

The Holy Catholic Church
Directed Reading Worksheet Answer Key
Chapter 2 The Church Sets Her Foundation

1. God is the **source** of love; we are only able to love one **another** because “love is of God.” We are asked to love one another in the way that God expects of us as members of his **Church**. Reflecting how God is the source of love leads us to the **mystery** of the Holy Trinity; God is a “**family**” of Three Persons who love each other so much as to form into **one**. (p. 49)
2. The **Father** is the First Divine Person of the Trinity who **knows** himself with infinite knowledge. The Father speaks this perfect knowledge in a **Divine Word** that completely reveals itself in the Second Divine Person, the **Son**. The Father and the Son **look** at each other and love one another which is **breathed** out in the Third Divine Person, the **Holy Spirit**. (p. 50)
3. False? By sending the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, to guide her members, we a glimpse of the loving relationship between the Three Divine Persons that *had been in place for all time*. (p. 50)
4. On **Pentecost** the Holy Spirit came in a special way to “the **Twelve**,” the Apostles who had been chosen by Jesus to lead the rest of his **disciples** in the way he intended. Because they heard Jesus’ **teaching**, they played a crucial role in the early Church, preaching and **witnessing** to the truth of Jesus’ Passion, Death, and **Resurrection**. This apostolic **character** forever stamped the Church. (p. 51)
5. As a Jewish convert and Roman citizen, St. Paul visited local churches, wrote letters of instruction and exhortation to the new Christian communities after he left, and ultimately was arrested and martyred for his faith. St. Paul is known as the “Apostle to the Gentiles” and as one of the Church’s greatest theologians. His writings and example had a formative and lasting impact on the character of the Church. (p. 51)
6. False. Christians were under constant threat by the hostile *Roman government* of the first three centuries. (p. 51)
7. The early Christians exemplified the Church as “the People of God gathered together.” They lived in community, sharing and tending to each other’s needs. They gathered in prayer, especially for the “breaking of the bread,” the Eucharist, where they re-presented the sacrifice of Jesus and received him in Communion. (p. 53)
8. The **Acts** of the Apostles focuses on the **early** years of the Church and was likely written by the author of the Gospel of **Luke**. The first two chapters describe the very **beginning** of the Church, following Jesus’ **Ascension**. Before he departed, Jesus promised that his **Apostles** would receive power when the holy Spirit comes and they will be his **witnesses** in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth. (p. 55)
9. On Pentecost, while the Apostles were gathered with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in the same upper room in Jerusalem where the Last Supper was held, the Holy Spirit came suddenly “like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house. . . . Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit.” (p. 55)
10. False. Because it was a *Jewish feast*, Jews from throughout the Mediterranean region were gathered in Jerusalem celebrating together and they were “astounded and bewildered” that each was able to understand the preaching of St. Peter even though they spoke different languages. (p. 56)
11. True. (pp. 56-57)
12. True. (p. 57)

13. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (p. 57)

14. True. (pages 57 and 61)

15. (pages 58-59)

- 15a True False Both the current altar and former altar of the Basilica of St. Peter were and are directly above the spot honored as the tomb of St. Peter going back to at least the third century.
- 15b True False The ancient burial sites beneath the basilica were discovered largely by accident. **True**
- 15c True False There was an older basilica of St. Peter that preceded the current church. **True**
- 15d True False Through archeological excavation, researchers discovered that the old basilica of St. Peter had been built over an ancient Roman palace of Nero. **False**
- 15e True False An expert in ancient languages and symbols, Dr. Margherita Guarducci concluded that a cavity in the graffiti wall beneath the basilica contained something of great importance. **True**
- 15f True False In 1939 Pope Pius XII announced that the remains of St. Peter had been found. **False**
- 15g True False Prior to the excavations begun in 1939, there was little evidence that St. Peter had been killed and buried in this area. **True**

16. (p. 61)

Ways the Roman world was receptive to Christianity	Ways the Roman world challenged Christianity
● The Roman Empire was open to ideas that came from other cultures such as the arts and literature of the Greeks and the architecture from Egypt ● Roman religion permitted additions to be made to its pantheon of gods ● Christianity offered a path to know the one true God without the burdens of the Old Law of Judaism	● The Romans were nervous about a religion that denied divinity to rulers of Rome ● Centuries of persecution against the Jews had created a powerful cohesion in that community and many Jews were dismayed by the prospect of a religion that embraced Gentiles ● Belief in the divinity of Jesus was blasphemous, a serious sin against the First Commandment

17. The importance of the Apostles is formalized in the **Nicene Creed** in the early fourth century. In 381 the words “I believe in **one, holy, catholic, and apostolic** Church” were added to the creed at the First Council of **Constantinople**. These are known as the **four marks** of the Church and they highlight how the nature of the Church is an expression of the **nature** of Jesus Christ. (pp. 61-62)

18. The word **apostle** comes from a Greek word for “**emissary**.” The apostolic nature of the Church originates especially in three ways. The Church is built on the **foundation** of the Apostles. The Church hands on the **teaching** of the Apostles, and the Church is to be “**taught**, sanctified, and guided by the Apostles until Christ’s **return**.” (p. 62)

19. True. (p. 62)

20. False. After Pentecost, the Apostles continued to share the Gospel widely for the rest of their lives, *in the face of opposition* from Jewish religious leaders. (p. 62)

21. True. (pp. 62-63)

22. False. All of the Twelve Apostles *except for John*, after evangelizing many of the early centers of the Church, suffered a martyr's death. (p. 63)
23. The **primary** responsibility of the Apostles was to ensure that the message of Jesus was not **distorted**. When disputes arose, early Christians called on them to **sort** them out. One of the earliest **disputes** concerned the participation of the **Gentiles** in the Church. While Peter was convinced that Christ's offer of **salvation** was available for them, other related questions arose. (pp. 63-64)
24. • What parts of Mosaic Law did the Gentile Christians need to follow? • Did they have to follow Jewish dietary laws? • Was it necessary for Gentile Christians to worship in the Jewish Temple? • Did male Gentiles who converted to Christianity need to be circumcised? (p. 64)
25. The dispute was resolved at the Council of **Jerusalem**. Paul and Barnabas and others gathered to consult the **leaders** of the Church there. After a great deal of **debate**, it was decided that Gentiles did not need to follow the **Mosaic** laws, including **circumcision** because Jesus taught that it wasn't the Law which brought **salvation**. (p. 65)
26. • Unity – Churches maintained unity by seeking guidance from authorities in the Church about their beliefs and practices.
 • Apostolic Authority – When there were disagreements among the early Christians, they trusted the Apostles would faithfully interpret and apply the gospel message.
 • Petrine primacy – The Church recognized the authority of Peter when they discussed the questions at the Council of Jerusalem and these principles have continued to guide the Church throughout her history. (p. 65)
27. False. The Church relies on the successors of the Apostles – the *bishops* – to ensure Jesus' teachings are interpreted and applied accurately, with the pope as the head of the Apostles. (pp. 65-66)
28. People sometimes reacted **violently** to the truths Jesus taught. The **Apostles** knew they were risking their lives when they preached the Gospel. Christian **martyrdom** continues today with Christianity being the most **persecuted** religion in the world. Although we may not be **killed** for our faith, all **Catholics** will experience persecution in following Jesus. (p. 67)
29. Stephen, a **deacon** in the early Church, was the first Christian **martyr**. He was put to death by Jewish authorities **threatened** by his preaching, which they considered, **blasphemous** teaching about Jesus. In the face of cruelty, Stephen **forgave** those who stoned him to death. In doing so, he followed the **example** of Jesus on the Cross and set an example for all **Christian** martyrs who would follow. (pp. 69-70)
30. Saul, whose **Roman** name was Paul, was a strict **Pharisee** who fiercely supported the effort to wipe out Christianity. He stood by as **Stephen** was executed. He received an excellent **Greek** education and studied to be a **rabbi** under the famous Jewish teacher Gamaliel. His upbringing in **Tarsus** exposed him to Gentile religions, **philosophies**, and customs. (p. 71)
31. (pp. 72 – 74)

31a	True	False	St. Paul had a profound influence on the Church in the way he spread the Gospel by both preaching and teaching, and writing. True
31b	True	False	When Paul preached in public, it was often to Gentiles who were attracted to Jesus' message of love, forgiveness, and freedom from sin and death. True
31c	True	False	St. Paul, was one of the Twelve Apostles called personally by Jesus even though he is not mentioned by name in the Gospels. False
31d	True	False	Paul wrote his epistles to Christian communities throughout the Roman Empire which had been

			established by some of the other Apostles. False
31e	True	False	Most of St. Paul's preaching was limited to the area of Palestine, with an important focus on converting the Jews in Jerusalem to Christianity. False
31f	True	False	Paul would routinely preach to the Jews in synagogues, attempting to persuade them that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. True
31g	True	False	One of the most profound images St. Paul uses to describe the Church is the vine and the branches. False
31h	True	False	St. Paul's missionary zeal meant that he closely shared in the apostolic ministry of the Twelve. True
31i	True	False	The titles of many of Paul's letters are the names of the cities to whom he was writing. True
31j	True	False	St. Paul wrote a majority of the New Testament epistles which complement the Gospels and that propose powerful images of the Church. True

32. Using the image of a body, St. Paul conveys the idea of combining flourishing diversity and essential unity. He compares the diversity of body parts to the Church, noting how they all work together (hand, eye, hearing, smell) to produce something greater than the sum of its parts. Even as the body needs different parts to make up a marvelous whole, so the Church needs people of different talents, backgrounds, cultures, and interests to do God's work. (pp. 74-75)
33. False. Akash Bashir was a martyr for his Catholic faith living in a mostly *Muslim* nation, the hostility to Christians was strong. (p. 77-78)
34. True. (p. 78)
35. ● The person must be put to death. ● The person must die for Christ and the faith. ● The person does not die out of hatred for the enemy, but in joy out of love for Christ and the truth of the faith. (p. 78)
36. Besides St. Peter's martyrdom, all **nine** of his successors as the bishop of **Rome** were also killed for their faith. These **persecutions** continued through the end of the third century. Some of them – such as Saints Perpetua and **Felicity** – are mentioned during Mass. Their story is well known because **Perpetua** kept a diary preserved by fellow Christians who also **witnessed** their martyrdom. (p. 79)
37. True. (p. 80)
38. ● Christians could not build churches or worship in public; ● Christians were often rejected by society and one's own family, ● Christians had to live up to difficult teachings that exhorted believers to love and forgive others, even enemies, to be faithful to spouses, and avoid sexual sin, and to give possessions to and care for the poor and sick. (pp. 80, 83)
39. The **Romans** considered Christianity a form of **treason** and blamed them for all the **misfortunes** of the Empire, including floods, **epidemics**, and military invasions. The authorities believed the Roman **gods** were angered as many Romans **abandoned** faith. Severe persecutions varied from decade to decade even though Christians tried to show they were good **citizens**. (p. 81)
40. The courage of martyrs caused non-Christian Romans who witnessed these martyrdoms to begin to wonder about the source of such strength and perseverance. Some of them opened their hearts to the message of the Gospel and began following the way of Jesus. (p. 84)

41. False. The sin of *apostasy* – renouncing Christ and his Church – was taken so seriously by the early Christians that some of them maintained that a former Christian who had committed this sin should never be forgiven or restored to the Christian community. (p. 85)
42. True. (p. 85)
43. False. The Church teaches that non-Catholics and non-Christians *can still* attain salvation through Jesus and his Church. (p. 86)
44. The **Didache** – also known as “The Teaching of the **Apostles**” – describes early Christian belief and **practice**. Dating from the late **first** century, it provides strong evidence concerning the **nature** of the early Church. The document aided **catechumens** to learn about the faith. It mentions the **Trinitarian** formula, moral teachings, and explains the rites of Baptism and the **Eucharist**. (p. 88)
45. The Didache proves that the essential elements of **Christianity** have remained the same since the **beginning**. It witnesses the central importance of the “**breaking of the bread**,” the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The Didache attests how early **Christians** prayed, the importance they placed on the **communal** life, confession of sins, **giving** to the poor, and living an exemplary moral life. (p. 89)
46. (Pages 89–94)
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|-----|------|-------|---|
| 46a | True | False | Early Christian sources attest that while they prayed for one another they did not pray for the dead as we do today. False |
| 46b | True | False | The Church communities were primarily made up of Jewish converts who lived in or near Jerusalem. False |
| 46c | True | False | By praying, Christians follow the example of Jesus who prayed in preparing for key events in his ministry. True |
| 46d | True | False | Eucharistic celebrations were a core part of Christian life demonstrated by the fact that wherever the faith spread, liturgy was immediately established. True |
| 46e | True | False | The Acts of the Apostles provides the earliest record of the words of institution used by bishops and priests to consecrate the Eucharist. False |
| 46f | True | False | The origin of the celebration of the Lord’s Supper was modeled the Jewish feast of Pentecost. False |
| 46g | True | False | Because there were no churches, early Christians gathered in the homes of believers who had larger houses. True |
| 46h | True | False | While public and communal prayer are important, personal and private prayer is more important. False |
| 46i | True | False | Charity was motivated by their prayer life and this example drew many converts. True |
47. Members of the Church have a **duty** to worship God, and the Eucharist is the **center** of the life of every member. At Mass, we gather to **hear** God’s Word and to join the priest in **offering** Jesus to the Father, and to receive his Body and Blood of Christ in **Holy Communion**. By Baptism, every Catholic is enabled and **committed** to participation in the liturgy of the Church. (p. 94)
48. True. (p. 96)