

The Mission of the Catholic Church

*The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth,
Third Edition*

Chapter 13

What do you think of when you hear the word *church*?



Copyright: isak55 / www.shutterstock.com



Copyright: Maxisport / www.shutterstock.com

Founded by Christ

- Jesus intended for his followers to continue his mission after he was gone.
- Jesus trained the Twelve Apostles for leadership, with Peter as their head.
- Today's bishops are the successors to the Apostles, and the Pope is the successor to Saint Peter.

The Mission of the Church



Copyright: JHershPhoto / www.shutterstock.com

- The word *church* means “convocation.”
- It is people who have been called together to continue Christ’s mission.
- The Church is both the means and the goal of God’s plan.
- The Church is at once both visible and spiritual.

The People of God

- “You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people” (1 Peter 2:9).
- What does God expect of you as part of the People of God?



The Body of Christ

- “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27).
- How will you be Christ’s hands, feet, or eyes in the world?



Copyright: Lisa F. Young / www.shutterstock.com



Copyright: Helga Esteb / www.shutterstock.com

The Temple of the Holy Spirit

- “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16).
- What gifts does the Holy Spirit nourish in you so you can contribute to Christ’s mission?

Marks of the Church



Copyright: Zvonimir Athletic / www.shutterstock.com

- One
- Holy
- Catholic
- Apostolic



Copyright: Rostislav Glinsky / www.shutterstock.com

A Community of Faith

- Jesus' disciples worked together to continue his mission.
 - We need the love and support of other Christians to be true disciples of Jesus Christ.
-
- God wants us to take part in proclaiming the Gospel message.
 - The Church continues to proclaim and make real the Kingdom of God.
 - The Church strives to be a sign of the Kingdom of God in the world.

53



THE 4 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHURCH