

The Organization of the Catholic Church

*The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth,
Third Edition*

Chapter 14

Other Religions

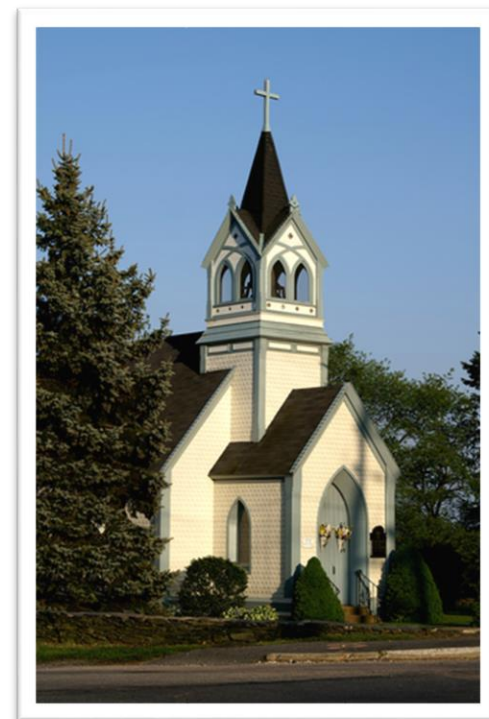
- People in other religions are also children of God.
- The Catholic Church recognizes the authentic search for God in other religions.
- Others also may attain eternal salvation.



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Other Christian Churches

- Understood to be Catholics' brothers and sisters in Christ
- Share the common understanding that salvation comes through Christ
- The goal is to strengthen the communion and ultimately restore unity



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God calls us each to take on different roles within the Church. Each role is important and necessary.



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STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH

Who Am I?

- I share in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly office of Christ by living a holy life.
- I bring Christ to the everyday world.
- I am not ordained or in a consecrated state of life.
- I may remain single, or I may marry.



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The lay faithful, or laity

Who Am I?

- My life is fully dedicated to a life with God.
- I am not ordained.
- I may live alone or with others in community.
- I take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.



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Religious Brothers (monks) and Sisters (nuns)



Who Am I?

- My life is oriented toward works of charity.
- I have a liturgical role, assisting a priest.
- I am ordained by a bishop.
- I may be a single, widowed, or married man.

Deacon (like Deacon Benisek)



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Who Am I?

- I am called to be a coworker with the bishop of my diocese.
- I am ordained through the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
- Often, I am assigned to a parish.
- I celebrate Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist.



Priests, like Father DeMartino and Father Lino

Who Am I?

- I am responsible for ordaining priests and deacons and for Confirmations.
- I make sure all churches in the diocese work together as a whole.
- My official church in the diocese is called the cathedral.
- I am one of the successors of the Apostles, and I help the Pope lead the Church.



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Bishop
(the Bishop of the Diocese of Arlington
is Bishop Michael Burbidge)

Who Am I?

- I am the visible sign of Christ's presence on earth.
- I am Bishop of Rome, the successor of Saint Peter.
- I am called the Vicar of Christ.
- I am pastor of the entire, worldwide Church.



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Pope Francis



DISCERNING GOD'S PLAN

