

Adult Confirmation

Preparation

Session 3

The Church



- ◆ Opening prayer
- ◆ Registration forms - on webpage
- ◆ Sponsor forms
- ◆ Baptismal certificates
- ◆ Saint names - list on webpage, can Google; Catholic .org
- ◆ appointment to chat to review all your items needed for Confirmation
- ◆ Confirmation Date: **Saturday, Oct 31 @ 10A in Cathedral**
  - ◆ MASKs required
  - ◆ Social Distancing



# The Church

- History
- leadership
- community
- places in the church
- Life in Christ and the Church



# History

- Qahal (Hebrew) → Ekklesia (Greek) → Church (English)
- In Egypt
  - Exodus: Let my people go to serve me
    - God Summons Israel to Mt Sinai
  - 10 plagues, crossing Red Sea
  - Arrive Mt. Sinai, Ex 19-24
    - ‘Sanctified themselves’
    - Received the Word
    - Agreed (“All that the Lord has commanded us, we will do”)
    - Ratified with a sacrifice



# History

- Exodus 19:9b-11
- When Moses, then, had reported the response of the people to the Lord, **10** the Lord said to Moses: Go to the people and have them sanctify themselves today and tomorrow. Have them wash their garments **11** and be ready for the third day; for on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.
- Exodus 20 - The Ten Commandments



# History

- Exodus 24:3-4
- When Moses came to the people and related all the words and ordinances of the Lord, they all answered with **one voice**, “We will do everything that the Lord has told us.” 4 Moses then wrote down all the words of the Lord and, rising early in the morning, he built at the foot of the mountain an altar and twelve sacred stones for the twelve tribes of Israel.



# History

- Exodus 24:5-8
- Then, having sent young men of the Israelites to offer burnt offerings and sacrifice young bulls as communion offerings to the Lord, **6** Moses took half of the blood and put it in large bowls; the other half he splashed on the altar. **7** Taking the book of the covenant, he read it aloud to the people, who answered, “All that the Lord has said, we will hear and do.” **8** Then he took the blood and splashed it on the people, saying, “This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you according to all these words.”



# History

- Qahal (Heb) → Ekklesia (Greek) → Church (Eng)
- God Summons Israel to Mt Sinai
- Church / The Mass
  - ‘Sanctified themselves’ - prepare, holy water
  - Received the Word (liturgy of the Word, readings, homily)
  - The Great Amen
  - Eucharist (Liturgy of the Table)



# History

- Christ is crucified, dies, resurrected, ascends
- Acts 1:4 - told to wait in Jerusalem for the gift of the the Holy Spirit
  - the Advocate
    - upper room, 11 disciples, Mary, and others
    - chose Matthias to replace Judas
    - Prayed 9 days (*novena*)



# History

- On day 10, Pentecost (Jewish holy day)
- Acts 2 - The Holy Spirit (Advocate) arrives
  - loud noise, tongues of fire
  - speaking in tongues
  - people thought drunk
- **The Coming of the Spirit.** **1** When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. **2** And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. **3** Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.



# History

- Peter preaches the message of salvation
- **Peter's Speech at Pentecost.** **14** Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. **15** These people are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. **16** No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:.....
- **36** Therefore let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."



# History

- Acts 2:37 - what must we do?
- **37** Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, “What are we to do, my brothers?” **38** Peter [said] to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call.” **40** He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” **41** Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.



# History

- Acts 2: 42 - 47, we see the formation of the church (community of believers) in Jerusalem
- **Communal Life.** **42** They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. **43** Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. **44** All who believed were together and had all things in common; **45** they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. **46** Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, **47** praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.



# History

- Church ≠ building
  - Church is gathering of believers, worshiping God
  - in relationship with others
  - part of Christ's Kingdom
  - Ephesians 2:18-22 →



# History

- Ephesians 2:19-22
- **19** So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, **20** built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone.  
**21** Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; **22** in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.



Fr. Brice Higginbotham

# **Why Church?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsh0sygZpMI>



# Leadership

- Matthew 16:18
- **Peter's Confession About Jesus.** **13** When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" **14** They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." **15** He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." **17** Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. **18** And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. **19** I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." **20** Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah.



- ❖ The Greek word for rock is *petra* (“**πέτρα**”).
- ❖ ‘Peter’
  - ❖ Who is our first church leader (pope)
- ❖ Acts 2 - he preached the first message
- ❖ 1 & 2 Peter - sends letters to all the churches
- ❖ martyred for the faith



# Leadership

- Pope (Francis)
  - Magisterium
  - Cardinals
- Bishops (diocese)
  - Archbishops
    - (Archdiocese)
- Priests
  - Monsignor
- Deacons
- Laity





# Community

- Romans 12
- 1 Corinthians 12
- The Church is a body of believers



# Places in the Church









# Places in the Church

❖ Tabernacle





# Places in the Church

- ❖ Confessionals
- ❖ Sacristy
  - ❖ Priest
- ❖ Parish Center
  - ❖ Classrooms



# Life in the Church

- Hebrews 10:19-25
- **Recalling the Past.** **19** Therefore, brothers, since through the blood of Jesus we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary **20** by the new and living way he opened for us through the veil, that is, his flesh, **21** and since we have “a great priest over the house of God,” **22** let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. **23** Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy. **24** We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works. **25** We should not stay away from our assembly, as is the custom of some, but encourage one another, and this all the more as you see the day drawing near.



# Life in the Church

- 2 Peter 1:12-15
- **Apostolic Witness.** **12** Therefore, I will always remind you of these things, even though you already know them and are established in the truth you have. **13** I think it right, as long as I am in this “tent,” to stir you up by a reminder, **14** since I know that I will soon have to put it aside, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me. **15** I shall also make every effort to enable you always to remember these things after my departure.



# Catechism of the Catholic Church



# Precepts of the Catholic Church

The Catechism of the Catholic Church promulgates the following:<sup>11</sup>

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season.
4. You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.



“Be Holy for I am Holy”

–God



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# **Why Mass on Sunday?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Crozo93Mupg>



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