

Developed by **St. Robert Bellarmine, 1542-1621, Doctor of the Church**

1. The Church's **Name**, Catholic, universal, and world wide, and not confined to any particular nation or people.
2. **Antiquity**, in tracing her ancestry directly to Jesus Christ.
3. Constant **Duration**, in lasting substantially unchanged for so many centuries.
4. **Extensiveness**, in the number of her loyal members.
5. **Episcopal Succession**, of her Bishops from the first Apostles at the Last Supper to the present hierarchy.
6. **Doctrinal Agreement**, of her doctrine with the teaching of the ancient Church.
7. **Union**, of her members among themselves, and with their visible head, the Roman Pontiff.
8. **Holiness**, of doctrine in reflecting the sanctity of GOD.
9. **Efficacy**, of doctrine in its power to sanctify believers, and inspire them to great moral achievement.
10. **Holiness of Life**, of the Church's representative writers and defenders.
11. The glory of **Miracles**, worked in the Church and under the Church's auspices.
12. The gift of **Prophecy** found among the Church's saints and spokesmen.
13. The **Opposition** that the Church arouses among those who attack her on the very grounds that Christ was opposed by His enemies.
14. The **Unhappy End**, of those who fight against her.
15. The **Temporal Peace** and **Earthly Happiness** of those who live by the Church's teaching and defend her interests.

Source: <http://www.crossroadsinitiative.com>