The Church: The Body of Christ (Chapter 4) Test Study Guide

**Church – *ekklesia* (Greek) “those called out”**

* Belonging to the Lord
* A community that gathers to worship
* Gathering of the faithful
* Mystery where human and divine meet

**Images for the Church**

Pilgrim – we are on a pilgrimage to Heaven

Bride of Christ – love, caring, lifelong commitment, willing to sacrifice

Flock of Christ – God is our (the Church’s) leader; we are the flock

God’s vineyard – just like a vineyard needs to be nourished, Christ gives life & faithfulness to us

Our Mother – unconditional love

**One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church…**

One:visible bonds of unity include profession of faith, divine worship celebrated in common, and the succession of bishops

Holy: the Holy Spirit lives in the Church and gives it the sacraments

Catholic: the fullness of the means of salvation are found in the Church, which preaches Christ’s gospel to all people at all places in all times

Apostolic: the Church continues to hand on the teaching of the Apostles through hierarchy

**Baptism**

* Makes us a child of God
* As a child of God, we share in Christ as:
  + Priest – sanctifying (making holy)
  + Prophet – teaching (word & deed)
  + King – leading/governing

**3 Categories that Minister in the Church**

1. Hierarchy
   1. Pope, cardinals, archbishops & bishops, priests, deacons (in that order)
      1. Cardinals choose new Pope (often one of themselves)
      2. Bishops – smaller groups; archbishops – larger groups
   2. Jobs:
      1. To teach the faithful
      2. To make holy the Church, especially through the sacraments
      3. To govern the Church in imitation of Christ
2. Laity
   1. A baptized person who is not ordained or consecrated
   2. Message: preach the Gospel through word and deed (how we live our lives)
   3. Community: we are a sign of the Gospel; we live faith, hope, and love
   4. Service: helping each other, especially those in most need
   5. Worship: we realize that God has given us everything, and so, in return, in praise, worship, and adoration, we thank Him
3. Consecrated & Religious
   1. Nuns & monks, sisters & brothers
      1. Nuns & monks spend most of their time praying and live in a monastery
      2. Sisters & brothers are more active, and spend most of time out and about
   2. Evangelical Counsels (living as Jesus did to be closer to Him) – poverty, chastity, obedience

**Vocabulary**

Apostle – one sent to be Christ’s ambassador, to continue his work

Canon law – official body of rules (canons) that provides for good order in the Catholic Church

Canonization – declares that certain men or women are models of holiness and have been called to a high place after death

Catholic – from a Greek word meaning “universal” or “general”

Church – the Body of Christ

Ecumenism – the movement, inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, that seeks the union of all Christian peoples and eventually the unity of all peoples throughout the world

Evangelical Counsels – vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

Evangelization – to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to others

Hierarchy – official, sacred leadership of the Church made up of Church’s ordained ministers

Infallibility – a gift of the Spirit whereby the Pope and bishops are preserved from error when proclaiming a doctrine related to Christian faith or morals

Laity – all the members of the Church who have been initiated into the Church through Baptism and who are not ordained or consecrated

Liturgy – the official public worship of the Church

Mystery – a reality filled with God’s invisible presence

Protestant – a baptized Christian who believes in Christ but who does not accept all the teachings of the Catholic Church

Sacrament – an outward (visible) sign of invisible grace