

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**The Church: Our Story**

Directed Reading Worksheet

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Unit 4 The Church Is Teacher

4.1 Creeds Laws Dogmas and Doctrines

**Directions:** Read the assigned pages for each section and fill in the missing information. All the answers are found in sequential order as you read.

**Who Needs Dogma?**

*Read pages 128-129.*

1. Define dogma.
2. Define Trinity.
3. True or False? Acceptance of dogma is essential for complete faith and the deepest possible relationship with God.
4. What is denial of dogma called?
5. What does the text mean by saying, Joan, Toby, and Father Pete all agree that what we believe about God influences the choices we make?

**The Good News Is Rooted in the Truth**

*Read pages 130-131.*

1. True or False? Knowledge alone will lead a person to the truth and to freedom
2. In the \_\_\_\_\_ world we categorize our knowledge based upon \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What cannot be true from a religious perspective?
4. True or False? Religious truth but not scientific truth is objective.
5. Who are the only ones who can ever really be free?
6. A rejection of the truth is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. How is the Catholic Church an apostolic Church?

8. What two things go hand in hand with our sharing of the good news? The first is a \_\_\_\_\_ with God; the second is an understanding of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Passing on the Truth through Scripture**

*Read pages 131-134.*

1. scripture	a. Name for those books which have been accepted by the Church as normative for faith
2. Holy Spirit	b. To be a selected book it had to enjoy widespread and frequent use in the worship and teaching of the Church
3. canon	c. An official teaching of the Church
4. Marcion	d. The word of God
5. orthodox content	e. To be selected a book had to have come from the Apostles, either directly or through those who had known them.
6. doctrine	f. Developed own “Christian doctrine” to suit his anti-Jewish, anti-material biases
7. Apostolic authorship	g. Inspired the authors of the various books of the Bible so that they wrote what God desired them to write
8. catholicity	h. To be a selected book it had to portray Jesus in a way that was compatible with the faith of the majority of Christians

**Truth through Tradition**

*Read page 135.*

1. Scripture is the written account of God’s \_\_\_\_\_ to humanity; it is \_\_\_\_\_ for all Catholic theology
2. What is meant by saying that “ours is a living faith, not a ‘dead letter’ faith”?
3. Fill-in the definition of Tradition of the Church: The \_\_\_\_\_ which the Church has received from \_\_\_\_\_ through the Apostles and all of the ways the faith has been passed on: in \_\_\_\_\_, doctrines, decisions of the \_\_\_\_\_, liturgies and patterns of \_\_\_\_\_ and service.

**Teachers of Doctrine in the Early Church**

*Read pages 136-138.*

*Who is it? Mark the letter of the correct person described in numbers 1–8.*

- A. Irenaeus
- B. Clement of Alexandria
- C. Tertullian
- D. Origen

1. Born in North Africa about AD 160. Said that Christians must reject everything that wasn't explicitly Christian. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Bishop of Lyons, born in AD 130. He wanted the people in his care to understand the basics of Christian faith, to know God is a loving God. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Born about AD 185 in Egypt. Sought to explain Christian doctrine to the pagans and to relate Christian theology to pagan philosophy. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Attempted to establish connections between Christianity and Greek philosophy. Born in Athens about AD 150. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Concerned in making sure that Christian doctrine was not set aside in favor of pagan philosophy. Also, outlined those things which were essential to Christianity. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Took a firm stand against all who would claim that the physical was either evil or undesirable. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. In *Prescription Against Heretics*, he insisted that the Church is the rightful owner of Scripture. He went on to write that since the Scriptures belong to the Church, heretics have no right to use them or to interpret them. \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Argued that the law which had been given to the Jews and the philosophy which had been given to the Greeks both pointed to the same ultimate truth, which had now been revealed in Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_
9. What three beliefs did Irenaeus outline which have remained central to Catholic theology?
10. Which four things did Origen outline as essential to Christianity?

*Match the term in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.*

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11. Divine _____	a. A title for Jesus that refers to his relationship with the other Persons of the Trinity
12. Incarnation _____	b. Literally "of God"
13. Son of God _____	c. Becoming human. The event and process in which eternal Son of God took on flesh and entered human history

### **Fundamentals of Dogma**

*Read pages 138-143.*

Match the term in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.

1. Syncretism	a. Literally means “choice”. Conscious, deliberate, and persistent or public denial by a member of the Church of one or more of the truths of faith
2. Dogmas	b. Statement of belief of Church. Summary of Apostles’ faith. Ancient baptismal symbol of church of Rome
3. Heresy	c. False belief that claimed that although Jesus had a human body, he had no human soul
4. Heretic	d. Selecting and combining bits and pieces from various religious and philosophical systems.
5. Apostles’ Creed	e. Someone who has chosen to divide Christianity. Separated themselves from the Church.
6. Apollinarianism	f. Those beliefs which are essential to Christian faith. Truths we believe have been specifically revealed by God.

7. True or False? Catholics believe that it is possible to remain a member of the Church and reject some of the creedal statements
8. Basic to Catholic faith and Catholic’s interaction with the world is the belief that everything that \_\_\_\_\_ was created by God and therefore serves a \_\_\_\_\_
9. To be a Catholic is to believe in \_\_\_\_\_ who existed with the Father from the \_\_\_\_\_, was begotten not made, was born of the \_\_\_\_\_, and became human.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ was a false belief that though the greatest of all God’s creatures, Jesus was created and not begotten.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ claimed that Jesus was not human at all; he only appeared human.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ allowed that Jesus had been born fully human; however his human nature had been completely absorbed by his divine nature.
13. Explain what the Trinity is *not*?
14. True or False? We believe in a God whose very nature is relational.
15. The dogma that Mary is the Mother of \_\_\_\_\_ is the corollary to the belief that Jesus is fully \_\_\_\_\_ and fully \_\_\_\_\_.
16. In AD 431 the Council of \_\_\_\_\_ denounced Nestorius. It clearly stated that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ with two \_\_\_\_\_ natures.

17. Why does the Church honor Mary?

18. Define monotheism.

**Dogma Related to Doctrine**

*Read pages 144-145.*

1. True or False? Dogmas are infallible and irreformable but they can change in their essence.
2. Why is the story of the Church's response to Galileo a prime example of how a dogma can be true and at the same time be expressed in away that proves inadequate and in need of change?
3. What is mediated grace?
4. Doctrine refers to any \_\_\_\_\_ or teaching which has the official \_\_\_\_\_ of the Magisterium.

**Adherence to Church Teaching**

*Read pages 145-146.*

*Match the term in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.*

1. infallibility	a. Gathering of all the Catholic bishops of the world.
2. ecumenical council	b. Spiritual attribute possessed by the Church as whole ensuring that the Church will never cease to be the body of Christ on earth.
3. excommunication	c. Official letters of the pope to the universal Church and all people of good will
4. papal encyclicals	d. Most severe penalty within the Church

**In Conclusion**

*Read pages 147-148.*

1. What is the Church's task?
2. What is at the heart of this truth?
3. Through Christ, God ahs made is possible for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in God's \_\_\_\_\_

4. What helps us to understand the truth of Christ and what it means to structure our lives around that truth?