

Name _____

Date _____

The Church: Our Story
Directed Reading Worksheet
Unit 1 What Is Church?
1.1 A House on a Rock

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.

I Believe and Profess . . .

Faith and the Church Are Connected

Read pages 12–14.

1. What did the six newly baptized adults and nineteen university students profess during the Easter Vigil at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in central Iowa?

2. True or False? Faith and the Church should be treated as two independent things.

3. From a Catholic perspective, Christian faith cannot be separated from _____ because where the Church is, _____.

4. Following Jesus' passion, death, resurrection, and ascension, _____ became accessible to all people through the _____.

5. True or False? The Church is God's continuing physical presence in the world.

6. a. What is the Greek word for Church?

b. What does the word mean?

c. What did this word refer to when used in the Scriptures?

Faith Is a Human Act

Read pages 14–16.

1. Faith is contact with _____

2. True or False? Faith is our response to God's gift, a surrendering of ourselves to God.

3. How can the gift of faith begin?

4. What sustains faith?
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

 - d.

5. True or False? Because faith is only personal, a true disciple of Christ does not need to join with others.

6. Why do Catholics say that we are even more deeply blessed in our communal relationships with God than in our personal relationship with him?

7. In order that we might know, understand, and experience God better without being overwhelmed, God has chosen to be mediated to us through that which is

8. True or False? Our faith is deepened and fortified by the community's faith.

Faith Is Supported by Formal Structures

Read pages 16-17.

1. True or False? The Church can easily fall into sin.

2. The formal structures of the Church take the form of:
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

3. The formal structures help both individuals and communities _____
_____ their identities as believers.

4. Who does the Magisterium refer to?

5. _____ is the movement and activities which seek to promote religious unity within the Christian Church and among all the people of the world.

The Marks of the Church: The Church is One

Read pages 18-21.

1. The Nicene Creed is a statement of the Church's beliefs issued at the first _____ in 325. It taught that Jesus is of the same _____ as God and thus _____.

2. True or False? Divination is a mark of the Church.

3. At the council of Nicaea it was pointed out that one could not separate faith in the Trinity from what other belief?

4. What does it mean to say that the Church is the first sacrament of Christ?

5. The Church is one because of the following:
 - a. Unity in the _____
 - b. Founder, _____
 - c. Holy Spirit who brings about _____

6. True or False? Christ is the principle of the Church's unity.

7. What is the "true Church of Christ"?

8. _____ and _____ are essential characteristics of Christ's kingdom.

9. As Catholics we are united by a profession of _____, common celebration of _____, and _____ through the sacrament of Holy Orders.
10. What does it mean to say that our unity as Catholics does not result in uniformity in the way we live out our faith?

The Church is Holy

Read pages 22–24.

1. The Church is holy because it is the _____
2. What does holiness mean? What is it rooted in?
3. True or False? The Church is holy because of its intimate connection to God.
4. How did the people of Israel understand what it meant to be made holy by God?
5. True or False? If the Church is not perfect it is not the Church.
6. The Catholic Church is set apart to reveal that this one God has become _____ and is present in the _____.
7. True or False? As long as the Holy Spirit is within the Church, love will be present and the Church will be holy.
8. What is idolatry? Give examples of gods people worship?
9. What are the three aspects of Catholic faith and practice that give form to holiness?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
10. Name the three evangelical counsels:

- a.
- b.
- c.

11. True or False? There are no attitudes or behaviors which are unacceptable for Catholics.
12. The greatest witness to and support for holiness within the Catholic Church comes from _____ .

The Church Is Catholic

Read pages 25–27.

1. What does the word *catholic* mean?
2. To say that the Church is “catholic” is to say that is _____.
The totality of the body of Christ is present in the _____.
3. True or False? Christ established the Church that it might be “the universal sacrament of salvation”.
4. What does it mean to say that the Church is called to be leaven in the world?
5. What makes up the whole of Revelation?
 - a. All of
 - b. The teachings of all
 - c. Understanding and witness of Christians from all
6. The _____ groups claimed special, privileged knowledge of God and of God’s will.
7. The Catholic Church, the Church in union with the _____, the bishop of _____ bases its teachings on the understanding of _____ which has developed through _____ .
8. True or False? Catholics are free to disregard those things which have been declared truths of faith by the Church in earlier generations.

9. Define *gnosticism*.

The Church Is Apostolic

Read pages 27–31.

1. a. What does the word *apostolic* mean?

b. Why is the Church called apostolic?

2. What are the three ways the Church remains faithful to its apostolic nature?
 - a. Recognizing it is built upon _____ .
 - b. Following the guidance of _____ .
 - c. Accepting the continued guidance of _____ .
_____ .

3. True or False? Each bishop can trace his ordination back to the Apostles.

4. a. What is syncretism?

b. How did this affect the Church in the first centuries?

5. According to the Gnostics, the physical universe was the result of _____, and had no lasting _____.

6. In principle, what does apostolic succession require?

7. The scriptures cannot be directly applied to our language, culture and age without _____.

8. True or False? The successors of the Apostles, the bishops in union with the pope, are able to guarantee that the teachings of the Church will never be detached from the teachings of Christ.

9. Who is the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity of bishops and the multitude of the faithful?

10. In a diocese, what does the bishop have the primary responsibility for?

