

**LIVE JESUS IN OUR HEARTS**

# **THE CHURCH FOUNDATIONS AND MISSION**



saint mary's press

# UNIT 1

## The Church: Christ's Living Presence in the World

What does the Church  
have to do with God?

### OVERVIEW

#### Unit Summary

This unit examines the origins of the Church in the life, ministry, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, with particular emphasis on the role of the Holy Spirit in the Church's growth over many centuries. The unit concludes with a consideration of "The Joy of Love" (*Amoris Laetitia*), the first of five papal documents that the students will study in this course.

#### Learning Objectives

DESIRED RESULTS	
TRANSFER	ESTABLISHED GOALS
<i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to . . .</i>	
Articulate how the Church began and how it has continued to grow and flourish, using insights gleaned from Scripture and from ecclesial documents.	<b>USCCB Framework</b> Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church: I.A.1,2,3.a,b,c,4, I.B.1-3, I.C.1-3, I.D.1.1-5, I.F.1-2; II.A.2, II.A.4, II.B.6; III.D.1; IV.B, IV.D.1, IV.D.1.d, IV.F.2, IV.G.1

MEANING MAKING	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS <i>Students will understand that . . .</i>	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS <i>Students will keep considering . . .</i>
<p>U1. Jesus Christ established the Church by his preaching and ministry, by his death and Resurrection, and by sending the Holy Spirit to guide the Twelve Apostles.</p> <p>U2. The Holy Spirit sustains, strengthens, and sanctifies the Church.</p>	<p>Q1. How did the Church get started?</p> <p>Q2. How has the Church kept going all these years?</p>
ACQUISITION	
KNOWLEDGE <i>Students will know . . .</i>	SKILLS <i>Students will be able to . . .</i>
<p>K1. The parables and miracles were key aspects of Jesus' preaching and ministry.</p> <p>K2. The parables and miracles teach us about how Jesus Christ established the Church and what the Church is called to be today.</p> <p>K3. The establishment of the Church would not have been possible without Jesus' death and Resurrection.</p> <p>K4. Jesus' Resurrection empowered the Apostles and disciples to share the Good News and to take on the leadership of the Church.</p> <p>K5. Jesus intentionally chose the Twelve Apostles to be leaders of his Church.</p> <p>K6. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to strengthen, sanctify, and guide the Church.</p> <p>K7. The Holy Spirit has allowed the Church to grow and flourish, from its earliest years to the present day.</p> <p>K8. The Holy Spirit sanctifies the Church through gifts, graces, and charisms.</p> <p>K9. The Holy Spirit helps us to pray.</p> <p>K10. The Holy Spirit is present through the ministry and leadership of the Pope.</p> <p>K11. "The Joy of Love" focuses on the joys, gifts, and challenges of family life.</p>	<p>S1. Read, analyze, and creatively interpret Scripture passages.</p> <p>S2. Articulate how events in the early Church are relevant for our lives of faith today.</p> <p>S3. Identify characteristics of the Apostles that prompted Jesus to choose them to be leaders of his Church.</p> <p>S4. Explain the essential role the Holy Spirit has played in the life of the Church.</p> <p>S5. Compose written or spoken prayers.</p> <p>S6. Conduct basic biblical and theological research.</p> <p>S7. Demonstrate the importance of the Holy Spirit's gifts, graces, and charisms in the lives of young people today.</p> <p>S8. Use critical thinking skills to read primary sources with care and attention to detail.</p> <p>S9. Reflect, orally and/or in writing, on their personal journey of faith, particularly regarding the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>S10. Engage in meaningful, faith-based conversations with their peers.</p>

# UNIT 2

## The Marks of the Church

Why does the Church matter?

### OVERVIEW

#### Unit Summary

In this unit, the students explore the four Marks of the Church—One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic—through a wide variety of methodologies designed to spark their deep, personal engagement with these somewhat abstract concepts. They will develop an awareness of the Church as one global Body of Christ, called to bear witness through exemplary holiness, generous service, and fearless proclamation of the Gospel.

#### Learning Objectives

DESIRED RESULTS	
TRANSFER	ESTABLISHED GOALS
<p><i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to . . .</i></p> <p>Express the significance of the Marks of the Church orally, visually, and in writing.</p>	<p><b>USCCB Framework</b> Jesus Christ’s Mission Continues in the Church: I.E.1–III, III.A.1–2, III.A.3.a–b, III.A.4.a.1–3, III.A.b.1–3, III.A.4.c, III.B.2, III.B.3.a–b, III.B.4, III.B.4.a, III.B.5, III.B.5.a–b, III.B.6.a–b, III.B.7, III.C.1–3, III.D.1–4; IV.B.3, IV.C.1–3, IV.D.1, IV.D.2.d, IV.D.2.d.1, IV.D.2.d.3, IV.D.2.d.3.a–b; V.A.3, V.B.1</p>

MEANING MAKING	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS <i>Students will understand that . . .</i>	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS <i>Students will keep considering . . .</i>
<p>U1. God wills that his one Church be united in faith, worship, leadership, and witness.</p> <p>U2. As members of the Body of Christ, we share in the Church’s holiness by cooperating with God’s grace and by joyfully responding to God’s call.</p> <p>U3. As the global Body of Christ, the Church is called to evangelize and serve all people and cultures.</p> <p>U4. We share in the Church’s apostolic mission when our words and actions seek to extend the Reign of God to the whole world.</p>	<p>Q1. How can members of the Church be united all around the world?</p> <p>Q2. If the Church’s members are regular, imperfect people, how can the Church be holy?</p> <p>Q3. How does the Church interact with different people and cultures?</p> <p>Q4. How can we be a part of the Church’s mission to share the Good News?</p>
ACQUISITION	
KNOWLEDGE <i>Students will know . . .</i>	SKILLS <i>Students will be able to . . .</i>
<p>K1. The Marks of the Church are four interrelated characteristics that Jesus shares with the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>K2. The Church’s unity is rooted in the unity of the Blessed Trinity, in the saving work of Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>K3. At various points in history, the Church’s unity has been wounded by brokenness and division.</p> <p>K4. The saints are models of holiness and intercessors for us.</p> <p>K5. We grow in holiness and cooperate with grace through the sacraments, Scripture, and service.</p> <p>K6. In the document “Rejoice and Be Glad” (“<i>Gaudete et Exsultate</i>”), Pope Francis offers practical advice for growing in holiness.</p> <p>K7. The Blessed Virgin Mary is our preeminent model of holiness.</p> <p>K8. Evangelization is the responsibility of all Christians.</p> <p>K9. The martyred Trappist monks of Algeria were beatified by Pope Francis because they gave their lives for the Church’s mission of evangelization and service.</p> <p>K10. Jesus sends us into the world to share the Good News, just as he once sent and commissioned his Apostles and original disciples.</p> <p>K11. The laity’s unique apostolate is bringing God’s Reign into their families, workplaces, communities, and other aspects of their daily lives.</p>	<p>S1. Utilize mind mapping to brainstorm ideas and visually organize their thoughts.</p> <p>S2. Create three-dimensional objects that symbolize abstract, theological concepts.</p> <p>S3. Participate meaningfully in a Socratic seminar.</p> <p>S4. Respectfully consider viewpoints and perspectives that differ from their own.</p> <p>S5. Critically assess online research sources.</p> <p>S6. Creatively synthesize and present information.</p> <p>S7. Closely read and analyze primary sources.</p> <p>S8. Generate concrete ideas for effective evangelization.</p> <p>S9. Analyze a film for both its factual content and its theological implications.</p> <p>S10. Engage in prayerful reflection (both oral and written) regarding their own lay apostolate.</p>

# UNIT 3

## Images of the Church

What does God want  
the Church to be like?

### OVERVIEW

#### Unit Summary

In this unit, the students explore images of the Church, beginning with Old Testament images that foreshadow the eventual development of the Church's identity and mission. They examine New Testament images drawn from the Gospels, the writings of Saint Paul, and the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as well as more contemporary images found in Vatican II documents and in the writings of Pope Francis. The unit concludes with a full chapter on the Church's relationship with other religions, with particular emphasis on the ongoing work of Christian unity and of dialogue with Jews and Muslims.

#### Learning Objectives

DESIRED RESULTS	
TRANSFER	ESTABLISHED GOALS
<i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to . . .</i>	
Identify, interpret, analyze, and internalize a wide variety of traditional and contemporary images of the Church.	<b>USCCB Framework</b> Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church: I.A.3.b, I.A.5, I.E.2; II.A, II.A.1-4, II.B.1-5, II.C, II.C.1-5; III.A.5, III.A.5.a-d, III.A.6, III.A.6.a-c, III.B.5

MEANING MAKING	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS <i>Students will understand that . . .</i>	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS <i>Students will keep considering . . .</i>
<p>U1. Images from Scripture give us insight into what God wants the Church to be.</p> <p>U2. Images of the Church drawn from the life of Mary, from Vatican II, and from Pope Francis help us to understand what the Church really is.</p> <p>U3. The Catholic Church works toward unity with other Christians and engages in respectful dialogue with other religions, especially Judaism and Islam.</p>	<p>Q1. What does God want the Church to be?</p> <p>Q2. How do different images of the Church help us to understand what the Church really is?</p> <p>Q3. What does the Catholic Church think of other religions?</p>
ACQUISITION	
KNOWLEDGE <i>Students will know . . .</i>	SKILLS <i>Students will be able to . . .</i>
<p>K1. Old Testament images foreshadow the Church that will come to be.</p> <p>K2. Gospel images of the Church include the flock gathered around Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and the branches growing in Jesus, the True Vine.</p> <p>K3. Saint Paul's images of the Church include the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and the Bride of Christ.</p> <p>K4. Mary's prayer of praise, the <i>Magnificat</i>, gives us insight into the Church's identity and mission.</p> <p>K5. Vatican II images of the Church include the people of God and a pilgrim people.</p> <p>K6. Images of the Church drawn from Pope Francis help us to understand how the Church is called to be in the world.</p> <p>K7. The Gospel of Matthew is an important resource for Jewish-Christian dialogue.</p> <p>K8. The religious roots of Christianity lie in Judaism.</p> <p>K9. Jews, Christians, and Muslims all believe in and worship the same, one God.</p> <p>K10. In "The Joy of the Gospel" (<i>Evangelii Gaudium</i>), Pope Francis presents an image of the Church that proclaims the gospel courageously while seeking common ground with people of diverse religious backgrounds.</p>	<p>S1. Utilize the concept of foreshadowing to analyze Old Testament images of the Church.</p> <p>S2. Interpret scriptural images of the Church in ways that are meaningful and relevant to the modern world.</p> <p>S3. Prayerfully meditate on Scripture, both orally and in writing.</p> <p>S4. Use artistic media, including visual art, music, and film, to communicate scriptural themes.</p> <p>S5. Identify religious symbols in visual art.</p> <p>S6. Recognize and articulate the significance of Jewish themes, references, and allusions in Christian texts, including the Gospel of Matthew.</p> <p>S7. Respectfully and confidently engage in interreligious dialogue.</p> <p>S8. Read ecclesial documents carefully and closely, with attention to their meaning, detail, and nuance.</p> <p>S9. Participate in meaningful theological conversations with their peers.</p>

# UNIT 4

## Ministry in the Church

How do we all share  
in Christ's mission?

### OVERVIEW

#### Unit Summary

This unit explores two broad topics: The Church's leadership and the call to holiness. Regarding the former, the students will learn about the Church's hierarchical communion, the Magisterium, and the many manifestations of both ordained and lay ministry. Regarding the latter, the students will gain a deep understanding of their own baptismal call to holiness, which invites them to serve the Church and world as Christ did—that is, as priest, prophet, and king. The unit concludes with a look at consecrated religious life, with particular focus on the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

#### Learning Objectives

DESIRED RESULTS	
TRANSFER	ESTABLISHED GOALS
<i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to . . .</i> Articulate and live out their own call to share in Christ's mission through personal holiness and through ministerial leadership.	<b>USCCB Framework</b> Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church: I.F.3; III.D.3; IV.D.1.a–c, IV.D.2.a–d, IV.E.1.a–e, IV.E.3.a–b, IV.F.1–3, IV.G.1–2; V.B.2, V.D.1.b



MEANING MAKING	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS <i>Students will understand that . . .</i>	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS <i>Students will keep considering . . .</i>
<p>U1. Both ordained and lay leaders in the Church seek to share the Gospel message, humbly serve the world, and lead others to Christ.</p> <p>U2. Being holy is the vocation of every baptized person. We live our vocation to holiness by making God a priority in our lives.</p>	<p>Q1. What does it mean to be a leader in the Church?</p> <p>Q2. What does a holy person look like?</p>
ACQUISITION	
KNOWLEDGE <i>Students will know . . .</i>	SKILLS <i>Students will be able to . . .</i>
<p>K1. The Pope is the Bishop of Rome, the head of the Holy See, and the head of the worldwide college of bishops.</p> <p>K2. When bishops gather in an Ecumenical Council, they act as leaders for the entire Church and exercise their infallible teaching authority as the Magisterium.</p> <p>K3. Bishops, priests, and deacons are the Church's ordained ministers.</p> <p>K4. The Church's lay ministers may work as volunteers or in paid, professional roles.</p> <p>K5. Through Baptism, we share in Christ's ministry as priest, prophet, and king.</p> <p>K6. As we live out our vocation to holiness, we can draw support from the Church, from prayer, and from the example and witness of other believers.</p> <p>K7. In "The Light of Faith" ("<i>Lumen Fidei</i>"), Pope Francis explores the image of faith as light.</p> <p>K8. Communities of consecrated religious sisters or brothers are either active, apostolic orders or are contemplative orders.</p> <p>K9. All consecrated religious publicly profess the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience as religious vows.</p> <p>K10. The evangelical counsels can help all of us to live our vocation to holiness.</p>	<p>S1. Think critically, carefully, and analytically regarding issues facing the global Church.</p> <p>S2. Dialogue respectfully and productively on topics and challenges pertaining to the Church's mission and the call to holiness.</p> <p>S3. Develop strategies for encouraging and fostering both ordained and lay ministry.</p> <p>S4. Research both volunteer and paid lay ministry opportunities.</p> <p>S5. Reflect orally and in writing on their own call to Church leadership and ministry.</p> <p>S6. Engage in student-centered cooperative learning.</p> <p>S7. Creatively interpret key themes of an ecclesial document.</p> <p>S8. Artistically express their own understanding of faith and its relationship to holiness.</p> <p>S9. Plan and produce a podcast.</p> <p>S10. Demonstrate the relevance of the evangelical counsels for all people, including teens, who are trying to live the vocation to holiness.</p>

# UNIT 5

## The Social Mission of the Church

How is the Church called to serve and transform the world?

### OVERVIEW

#### Unit Summary

This final unit of this course focuses on the Church’s social mission to serve and transform the world. Chapter 12 examines key Gospel passages—including several parables—that can guide and inspire our efforts to help the Church to fulfill this mission. Chapter 13 encourages the students to see the value in serving others and working for justice collectively, rather than only individually. This chapter also explores Pope Francis’s landmark encyclical “On Care for Our Common Home” (*“Laudato Si”*). The unit concludes by inviting the students to prayerfully consider their commitment to Gospel-centered volunteer service, both now and in the future.

#### Learning Objectives

DESIRED RESULTS	
TRANSFER	ESTABLISHED GOALS
<p><i>Students will be able to independently use their learning to . . .</i></p> <p>Discern concrete ways that they can help the Church to fulfill her social mission of serving others, working for justice, protecting creation, and transforming the world.</p>	<p><b>USCCB Framework</b> Jesus Christ’s Mission Continues in the Church: IV.A, IV.B.2, IV.B.4; V.A, V.A.1–2, V.A.4, V.B.2, V.B.3, V.C, V.C.1, V.C.2–3, V.D.1, V.D.1.a, V.D.1.c, V.D.2, V.D.2.a–b</p>

MEANING MAKING	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS <i>Students will understand that . . .</i>	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS <i>Students will keep considering . . .</i>
<p>U1. Jesus’ words and actions can inspire and guide our service of others and our work for justice.</p> <p>U2. Catholic service organizations and apostolic religious orders can help us to serve others and protect creation.</p> <p>U3. Through our commitment to prayerful, Gospel-centered volunteer service, we can be salt and light for the world.</p>	<p>Q1. How am I called to be holy?</p> <p>Q2. How can I best serve others?</p> <p>Q3. How can I make a difference?</p>
ACQUISITION	
KNOWLEDGE <i>Students will know . . .</i>	SKILLS <i>Students will be able to . . .</i>
<p>K1. Reading the signs of the times requires being aware of current events, concerned about the world’s problems, and willing to respond in the name of Christ.</p> <p>K2. The literal and symbolic meanings of religious artwork can move us to greater faith and compel us to prayer and action.</p> <p>K3. Gospel parables are particularly instructive and inspirational for our work of service and justice.</p> <p>K4. By washing the feet of his disciples, Jesus invited us to serve one another with hospitality, humility, and compassion.</p> <p>K5. Catholic Charities works to fulfill the Church’s social mission within the United States.</p> <p>K6. Catholic Relief Services works to fulfill the Church’s social mission internationally.</p> <p>K7. Roman Catholic apostolic religious orders are devoted to helping the Church to fulfill her social mission of serving others, working for justice, and protecting creation.</p> <p>K8. Pope Francis’s 2015 encyclical “On Care for Our Common Home” (<i>“Laudato Si”</i>) focuses on ecological issues.</p> <p>K9. All baptized Christians are called to promote unity in the Church through both prayer and service.</p> <p>K10. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus uses the images of salt and light to describe how we are to serve and transform the world.</p>	<p>S1. Critically analyze artistic depictions of Gospel stories.</p> <p>S2. Utilize visual artwork and poetry as a means of exploring Gospel stories.</p> <p>S3. Compose original poetry using the technique of a “found poem.”</p> <p>S4. Create original artwork that expresses various aspects of the Church’s social mission.</p> <p>S5. Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, respect, and personal engagement vis-à-vis a guest speaker.</p> <p>S6. Produce a video focused on one environmental issue raised by “On Care for Our Common Home” (<i>“Laudato Si”</i>).</p> <p>S7. Creatively interpret a key area of “On Care for Our Common Home” for a Catholic teen audience.</p> <p>S8. Prayerfully reflect on their future in light of their commitment to Gospel-centered service.</p> <p>S9. Engage in respectful, critical, and theologically substantive conversation with their peers.</p> <p>S10. Delve deeply into a multi-faceted consideration of the Gospel images of salt and light.</p>