



The Church in The End Times

I-8



Saint John XXIII (1881-1963)

- **Nicknamed --“The Good Pope ”**
 - **Pope from 1958-1963**
 - **Elected as a “Caretaker” Pope;**
 - **Proved to be Major Reformer.**
- **He Called Second Vatican Council into session and commissioned it to “Open the Church to the Modern world”.**
- **He led reformation of the Mass, reintroducing participation by the congregation and reintroducing the vernacular.**
- **He advocated a strong emphasis on ecumenism**
- **Canonized – 27 April 2014**
- **His feast day is Oct 11 (day on which Vatican II Began).**
- **He is also honored by the Anglicans (June 4) & the Lutherans (June 3).**



Saint of the Week



- **John XXIII** wrote the encyclical “**Pacem in Terris**”, or Peace on Earth. (An encyclical is a formal teaching issued by the Pope.)
- Issued during the Cold War just after the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- Diverges from historic practice in that its addressed to “all men of good will” not just to Catholics.
- Addresses the issues of human rights and moral duties of the individual.
- Asserts the need for equality amongst nations , and the need for the state to respect the human rights of its citizens and to be reflective of the moral duties to society.
- Presents the need for greater relations between nations, thus resulting in collective states assisting other states.
- Urges Catholics to assist non-Christians and non-Catholics in political and social aspects.

Saint of the Week (Continued)



- **Week 2**
 - **Church as Sacrament**
 - **Encounter with the Triune God**
 - **Experiencing God's Presence**

Review

Week 3

- **Concepts of God**
 - **Agape -Unconditional Love**
 - **Yahweh – YHWH- I am who am**
 - **Source of all existence**



- **Week 4**
 - **We Believe in God our Father**
 - **Creator of All (I Am Who Am)**
 - **Abba Father (personal, Loving Father)**
 - **Salvation -**
 - **Reconciliation of Man with God**





Week 5

- **We believe in Jesus the Christ**
 - **Both fully God and Fully Man except for sin**
 - **Born of the Virgin Mary**
Through the power of the Holy Spirit



Review

Week 6

Triduum

- **Jesus was crucified, suffered death and was buried**
- **On the third day He rose again**
- **His death reconciles mankind to God**
- **His resurrection represents victory over death**
 - **Jesus' resurrection foreshadows our own resurrection – Eternal sharing in God's Life.**



- **Week 7**
 - **We believe in the Holy Spirit**
 - **Third Person in the Blessed Trinity**
 - **Who breathes life into and guides the Church**
 - **We are called to witness**
 - **Proclaim Jesus Message by the way we act towards others**

Review



- 1. Paradigm . . . One's unique view or perspective based on his/her life experiences**
- 2. Sacrament . . . Encounter with (experiencing presence of) The triune God**
- 3. Agape . . . Unconditional, self-sacrificing, active, volitional, and thoughtful love.**
- 4. Reconciliation .. Restoration of Intimate Relationship
Restoration – Suggests there has been a break
Intimate - Sharing in eternal life**
- 5. Incarnation . . . God the Son became flesh (human) in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.**

Big Word(s) of the Week



Big Word of the Week

6. Triduum

- Latin Abbreviation for “three days” (in singular)
- Jesus’ suffering, dying and rising from the dead
- The Church views this as a single event



7. Pentecost

- Greek meaning 50th day
- The Holy Spirit Descends upon & Dwells in the Apostles
- The Holy Spirit breaths life into the Church

Witness

- Lead (influence) by example
 - Living a life of agape



Big Word of the Week

8. **Apocalypse**

- Greek for “uncovering” or “revelation” or ‘disclosure’
- Book of Apocalypse describes the difficulties endured during the last days.

Ecumenism

- Dialogue among Christians of different denominations to uncover & better understand:
 - what we have in common,
 - what makes us different ,
 - each other's perspective.
- Ultimate hope is increased Unity.





- **Nicene Creed:**
 - **I believe in One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.**
 - **I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins**
 - **And I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,**
 - **and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

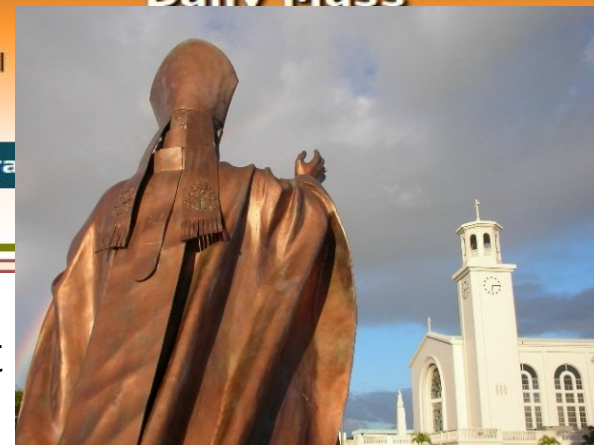


The Creed



- **One**
 - **Unity in Belief**
 - **Unity under The Bishop Of Rome**
- **Holy**
 - **The Kingdom of God**
 - **The Body of Christ**
- **Catholic**
 - **Universal**
 - **Open to all nations, all cultures, all men**
- **Apostolic**
 - **True to the teachings of the Apostles**
 - **Traces its Ministries directly to the Apostles**
 - **Bishops are direct successors of Apostles**





- **The term church is rooted in two New Testament words, **Ekklesia** (Assembly) and **Koinia** (fellowship or communion).**
- **We speak of the Church as both a local assembly and as a universal communion or fellowship of common believers.**
- **We are members in the Catholic Church in Hagatna, Guam**
- **We are also members in the Catholic (Universal) Church.**

One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic Church



One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic Church

**The Catholic Church
As the One True Church
Embraces Ecumenism**





- **We are not alone!! We are not alone in our belief in, and worship of God, that is.**
- **There are numerous other non-Catholic, but Christian, Groups with whom we have varying degrees of relationships/common beliefs.**

- **The Orthodox Churches**
 - **Greek Orthodox**
 - **Russian Orthodox**
 - **Etc.**



- **The Anglican Communion**
 - **Anglicans**
 - **Episcopalians**
 - **Other National Churches**

Protestants

- Lutherans**
- Presbyterians**
- Methodists Baptists**
- Etc.**



One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic Church



- **Ecumenism** dictates that we explore our common beliefs with other Christians and work toward re-unification through understanding.
- **InterFaith Dialogue** dictates that we recognize the working of the Holy Spirit in non-Christian religions and cooperate for common goals.

Ecumenism & Interfaith Dialogue



Understanding the Church as an Organization

The Church is organized by Orders (Ranks?) of the Faithful. These Orders are:

- **Catechumens (Candidates for Baptism)**
- **Baptized Laity**
- **Consecrated Laity**
- **Deacons**
- **Priests**
- **Bishops**
- **Pope as Prime among Bishops**

Deacons, Priests, Bishops and the Pope are known as Holy Orders

Catechumens, Baptized Laity and Consecrated Laity are known as Lay Orders.



We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

- **The Communion of Saints:**
 - This reflects the view of the Church as the assembly or fellowship of people sharing in God's eternal life (grace). It includes all the Saints. Saints is a term of art including the faithful believers both living and dead.
 - **The Saints Militant** are those still alive in this life on Earth.
 - **The Saints Penitent** or in Purification are those souls in Purgatory, undergoing purification from sin in preparation for heaven.
 - **The Saints Triumphant** are those in Heaven.
 - We believe that we are all in this together and can pray for each other: The Saints Triumphant can pray for the Saints Penitent & the Saints Militant; The Saints Militant can pray for the Saint Penitent and can ask the Saints Triumphant to intercede for them.



- **Christianity is grounded in the belief of an after life.**
- **We believe that the Glorified Body of all believers will be resurrected just as Jesus Rose.**
- **We believe that Our Christian destiny is sharing in the eternal life of the triune God.**
 - **We will experience a Personal Judgment upon death, and get an immediate judgment to Heaven, Purgatory or Hell.**
- **We also believe in a general Judgment at the end of time and space. At that time all that have ever lived will be gathered and receive judgment to Heaven or Hell (Matthew 25: 31-46).**



**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



- **Catholic understanding of this Book differs greatly from that of Born Again Christians.**
- **The Book is written in a style known as Apocalyptic which it shares with the Books of Daniel and Ezekiel.**
- **This style is difficult for 21st century persons to understand because it is full of esoteric symbolism and strange imagery.**
- **The style arises from a sense of severe persecution; it gives expression to the current suffering of the persecuted and portrays hope for future conditions of redemption and joy in final union with God.**



The Book of Revelation (aka the Apocalypse) & the End Time



- **Born Again Christian interpretation or understanding is that the Book of Revelation:**
 - **Predicts the exact time of end of the world including the specific events that lead up to it.**
 - **Predicts the Coming of an anti-Christ who will lead the world astray.**
 - **Predicts a Rapture (taking into heaven) of all true believers to avoid the Great Tribulation that results from the anti-Christ.**
 - **Predicts a Great Tribulation (a reign of terror of 1000 years) for those remaining after the Rapture.**
 - **Proclaims the Final return of the Lord after the Great Tribulation to claim the world for Himself.**
 - **Predicts a final great military battle of good forces (US?) versus evil forces (Previously the Chinese then the Russians, now the Muslims) that will take place in the Middle East near Israel at the end of time.**

The Book of Revelation (aka the Apocalypse) & the End Time



- **Catholic understanding of this Book differs greatly:**
- **It depicts the Church (people of God) from two perspectives, earthly and heavenly;**
- **All is not well or perfect on earth;**
 - **There are faults and weaknesses in the Church itself; (Church Militant)**
 - **There is persecution from without;**
 - **This is our trial;**
- **On the heavenly plane, the Church Triumphant, all is focused on God;**
 - **This is the Church Militant's destiny;**
- **In the end, good triumphs over evil.**



The Book of Revelation (aka the Apocalypse) & the End Time



- **Matthew Chapter 25: 31-46**

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.



The Final Judgement



Take Aways

The world in the end-times seems in chaos

**Christians suffer from disunity
Christians fight among themselves**

Non-Christians and Christians fight

God is God of all

**Salvation is for all
Catholics,
Christians and
Non-Christians**

Salvation is already underway

Trust in the Spirit