

Lesson Twenty-Five Preparation: Matthew 16:13-20 The Church

Lesson Supplies

Catholic Children's Bible with table of contents page marked (page 3)

Journal for each family member and writing supplies

Videos cued up on your device

Objectives

- To know why Jesus founded His Church, and what the church is
- To understand the 4 marks of the church
- To understand the origination and role of the Pope and Bishops

Read

From the Bible: Matthew 16:13-20

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

It was the Son's task to accomplish the Father's plan of salvation in the fullness of time. Its accomplishment was the reason for his being sent. "The Lord Jesus inaugurated his Church by preaching the Good News, that is, the coming of the Reign of God, promised over the ages in the scriptures." To fulfill the Father's will, Christ ushered in the Kingdom of heaven on earth. the Church "is the Reign of Christ already present in mystery." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 763)

From the *Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Read questions [147-191](#) this will take 15 minutes

Watch

[what is the church](#) 3:21 [What is the Church 2](#) 1:28 [What is the Structure of the Church](#) (3:21)
[4 marks of the church](#) 1:42

Reflect

When Jesus spoke of founding his church on Peter, what did he have in mind? The Bible speaks of the Church as Jesus' flock, the community of his followers. But it also speaks of the Church as the Bride of Christ, the Children of God, and the Household of the Living God. The Church isn't meant to be an abstract institution and isn't not meant to be distilled to its hierarchical structure of priests, bishops, and a Pope. Above all else, the Church is family.

Similarly, your Christian household is meant to be a domestic church. A church is a place of prayer and encounter with God. It's also a place of community and support. The Church is to be the Body of Christ in the world, and so the domestic church should also be a place of charity.

When Jesus founded his church on Peter, he promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against it. Those promises hold true for the domestic church, for your own household. When you make your family a place of prayer and encounter with God, a place of community and support, and a place of charitable action, the gates of hell stand no chance.

Lesson Twenty-Five: Matthew 16:13-20

The Church

Lesson Summary

- The Church was founded by Jesus Christ on Pentecost to continue His mission on earth.
- The Church is the family of God, the people of God, and the Mystical Body of Christ
- The Marks of the Church are: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic
- The Church guards the teachings of Jesus and helps us to understand what we are to believe
- The Church is made up of the lay faithful, priest, bishops, and the pope
- The Pope is the successor to Peter, the Bishops are the successor of the Apostles
- The Pope and Bishops govern and teach the church in Jesus' name

Pray

1. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
2. Who or what would you like to pray for today?
3. Our Father, Hail Mary (*Catholic Children's Bible* page 1992)

Read

Peter the Rock

Matthew 16:13-20

- Read the passage slowly and out loud at least three times, maybe taking turns.
- Pay attention for a word or phrase that sticks out to you.
- In your journal, write about that word or phrase. Use some of the suggested journal prompts if you need help.

Reflect

In this passage we see Christ announcing that He will be founding the Church and St Peter, the first pope will be the head of the Church. The Church was founded on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, the first Bishops, and Mary to continue the work of Jesus until the end of time. Both the lay faithful and ordained as members of the Church are called to continue Jesus mission until the end of time

Watch

- [what is the church](#) 3:21
- [What is the Church 2](#) 1:28
- [What is the Structure of the Church](#) (3:21)
- [4 marks of the church](#) 1:42

Discuss

Who is our Pope today? What do you know about him? What does he do?

What is the structure of your school? What would it be like if the teachers didn't show up for one day?

What are some "rules" of our Church that help make us holy?

Live

- Find out when St. John and Paul was started and who were the leaders. Where are they today?
- There is a statue of St. Pope John Paul in our church. Visit it and say a prayer for our leaders and for the Holy Spirit to inspire them.
- The Church is made up of all sorts of people, find someone in your church who inspires you to be holy and thank them.

OT Hero - Solomon

Sometime this week, read **Solomon Builds a Temple To Worship (1Kings 5:5,6:9,11-13)**, pages 464-465 in the *Catholic Children's Bible*.

In this story, we learn how Solomon built a Temple for the Israelites to pray in to the Lord God. The temple became the center of their lives.

Lesson Twenty-Five Supplemental Materials

The Church

Lesson Summary Statements

- The Church was founded by Christ to continue his saving mission on earth
- The church is the people of God, the kingdom of God, the Body of Christ, and the Temple of the Holy Spirit.
- The Marks of the Church are One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic
- ONE: One founder Jesus, one faith, one sacramental life, one apostolic succession, one common hope (salvation and heaven), one in charity, one with the visible head of the Church, the Pope
- Holy: Jesus the founder is Holy, The Holy Spirit who gives life to the Church is holy, the church possesses all means for salvation and sanctification, so her members can become holy.
- Catholic (Universal): contains and proclaims all the revealed truths of God, contains all the means of salvation and sanctification, sent to mission the whole world, contains all cultures, classes, and nations
- Apostolic: founded on the Apostles. Guided by Christ in the present through the pope and the bishops in communion with him, the successors of St Peter and the Apostles
- The Church Faithful is made up of all the baptized. The faithful are divided among the laity, sacred ministers, and consecrated.
- The laity, sacred ministers, and consecrated have equal dignity and share in the same mission to become saints and advance and serve the Church, Christ's kingdom on earth.
- The sacred ministers include deacons, priests, bishop, and pope. They govern, teach, and sanctify in Christ's name. They minister and serve the whole people of God
- The laity are all members not ordained to holy orders. They are called to be saints and bring and be Christ to the world around them. Home, school, work, etc.
- The lay faithful are called along with priests and consecrated to have a deep personal life-changing relationship with Jesus, and to go and make disciples.
- The lay faithful need to develop this relationship through prayer, Christian living, studying the scriptures and teachings of the faith, works of charity, and works to advance the Kingdom.
- Family life is the main venue where lay faithful will develop their relationship with Christ
- The Consecrated are faithful who consecrate themselves to God through vows of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience. These are Sisters, Nuns, Brothers, and monks
- The Pope is the successor of St Peter and is the visible source and foundation of the unity of the Church.
- He has supreme teaching authority in faith and morals, and leads the entire church
- The college of Bishops in union with the Pope, never without him, also exercises the supreme and full authority over the Church
- The Bishops in union with the Pope teach, sanctify, and govern the People of God.

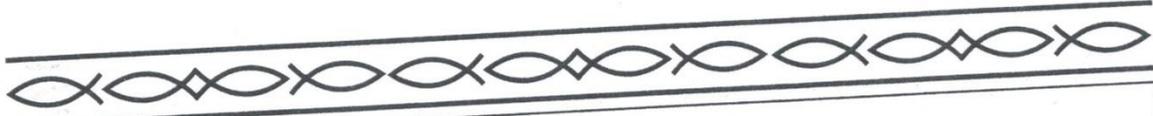
More Resources to Answer Your Questions

Videos

[Marks of the Church](#) 3:00 [Primacy of Peter](#) 3:00 [Bishop Barron on the power of laity](#) 8:06 [What is the Catholic Church](#) 4:25
[what are the gifts of God given to the Church](#) 2:50 [Duties of Bishops](#) 2:11 [who is called to a life of holiness](#) 4:00
[4 marks of the church](#) 8:24 [History of the church in 5 minutes](#)

Websites

- [Catholic Answers](#)
- [Credible Catholic](#)
- [Formed.org](#)

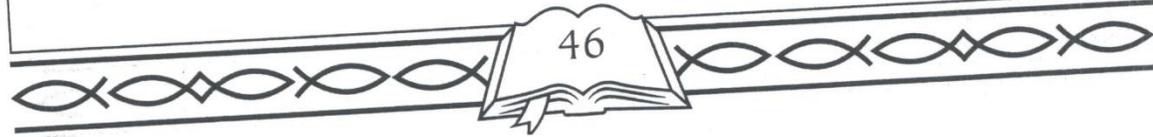


PETER THE ROCK



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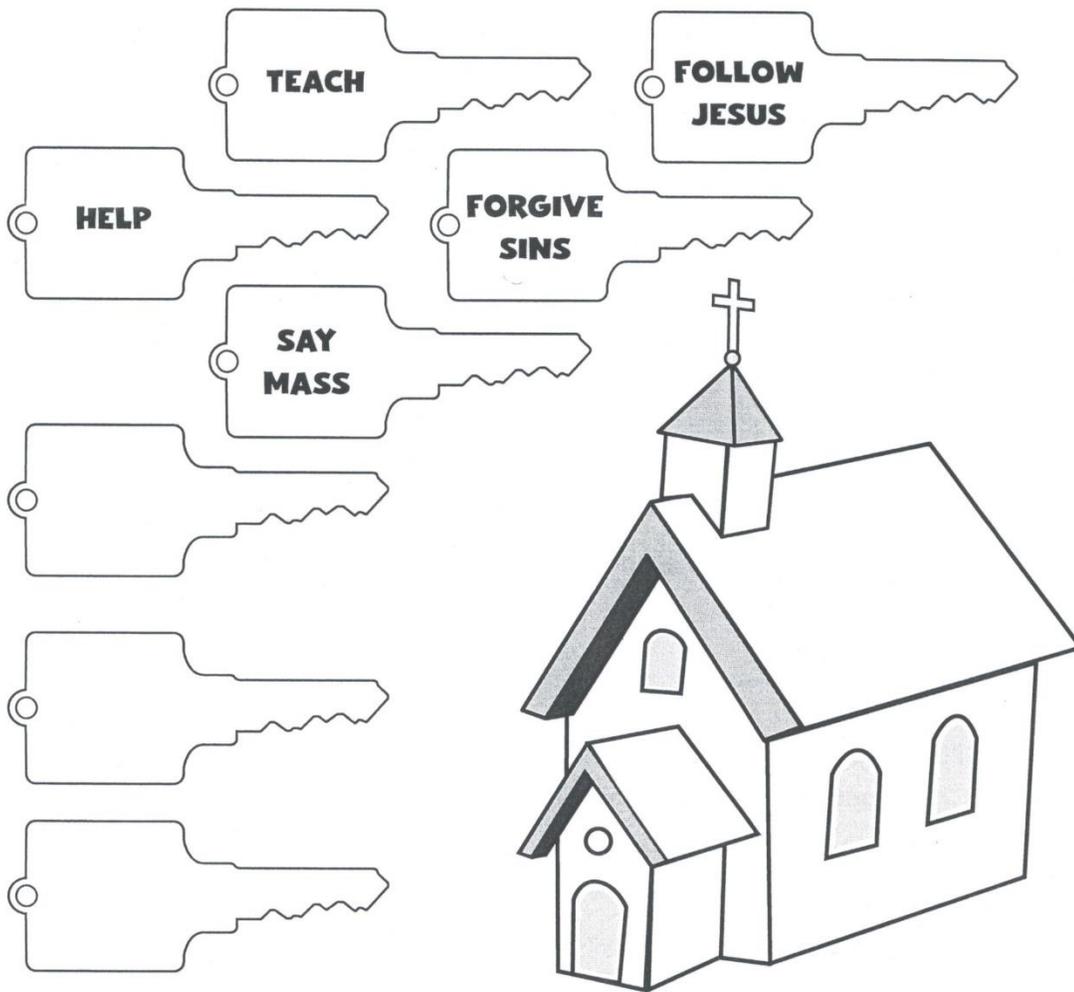
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| APOSTLE | LEADER | COURTYARD | ROME |
| DISCIPLE | BROTHER | GALILEE | CAPERNAUM |
| ROCK | ANDREW | SWORD | PILLAR |
| SIMON | DENIALS | EAR | NERO |



Name: _____

The Keys to the Kingdom

Cut out the church shape. Paste it on construction paper. Cut out the keys. The words on the keys tell some of the roles of the Pope. Punch out the hole at the top of each key, and then attach the keys to the base of the church building with string. On the three blank keys, write other roles of the Pope. Attach these keys with string to your church. Hang your church in your home.



Seek and Find: Look at pages 1488 and 1489 of your Bible. How many keys do you see on the story pages?