

Unit III: Ecclesiology

Class Five: Four Marks of the Church

- I. One**
 - A. The Church is One – Faith, Sacraments and Ecclesiastical Governance
 - B. One Lord
 - C. One body, one family – ut unum sint.
- II. Holy**
 - A. The Church is indefectibly holy.
 - B. Christ sanctifies the Church.
 - C. The Church is filled by the Holy Spirit.
 - D. The Angels & Saints.
- III. Catholic**
 - A. Catholic = Universal.
 - B. The fullness of the truth and faith.
 - C. Fullness of the means of salvation.
- IV. Apostolic**
 - A. Apostolic Origins.
 - B. Apostolic Succession.
 - C. Apostolic Teachings.
 - D. Apostolic Structure.

Class Six: Images of the Church from the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II, dogmatic constitution on the Church *Lumen Gentium* 1-7)

- I. The Sacrament of Salvation**
 - A. Sign and Instrument of Salvation.
 - B. Mission of the Church = Salvation of Souls.
- II. The People of God, Mystical Body of Christ**
 - A. Fully Incorporated into the Church – profession of faith, sacraments, ecclesiastical governance, and having the Holy Spirit.
 - B. Sharers in the Threefold *Munera* of Christ: Priests, Prophets and Kings.
 - C. Diverse functions in the one body, but fundamental equality – the Choir of God
 - D. Jesus is head of the body.
 - E. Holy Spirit – Soul of the Church.
- III. The Bride of Christ**
 - A. Jesus is Married to the Church.
 - B. “Marks” of this Marriage: Exclusive Fidelity, Perpetuity, and Generates New Life.
- IV. Temple of the Holy Spirit**
 - A. The Place of Worship of God.
 - B. Liturgical Life of the People of God. – *Cultus*.

Class Seven: The Church – a Perfect Society & *Communio* (Vatican II, dogmatic constitution on the Church *Lumen Gentium* 8)

- I. Perfect Society & *Communio***
 - A. What is a Perfect Society?: One capable of independently attaining its institutional purpose.
 - B. The State: Civil order and the protection of rights for the sake of the common good.
 - C. The Church: The Salvation of Souls.

- D. The Church, as a perfect society is capable of attaining, independently, its purpose. As a society, it has structures and laws which are at the service to attain its purpose. Furthermore, it has the capacity to direct the actions of its members to the Church's purpose: the salvation of souls.
- E. *Communio: Faith, Sacraments and Governance (Communion of Churches sui iuris; hierarchical: communion of bishops, communion of all the Christian faithful; vertical: communion of the faithful with their shepherds).*
- F. The juridic determination of *communio* to maintain this communion and as a society in the world.

II. The Communion of Saints

- A. The Church is United in Heaven, Purgatory and Earth.
- B. The Church Triumphant.
- C. The Church Purgative.
- D. The Church Militant.

III. Mystical Body of Christ – People of God: The Incarnation of the Word in the World

- A. The Church is likened to the Incarnation of the Word of God in the World – Just as the Eternal Word of God becomes flesh (physical) in Jesus, so the Church, a spiritual reality, becomes physically present in the world.
- B. Visible and Invisible.

Class Eight: The Hierarchical Constitution of the Church – Clergy and Laity

I. The Papacy and Bishops

- A. Papacy: Primacy (*Prima inter pares*) & Infallibility.
- B. Bishops: Successors of the Apostles, Share in the Universal governance of the Church, constituted pastors, teachers of doctrine, priests of sacred worship and ministers of governance.

II. Clergy and Laity

- A. The Choir of God.
- B. Fundamental Equality.
- C. Religious: Either Clergy or Laity.