nativity scene

A portrayal of the manger birth of Christ with the Holy Family.

Natural Law

The law that says that much of what can be determined to be right and wrong can be demonstrated by observing nature and the world around us.

Nepotism

The practice of hiring family members to important positions of authority.

New Evangelization

The mission to re-Christianize the world in places that had already heard the Gospel but who had lost the meaning and the faith in Jesus Christ that once existed.

Newman Center

Catholic organizations that are affiliated with public colleges and universities that serve to minister to the students of the institution. These centers provide students of public institutions with Catholic enrichment often lacking in the public environment. Newman Centers also provide students on campuses with sacraments, pastoral guidance, and social support during their college years.

Nicene Creed

The creed established at the Council of Nicaea and later completed at the Council of Constantinople in response to Arianism.

Nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration

The practice of people taking turns adoring the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day and even the night.

Novena

A nine-day prayer devoted to a specific saint or petition.

Novitiate

The time period in which a person entering a religious community begins his studies in both theology and philosophy in preparation for his vows.

Novus Ordo

The “new order” of Mass introduced by Pope Paul VI. This version allowed for the vernacular to be used, along with many other changes.

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Oak of Thor

The sacred tree of the Germanic tribes; cut down by St. Boniface.

Odoacer

Visigoth leader; credited with the final sack of Rome that brought down the empire in 476.

Opus Dei

The “work of God”; one of the focuses of daily monastic life.

Ora Et Labora

“Pray and work”; the summary of the Rule of St. Benedict.

Oratory of St. Francis de Sales

Founded by St. John Bosco in order to provide a refuge for orphan boys and young men. The Oratory, which functioned as sort of a parish, was not only active on Sundays for the boys, but also served its community throughout the week.

Oratory of St. Philip Neri

An informal prayer group composed of priests and lay people, who regularly meet to serve the needs of one another, pray for each other, and join in song.

Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans)

Mendicant religious community founded by St. Francis of Assisi. Emphasis of the community’s work was on serving the poor and the Eucharist.

Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

Mendicant religious community founded by St. Dominic de Guzman. Emphasis of the community’s work was on education.

Order of St. Benedict (Benedictines)

Monastic religious community founded by St. Benedict of Nursia. Emphasis of the monastic life was “ora et labora” according to the Rule of St. Benedict.

Origen

Early Church Father; Developed *Lectio Divina*; has not been canonized because of his controversial belief in “universal salvation.”

Original sin

The sin inherited from Adam and Eve; Christ's death on the cross pays for this sin and it is washed away from each one of us through Baptism.

Orthodox Churches

A Church that was established by the Apostles, has valid priests, Sacraments, Scripture, and Tradition, but do not follow the authority of the pope. These Churches are said to be in "schism" with the Catholic Church.

Orthodox Patriarch Michael Cerularius

Patriarch of Constantinople who excommunicated Pope Leo IX.

Orthodoxy

Orthodoxy means "correct teaching," as opposed to heresy, meaning "false teaching".

Otto von Bismarck

Prussian prime minister who enacted *Kulturkampf* to establish his own political authority over the influence of the Holy See.

Our Lady of Fátima

Apparition of Our Lady to three small shepherd children in Fátima, Portugal.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

A Marian Apparition in the 16th century to St. Juan Diego; Image still intact today.

Our Lady of Knock

Apparition of Our Lady to Mary McLoughlin, Margaret Bryne, and their companions in Knock, Ireland in 1879.

Our Lady of the Pillar

Site of the first Marian Apparition; appeared to St. James in Saragossa, Spain. Fr. Chaminade would later receive inspiration at this site to found the Society of Mary.

Oxford Movement

The effort to return many traditional aspects of Catholicism to the Anglican Church that had been lost since Henry VIII broke from the Roman Church.

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Pallium

A "pallium" is the item worn over the shoulders of an important bishop. These items symbolized his authority as an archbishop.

Palm Sunday

The first day of Holy Week. The final Sunday before Easter when Jesus was brought into Jerusalem as a king greeted by people laying palms at His feet for Him to walk on.

Papal bull

A statement or decree made by a pope to a particular group of people or on a particular issue. Papal bulls are the pope's official and formal communication method.

Papal Conclave

Meetings of the cardinals of the Church in which popes are elected.

Papal infallibility

The privilege of the pope to be able to teach all members of the Church on his own, as long as the conditions are met.

Papal nuncio

The pope's official representative in foreign affairs; his ambassador.

Papal States

The territory given to the Holy See by Pepin the Short, which the popes governed from the eighth century though Italian unification in the nineteenth century.

Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World - *Gaudium et Spes*

The Vatican II document that addresses the mission of the Church in the modern world; addressed the fundamental connection to God that all human beings possess, which once realized, enables us to make sense of the world in which we live.

Patience

The remedy for the vice of anger; to approach a difficult situation with calmness, level-headedness, and restraint.

Patriarch Athenagoras

Ecumenical Patriarch of the Greek Orthodox Church; met with Pope Paul VI in 1965 to mutually lift each others' the excommunications enacted in 1054 (Great Schism).

Patriarch of Constantinople

The most prominent position for a bishop to hold in Eastern Christianity; head of all the Churches in the Eastern Empire.

Patristic period

The time period in which the Church Fathers gave the Church teachings on the faith, especially helpful teachings on hard to understand theological concepts.

Patronage

Saints are named as special protectors of people, places, things, nations, professions, schools, organizations, and almost everything else. We can pray to those specific saints for their special intercession and protection when we have a connection to their patronage.

For example:

- St. Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of students.
- St. Agnes is the patron saint of young people and the Diocese of Rockville Centre.
- St. Thomas More is the patron saint of lawyers.
- Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States.

Pax Christi

The Peace of Christ in the hearts of believers.

Pax Romana

Peace of Rome. Peace was held throughout the Roman's dominance of the Empire by guaranteeing military aid and infrastructure in return for taxes from the people they conquered.

Peace of Augsburg

Decision made in 1555 in the Holy Roman Empire that allowed for princes and nobles to decide which religion their subjects would follow.

Pelagianism

Pelagians deny the presence of original sin. They also believe that humanity could be sanctified without the assistance of grace.

Penance

The practice of performing a good work, sacrifice, or offering prayers in reparation for the damaged caused in the world due to sins we've committed.

Pentecost Sunday

50 days after Easter (10 days after Ascension Thursday) when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles in the Upper Room. The birthday of the Church.

Peter Lombard

Wrote the Book of Sentences where he used the Church Fathers in relation to the book of Revelation. This book became part of every core curriculum in the university system.

Peter Lombard's *Book of Sentences*

Lombard's book in which he used the Church Fathers in relation to the Book of Revelation. This book became part of every core curriculum in the university system.

Philippi

Paul traveled to Philippi during his first journey. The first European Christian community. The Church in Philippi was founded by St. Paul, who wrote the Letter to the Philippians found in the New Testament.

Plato

Ancient Greek philosopher. Questioned life and the world using human reason to discover answers.

Pontifex

Priest

Pontiff

A Latin term used for “pope”

Poor Clares

The Franciscan Order for women founded by St. Clare of Assisi, a friend of St. Francis.

Pope Alexander VI

Practiced many forms of nepotism in order to keep the power of the Church within Italy; as pope he served mainly the interests of himself and his family (the Borgias).

Pope Benedict XV

Pope during World War I.

Pope Benedict XVI

Pope following Pope St. John Paul II and prior to the current Pope Francis; abdicated the papacy in 2013.

Pope Benedict XVI's *Deus Caritas Est*

Pope Benedict's first encyclical on the love of God.

Pope Boniface VIII

Carried on the reforms of Gregory VII; fought with King Philip IV of France over power over the Church in France; beaten within an inch of his life by Philip's men.

Pope Callixtus III

Member of the Borgia family; called for more crusades in the East to hold off Muslim expansion; overturned the sentence against St. Joan of Arc.

Pope Clement V

Left Rome and moved the papacy to France, under the influence of King Philip IV.

Pope Clement VII

Pope who would not issue a decree of annulment to Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon.

Pope Emeritus (title/term)

The title the pope receives after he abdicates the papacy.

Pope Francis

First Jesuit pope; first pope from the western hemisphere; named after St. Francis of Assisi.

Pope Gregory XI

Returned the papacy from Avignon to Rome ending the Avignon Papacy.

Pope Gregory XVI

Condemned the African slave trade in 1839 with his Apostolic Letter, *In Supremo Apostolatus*, excommunicating anyone involved in enslavement.

Pope Innocent III

Feuded with Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II over the authority of the Church.

Pope John Paul I, Venerable

Pope for 33 days following the death of Paul VI; first pope to choose two names as pope.

Pope Julius II

Patron of Raphael; Issued a dispensation for Henry VIII so he could marry his sister-in-law, Catherine of Aragon.

Pope Leo X

Authorized the sale of indulgences to help finance the construction of St. Peter's Basilica; disregarded Luther's *Theses*; ignored protestant complaints.

Pope Leo XIII

Pope during the industrial revolution; wrote first social encyclical for the Church; encouraged the rediscovery of St. Thomas Aquinas' writings; wrote many encyclicals on the rosary; known as the Rosary Pope.

Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*

First social encyclical of the Church; spoke on the dangers of extreme capitalism and extreme communism; defended workers' rights.

Pope Martin V

Elected to end the Great Western Schism.

Pope Nicholas V

Pope during the Renaissance; improved relations with the Orthodox Churches; created the Vatican Library.

Pope Paul III

Called for the Council of Trent to address emerging protestant theologies.

Pope Pius XI

20th century pope during Catholic persecution in Spain, Mexico, and Nazi Germany; established Vatican Radio; wrote social encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*.

Pope Pius XI's *Quadragesimo Anno*

In this encyclical, Pius XI continued the teachings of Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*, warning against the extremes of Socialism, Marxism, and an extreme capitalism.

Pope Pius XII

Pope during World War II; successfully saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Jews in Europe.

Pope Sixtus IV

Pope during the height of the Renaissance; the Sistine Chapel is named after him; a Franciscan; strengthened the Church; spoke out against King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella's Spanish Inquisition.

Pope St. Celestine V

A humble monk elected to the papacy as a compromise; abdicated the papacy to return to a monastic lifestyle.

Pope St. Gregory I the Great

Father and Doctor of the Church; developed liturgical music (Gregorian Chant); spoke out against abuses like simony.

Pope St. Gregory the Great's *The Pastoral Rule*

Describes the duties of a bishop as a physician of souls, with a special duty to preach and enforce church discipline. In the middle ages, every bishop was given a copy at his ordination in the hopes that this book would become the model for the clergy of the Western church.

Pope St. Gregory VII

Originally named Hildebrand; a monk from Cluny; popular among the Romans and elected pope; reformed the Church against abuses of lay investiture and nepotism; created the College of Cardinals to elect future popes.

Pope St. John Paul II

Pope from 1978 – 2005; developed the Theology of the Body; created World Youth Day; one of the greatest popes in history.

Pope St. John Paul II's *Love and Responsibility*

Discussed the interpersonal relationships of human love, based on God's design of love. Calls men and women to love as God loves in all ways. Says real love is free, total, faithful, and fruitful.

Pope St. John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*

Pope John Paul II's teaching on human love and the purpose of human sexuality as it has been designed by our Creator; True love must be free, total, faithful, and fruitful, or else it is deprived in some way.

Pope St. John XXIII

Called for the Second Vatican Council to address the Church entering the third millennium.

Pope St. Leo III

Crowned Charlemagne Holy Roman Emperor

Pope St. Leo IX

Pope who excommunicated Patriarch Michael Cerularius, causing the Great Schism.

Pope St. Leo the Great

Stopped Attila the Hun from invading Rome.

Pope St. Paul VI

Pope who closed the Second Vatican Council. Wrote *Humanae Vitae*. Developed the new Mass.

Pope St. Pius V

Developed the rite of Mass following the Council of Trent (Roman Missal).

Pope St. Pius X

Elected pope from very humble origins; lowered the age for First Communion; known as the Pope of the Eucharist.

Pope Urban VI

Elected pope following the return of the papacy to Rome by Pope Gregory XI; French cardinals rejected this decision and elected an antipope.

Pope Zachary

Oversaw St. Boniface's missionary work in Britain and Europe.

Predestination (the Catholic understanding of it)

Humans are created in the image and likeness of God, and are therefore predestined for heaven. Whether or not a person fulfills their destiny depends on their free will.

Presbyter

The word used in the New Testament and early Church meaning "priest."

Presentation of the Lord

The feast commemorating Jesus' presentation in the Temple as a child.

President John F. Kennedy

First Catholic president of the United States of America.

Pride

Excessive love of oneself; placing oneself above all other things in terms of importance; the root of all sin.

Priesthood of All Believers

The belief that all people are priests because of their baptism.

Protestant Reformation

The time period in the Church where theologians rejected and/or tried to change the Scripture and Tradition of the Church. Political leaders encouraged the reformation as a way to take sides against their enemies.

Protestantism

Christian beliefs that do not involve the pope, Catholic traditions, Sacred Traditions, the

Sacraments, and usually the saints. The only Christian Churches that are not considered Protestant are the Catholic Churches (Roman and Eastern) and the Orthodox Churches.

Protomartyr

The “first martyr” St. Stephen has been given the title of “protomartyr” signifying his place in Christian history.

Prudence

The ability to govern and discipline oneself by the use of reason.

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Quadrivium

“The four ways”: arithmetic, geometry, astronomy and music.

Queen Catherine of Aragon

Wife of King Henry VIII; daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain; King Henry sought an annulment from Catherine.

Queen Clotilda

Wife of King Clovis; helped with the conversion of King Clovis.

Queen Isabella

Queen of Aragon and Castile (Spain); mother of Catherine of Aragon; abused her power by establishing the Spanish Inquisition; financed Christopher Columbus.

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Raphael

One of the greatest Renaissance artists; funded by Pope Julius’ family.

Rationalism

A way of thinking that rejects traditional philosophy and focus on explaining things using the human mind alone.

Relativism

The belief that there is no absolute truth about anything, but rather all depends on one’s perception of things.

Relic

A very special item or object in the Church's history. Usually a piece of a saint's remains (a bone, hair, etc.), an item they owned (a cross, a prayer book, etc.) or something they were in contact with (St. Veronica's veil).

Relief Act in 1778

Allowed Catholics to actually own land once again in Great Britain.

Renaissance

The time period of cultural rebirth following the Middle Ages. Classical art, architecture, music, and philosophy was reincorporated into European culture.

Revelation

What we call the way God revealed Himself to us. We know God's revelation through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

Risorgimento

The War for Italian Unification.

Roman Catholic

Catholics who follow the traditions of Rome.

Roman Citizenship

Title given to those who lived in the Roman Empire that showed that they were respected and honored by the emperor.

Roman Missal

The book containing the all the prayers used for Mass.

Romanesque architecture

This style of architecture was larger than that the basilicas that had preceded them but still modest in size. The Romanesque style use round arches to support the massive stone roofs. This design was more fire resistant than the wood structures that had been built before. The walls were thick to support the arches and the large towers. The windows were small in these churches and allowed only a little bit of light to stream in the building. They seemed gloomy in comparison to the gothic architecture.

Rosary

The prayer to Mary consisting of the repetition of the Hail Mary, the Our Father, and the Glory Be, usually using rosary beads.

Rule of Pachomius

One of the earliest monastic rules, written by St. Pachomius, which would go on to be the basis of future religious rules.

Rule of St. Basil

The monastic rule that became the basis of eastern monasticism.

Rule of St. Benedict

The religious rule that became the basis of western monasticism. Focused on “*ora et labora.*”

Rule of St. Francis

St. Francis’ simple religious rule for his followers; based on the teachings found in the Gospels.

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Sacred Heart of Jesus

A devotion to the mercy of Jesus found in His Sacred Heart founded by St. Margaret Mary Alaquoque.

Sacred Scripture

The written account of God’s revelation to humanity; the divine Word of God.

Sacred Tradition

The unwritten accounts of God’s revelation to humanity and preserved by the Church’s magisterium since the time of the Apostles.

Saint John Henry Newman

Priest and convert from Anglicanism. Founded the Oxford Movement.

Saints

A saint is any person who is in heaven.

Sanhedrin

The Jewish law court capable of sentencing individuals to prison or oversee the stoning of a person for crimes such as blasphemy.

Santiago de Compostela

The city and basilica that completes The Camino pilgrimage. Where St. James the Apostle is buried.

Saul of Tarsus

St. Paul’s Hebrew name. Saul of Tarsus was one of the greatest Pharisees and Old Testament scholars of his time. His zeal for God led him to seek out and persecute all those who blasphemed against the Old Testament covenant, especially Christians. Saul was present at and condoned the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

Schism

Means “split” or “separation.”

Scholasticism

Encouraged the students to use logical reasoning to discover the truth of a particular work or an idea.

Scriptorium

Rooms where monks would preserve Western education by copying books, both religious and non-religious, during the time of barbarian invasions and destruction.

Scrupulosity

The psychological condition in which a person obsesses that everything they do is flawed, imperfect, or evil.

Second Vatican Council

The twenty-first ecumenical council of the Church. The first pastoral council of the Church. Called to address the issues of the world and prepare the Church for the third millennium.

Secularism

A social philosophy that seeks to erase all forms of spirituality from society.

See

The representation of the authority of a member of the Church's hierarchy. The Holy See is the representation of the Pope's authority. A Metropolitan See is the representation of the Archbishop. A Diocesan See is the representation of the local bishop.

Seminaries

Universities specialized in the education, training, and instruction of clergy.

Seminary

The special college where men are trained and study to be ordained deacons or priests.

Servant of God

The first formal step in the process of canonization. A Servant of God is a person whose life has begun to be studied by the Holy See to determine if they ought to be canonized.

Seven capital vices

Seven bad habits (vices) that lead a soul away from God.

Seven Lively Virtues

The seven remedies for the seven spiritual bad habits (vices).

Simony

The practice of the buying and selling of Church offices.

Sloth

To be without care or concern for the necessary obligations of one's life.

Social Darwinism

The financially strong survived and the weak die out; the strong should dominate the weak; those superior people will dominate the weaker: this is the way of nature.

Society of Jesus (Jesuit Order)

Founded by St. Ignatius of Loyola & St. Francis Xavier; the Jesuits dedicate their lives to education and missionary work to bring the Gospel to all people.

Society of Mary (Marianists)

Founded by Blessed William Joseph Chaminade; a society of priests and brothers dedicated to Jesus through Mary. The Marianists charism is education in a family atmosphere.

Socrates

Classical Greek philosopher; developed the socratic method.

Sodality of Our Lady of the Pillar

Fr. Chaminade's first community gathered to re-catechize France following the French Revolution.

Sola Christus

Christ Alone. Luther believed it was unnecessary for Christians to have to rely on priests, bishops, popes, or saints to intercede or speak to God on their behalf. Luther believed that Christ alone is our intermediary between us and God the Father.

Sola Fidae

Luther believed that it was by our faith in Christ alone that we are saved.

Sola Gratia

Luther's belief that every good action a person does is because of God's grace alone, and not because of the person performing the good action. If a person does good, it is God's grace working through them.

Sola Scriptura

The only divine authority in this world is found in Scripture. For Luther, the teachings of the apostles that are found in the pages of the Bible are the only teachings God wanted us to follow.

Spiritual director

A person who helps guide and advise someone to deepen their spiritual life and get closer to God.

St. Agnes

First century martyr; patroness of the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

St. Albert the Great

Teacher of St. Thomas Aquinas.

St. Ananias

The man chosen by God to baptize Saul and bring him into the Church.

St. Andrew the Apostle

The first Apostle called. Andrew is the brother of St. Peter. Andrew was martyred in Greece on an X-shaped cross.

St. Anthony of Egypt

One of the first monks in the history of the Church.

St. Anthony of Padua

Franciscan saint; known for his preaching and his holiness; was one of the most gifted preachers of the Franciscan order.

St. Athanasius of Alexandria

Father of Orthodoxy

St. Augustine of Canterbury

Converted the Saxons.

St. Augustine of Hippo

Father and Doctor of the Church; one of the most influential men in the history of the Church.

St. Augustine's *City of God*

In his work *City of God*, Augustine wrote about two cities— one heavenly, one earthly. The earthly city represented the world and society in general. It was motivated by sin and selfishness. Since our goal is everlasting union with God, Augustine explained that the way to heaven was through the Church which offered the world hope and forgiveness.

St. Augustine's *Confessions*

Augustine account of his personal spiritual journey and how he had repelled the grace of God early in his life.

St. Augustine's *On Christian Doctrine*

The first comprehensive guide of what the Church teaches, written by St. Augustine.

St. Barnabas

A disciple and missionary companion of St. Paul. Barnabas was one of the early Christians present at the Council of Jerusalem.

St. Basil the Great

One of the most influential Fathers of the Church; created the rite used in the Eastern Christian world for Mass.

St. Benedict of Nursia

Father of Western Monasticism

St. Bernadette Soubirous

Young girl who had a vision of Our Lady in Lourdes, France; Mary told her, "I am the Immaculate Conception."

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Cistercian monk; mystic; took the Cistercian Order to new heights.

St. Berno

One of the founders of the Benedictine monastery in Cluny, France.

St. Bonaventure

Franciscan; developed a way for Franciscans to have property and still remain poor.

St. Boniface

Originally named Winfred; cut down the Oak of Thor; Apostle to the Germans.

St. Bruno

Founder of the Carthusian Order.

St. Catherine Labouré

A nun who had visions of Mary instructing her to have a medal struck with the image of her vision on one side. Mary promised great graces to all those who wear this Miraculous Medal.

St. Catherine of Siena

Persuaded Pope Gregory XI to return the papacy to Rome from Avignon.

St. Charles Borromeo

Great bishop in Italy; great proponent of Catholic education and spiritual formation.

St. Clare of Assisi

Companion of St. Francis of Assisi; founded Franciscan order for women commonly called the Poor Clares.

St. Clement of Rome

Pope in the first century.

St. Columba

Irish monk; preached the Gospel to the Franks.

St. Cornelius

The first Gentile to be baptized.

St. Dismas

The “good thief” crucified with Christ.

St. Dominic de Guzman

Founder of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans); fought against Albigensians.

St. Elizabeth

Cousin of Mary; mother of St. John the Baptist.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

First American-born saint; founder of the Catholic education system in the United States; convert.

St. Faustina

Polish nun; had a vision of the Divine Mercy of Christ; taught to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

St. Felicity

Loyal servant to St. Perpetua; martyred.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Italian-American sister who worked to support the needs of immigrant communities in the United States.

St. Francis de Sales

Franciscan priest; mystic; Doctor of the Church.

St. Francis de Sales' *An Introduction to the Devout Life*

St. Francis' guide to spiritual holiness and prayerfulness.

St. Francis of Assisi

Founder of the Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscans); devoted to serving the poor.

St. Francis Xavier

Co-founder of the Jesuits; missionary to the far east.

St. Gregory of Tours

Wrote *The History of the Franks*.

St. Gregory of Tours's *The History of the Franks*

The history of the Frankish tribe that settled in modern day France.

St. Helena

Mother of Constantine; found the True Cross of Christ and other relics from the Crucifixion.

St. Hilary of Poitiers

Doctor of the Church; fought Arianism in the West.

St. Ignatius of Antioch

Apostolic Father, taught by St. Peter and St. John. Bishop of Antioch. Martyred in Rome; fed to the lions in the Colosseum in Rome.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits); dedicated to stop the spread of Protestantism.

St. Ignatius of Loyola's *Spiritual Exercises*

The *Spiritual Exercises* was a collection of prayers, meditations, spiritual challenges designed to help people strengthen their relationship with God. These "exercises" are arranged as daily

practices that last for about a month. It is very common for priests and members of religious communities to take month-long retreats that focus entirely on these *Spiritual Exercises*.

St. Irenaeus of Lyon's *Against Heresies*

Defended the Church against Gnosticism and articulated the understanding of the Church being universal, or "catholic."

St. Irenaeus of Lyons

Father of the Church; fought Gnosticism.

St. James the Apostle

One of the twelve Apostles; brought the Gospel as far west as Spain; received the first Marian apparition in Saragossa to encourage him on his missionary work.

St. James the Less

St. James the Less, sometimes called St. James the Just, was one of the twelve Apostles the bishop of Jerusalem once the other Apostles began their missionary journeys. He presided over the Council of Jerusalem

St. Jerome

Translated the Hebrew and Greek scriptures into the Latin *Vulgate*.

St. Joachim and St. Anne

Parents of Mary; grandparents of Jesus.

St. Joan of Arc

Received a divine message that she would defend France against the English army.

St. John Bosco

Patron saint of editors, publishers, school children, young people, magicians, and juvenile delinquents. Fonder of the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales.

St. John Chrysostom

Patron saint of education, preachers, and Constantinople Called the "golden mouthed"; Doctor of the Church; Father of the Church

St. John the Apostle

Author of the Gospel of John, the epistles (letters) of John, and the Book of Revelation; cared for the Blessed Mother after the death of Jesus.

St. John the Baptist

Cousin of Jesus; proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah before anyone else; preached that everyone was called to repent and be baptized.

St. John Vianney

Patron saint of parish priests; known as the Curé of Ars;

St. Joseph

Foster father of Jesus; husband of Mary; patron of the Church.

St. Josephine Bakhita

Josephine Margaret Bakhita, F.D.C.C., was a Sudanese-Italian Canossian religious sister who lived in Italy for 45 years, after having been a slave in Sudan. In 2000 she was declared a saint by the Catholic Church.

St. Juan Diego

Poor Aztec man in Mexico; received an apparition of Our Lady in Guadalupe; Our Lady left her image on his *tilma*.

St. Junípero Serra

Franciscan missionary to California; Founded several missions; established the Church in California

St. Justin Martyr

Converted to the Church at the age of 30; blended theology with philosophy; one of the first to show the balance of faith and reason in the Church's teachings.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

American Indian girl who embraced Catholicism; From upstate New York; had to practice her faith in secret; died at a young age (24).

St. Lawrence

Deacon in Rome; asked by the government officials to turn over the treasures of the Church; responded by bringing the official the poor of the Church; was roasted alive as a consequence.

St. Leo the Great's *Tome of Leo*

St. Leo the Great's book where he clarified the teaching of the Church on the two natures of Christ.

St. Louis de Montfort

Contributed a great deal to our understanding of Mary and the field of Mariology.

St. Louis de Montfort's *True Devotion to Mary*

Montfort's *True Devotion* teaches a person to consecrate their lives entirely to Jesus by entrusting themselves to the devotion, care, and protection of the Virgin Mary.

St. Luke

Companion of St. Paul and author of the Gospel of Luke and of the Acts of the Apostles.

St. Margaret Mary Alaquoque

Promoted the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

St. Martin de Porres

Dominican friar; born into poverty; loved to serve; promotor of racial harmony; known for his love of others.

St. Mary of Egypt

One of the first female monastics.

St. Matthias

St. Matthias was chosen to replace Judas after Pentecost. Matthias shows the first example of Apostolic authority being passed on to a new generation of apostles/bishops.

St. Maximilian Kolbe

Franciscan priest who chose to take the place of another man chosen to die in the Auschwitz concentration camp.

St. Michael the Archangel

Archangel; One of the four angels mentioned in the bible by name.

St. Monica

Mother of St. Augustine; prayed for his conversion her entire life.

St. Nicholas

Bishop at the Council of Nicaea; basis of modern Santa Claus tradition.

St. Nicholas of Trani

The first person to be formally “canonized” as a saint.

St. Odo

Founder of the Benedictine monastery in Cluny, France.

St. Oscar Romero

El Salvadorian bishop and martyr; spoke out openly against the political oppression of the Salvadorian Civil War; broadcast weekly radio homilies and reported on what was happening in the war; the “Voice of the Voiceless”

St. Pachomius

One of the first monastics in the Church.

St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

Italian saint; Franciscan; first priest to receive the stigmata

St. Patrick

Apostle of Ireland; Welsh-born Catholic bishop responsible for the evangelization of the Irish isle.

St. Patrick's *Confession*

The story of St. Patrick's journey toward God from his teen years until his time as bishop in Ireland.

St. Paul

The greatest Christian missionary in the Church's history. Paul went on 4 missionary journeys, founding dozens of Christian communities, and authored 13 epistles in the New Testament. Paul was martyred in Rome.

St. Paul of Thebes

One of the first monastics in the Church's history.

St. Perpetua

Roman woman martyred for her faith with her servant, St. Perpetua.

St. Peter

The leader of the Apostles, the first pope, the Vicar of Christ, the Bishop of Rome. Originally named Simon (son of Jonah).

St. Peter's Basilica

The major basilica in Rome (Vatican City) built upon the site of St. Peter's tomb. The first basilica was constructed by Constantine in the fourth century. The current (second) basilica was completed during the seventeenth century.

St. Philip Neri

Italian saint; Patron saint of laughter, humor, and joy.

St. Polycarp

Bishop in the area of Smyrna, friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch and St. Irenaeus of Lyons, student of St. John the Apostle.

St. Remigius

Bishop; Baptized King Clovis and 3,000 Franks.

St. Robert of Molesme

Co-founder of the Cistercian Order.

St. Rose of Lima

First person canonized from the western hemisphere.

St. Scholastica

Sister of St Benedict; founder of Benedictine order for women.

St. Stephen

The first Christian martyr (protomartyr). Stephen was stoned to death for professing his faith in Jesus Christ before the Jewish priests and elders.

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Also known as St. Edith Stein; killed by the Nazis; Convert from Judaism.

St. Teresa of Avila

Spanish mystic; Carmelite nun.

St. Teresa of Calcutta

A religious woman who ministered to the poor and sick in India. Founded the Missionaries of Charity.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Carmelite nun; youngest Doctor of the Church; patroness of World Youth Day; pursued holiness through simplicity in ordinary life.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux's *Story of a Soul*

St. Thérèse of Lisieux's autobiography describing her simple path to holiness through everyday life.

St. Thomas Aquinas

The "Angelic Doctor" of the Church; Dominican; perhaps the most influential theologian and philosopher in the history of the Church.

St. Thomas Aquinas' Five Proofs of the Existence of God

1. Argument from Motion
2. Argument from Efficient Causes
3. Argument from Possibility and Necessity (Reductio argument)
4. Argument from Gradation of Being
5. Argument from Design

St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*

St. Thomas' teachings and explanation of almost every single teaching of the Church. One of the greatest works in Church History. Relies heavily on the use of Sacred Scripture and the writings of Aristotle.

St. Thomas Becket

Archbishop of Canterbury; stood up to Henry II's abuse of power; killed for speaking out against the king.

St. Thomas More

Chancellor of England under Henry VIII; refused to recognize Henry as the head of the Church in England; martyred.

St. Veronica

Woman who aided Jesus during His Passion by wiping the blood off his face with her veil; her veil was left with the image of the face of Christ.

St. Vincent de Paul

Founded the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians). Patron saint of charities, horses, hospitals, and volunteers.

Starvation wages

A wage earned by an employee that only provides for their basic needs for a single day of work. A worker being paid starvation wages is unable to save any money as every cent earned is needed that day for food, shelter, and clothing.

Stations of the Cross

The 14 moments of Jesus' crucifixion.

Stigmata

The mystical experience of the wounds of Christ's crucifixion appear on a person. The individual does not die from these wounds. Stigmata do not occur the same way twice. During a stigmata, sometimes the individual experiences pain along with the wounds. Sometimes the individual experiences the pain, though the wounds are hidden until after their death.

Subiaco

Site of St. Benedict's first community; Benedict lived in a cave in Subiaco outside of Rome to escape the corruption and dangers of the city.

Summorum Pontificum

The decree by Pope Benedict in 2007 that Catholics were permitted to use either celebrate Mass according to the "ordinary form" (the *Novus Ordo*) or the "extraordinary form" (the Latin Mass of 1962).

Syllabus of Errors

A gathering of previous papal teachings into one list condemning various movements and ideas which threatened to chase God out of society (nationalism, secularism, freemasonry, indifferentism, etc.).

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Temperance

The virtue which moderates in accordance with reason the desires and pleasures of the sensuous appetite. Related to temperance are the virtues of conscience, humility, and meekness.

Temporary profession of vows

Vows that are not permanent or binding. Someone makes temporary vows as they are beginning to enter a religious community. Temporary vows enable a person to live according to the evangelical counsels.

Tepeyac Hill

The location where Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to St. Juan Diego.

The Camino

“The way” in Spanish; The walking pilgrimage from many parts of Europe that ultimately converge at the Basilica of St. James in northwestern Spain.

The Catholic Army

The army of the Vendee region in France that resisted the French Republic’s elimination of the Church.

The Circus of Nero

The arena where Emperor Nero held games, contests, races, dramas, and other forms of entertainment including public executions of traitors and Christians.

The Franks

One of the largest barbarian tribes. Settled in modern day France. Ruled most of the former Western Roman Empire at one time.

The Sisters of Charity

Religious order of women dedicated to Catholic education; founded by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The Way

The earliest name for the Christian Church used in Acts of the Apostles by St. Paul (Saul of Tarsus) referring to, “The Way of Jesus.”

Theocracy

A system of government in which the church and the state are one.

Thessalonica

Paul traveled to Thessalonica during his first journey. Received Paul’s Letter to the Thessalonians.

Third Order Religious

Lay people who live a life with similar commitments and devotions as consecrated religious. (First Order Religious are clergy. Second Order Religious are consecrated religious.).

Thomas Cranmer

Conspired to break away from the Church with King Henry VIII.

Thomas Merton

American Trappist monk; famous for his spiritual writings.

Thomas More’s *Utopia*

The book outlined what a perfect society ought to look like, founded under the divine law of God, and encouraging virtuous behavior by its citizens.

Three O’Clock Prayer

The traditional Marianist prayer marking the hour of the day when Jesus died on the Cross.

Three Secrets of Fátima

The three prophetic messages revealed by Our Lady of Fátima regarding the future events of the world.

Tilma

The cloak of St. Juan Diego on which Mary's image appeared; made of rough, fibrous cactus and should've deteriorated within 20 years; still around today.

Total Depravity

The belief that the human person was inherently corrupt and incapable of doing anything that is morally good.

Transubstantiation

The belief that the bread and wine substantially change into the Body and Blood of Christ, though they continue to have the appearance of bread and wine.

Treaty of Verdun

Treaty between Charlemagne's three grandsons which divided the Carolingian kingdom into three definitive areas. Because of barbarian invasions and lack of authority by each of the brothers, the empire was near total collapse.

Trivium

“the three ways”: Latin grammar, rhetoric, and logic.

True Cross of Jesus Christ

The pieces of the cross upon which Jesus Christ was crucified.

Truth

Truth is found in sentences, assertions, beliefs, thoughts, or propositions that are said, in ordinary discourse, to agree with the facts or to state what reality is.

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Ulrich Zwingli

Swiss reformer; believed in many similar things as Calvin; spoke out against the anabaptists.

Ultramontanism

Believed that the pope's authority was infallible (not being able to make a mistake) in all matters.

Unam Sanctam

By Boniface VIII. Stated in order for one to save his or her soul, monarchy included, they must subject themselves to the authority of the pope.

Universal salvation

Origin's controversial idea that at the end of the world, all creatures will be saved by God, even those who chose not to follow Him.

Universities

Centers of learning that was based on the medieval guild system.

Universities Tests Act of 1871

Allowed Catholics to attend universities in Ireland and Britain, making the Catholics Emancipation movement virtually complete.

Usury

Lending money at an excessive interest rate.

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Vatican City

A mile wide area in the western part of Rome, and of course the place of St. Peter's death and burial; the current residence of the Pope; one of the smallest nations in the world.

Vatican Hill

One of the seven hills of the city of Rome. From this hill, the Vatican City State gets its name. It is where St. Peter the Apostle is buried.

Vatican Radio

The Vatican's official radio and communication division.

Vendee Region of France

A Catholic stronghold during the French Revolution; resisted pressure to give up the Church's rights.

Venerable

A Servant of God is given the title of Venerable if it can be proven that they lived a life of "heroic virtue." This is the second title a person receives during the process of canonization.

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

Former slave from Haiti; As a freed man, became a barber in New York City; successful in his trade, he used his wealth to benefit the poor in New York.

Vernacular

The common language of the people.

Vicar of Christ

Vicar means “representative.” Christ’s representative on earth today is the pope. The pope is not Christ Himself, but serves as an figure of leadership for the Church.

Vulgate

St. Jerome’s Latin translation of the Bible; translated from Greek and Hebrew.

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The original stations of the Cross that Jesus walked along the streets in Jerusalem.

William the Pious

Duke of Aquitaine, donated land to St. Berno to found a Benedictine monastery in Cluny.

World Youth Day

The annual world-wide gathering of Catholic youth in a designated city. The pope decides where each World Youth Day will be held. The tradition was started by Pope St. John Paul II.