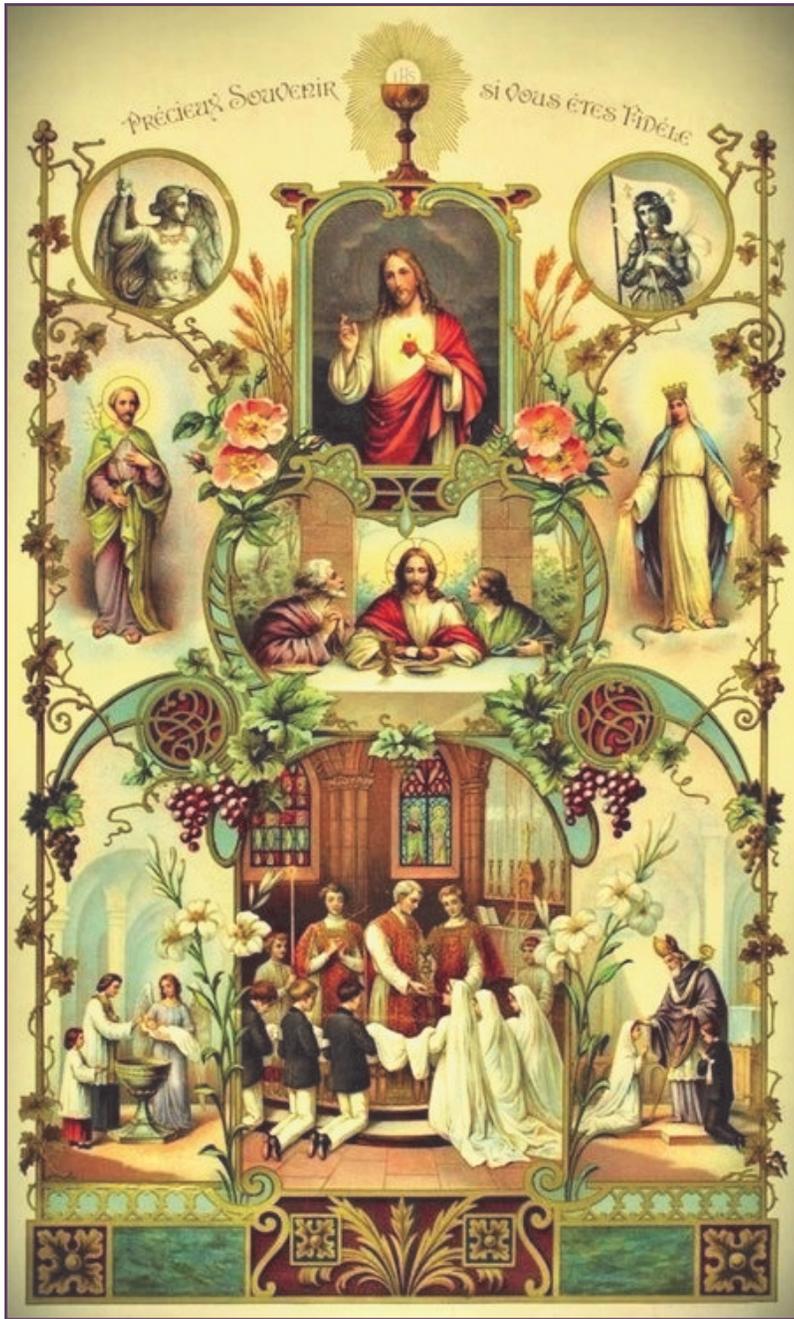


CHRIST'S CHURCH

(By Father J.J. Thilges, SVD - 1951)



Do you desire to know Christ more fully, long to love Him more than you do now and wish to find salvation in Him and through Him? God has put you on earth that you may save your soul. Your soul is your greatest treasure! It is your better self. It cannot die because it is a spirit. It is made in the image and likeness of God. It will live as long as God lives. Men of good will rejoice that they are destined to live forever, because they realize their eternity is to be spent with God in a state of unending happiness. But, what will eternity hold for us? Will it be Heaven or Hell? We must enter by the narrow gate, for wide and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many there are who enter that way.

***What do you think of your soul?
Do you know its value?***

Christ has esteemed and loved your soul so much that He was crucified and died for its salvation. It is more precious than all the possessions and glory of this world. Whatever else you may possess, when you come to die, you must leave it all behind; your soul alone you take with you to appear before the Judge Who will reward or punish you, either with eternal glory in Heaven or eternal shame in Hell, according to your conduct on earth. Here on earth, we are on probation. It is a testing ground for eternity.

The majority of men today live as if there was no eternity, no Heaven to gain and no Hell to escape. They are spiritually asleep until death surprises them. In order to be saved, you must do three things:

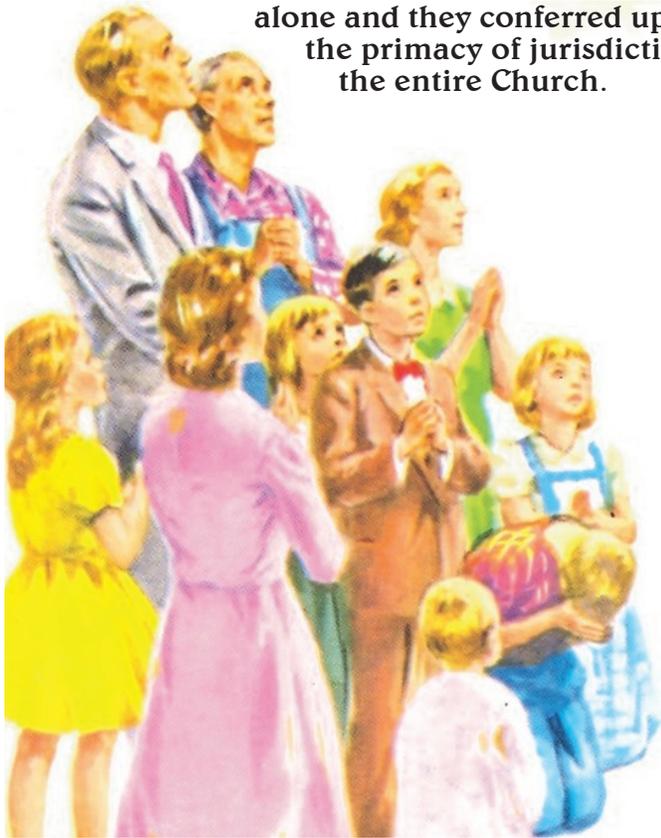
**FIRST, BELIEVE WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED,
SECOND, KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS,
THIRD, RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS.**

Faith alone does not save you. The Father has loved you and gave His only Son to redeem you; the Son has loved you because He died on the Cross for your salvation; and the Holy Ghost loves you because He is at work in your soul to sanctify you. See then, how precious your soul is in God's Eyes.

Mary became the spiritual Mother of all the redeemed at the Incarnation. She is also your Mother. Acknowledge her as your Mother, and you will find Christ. Mary is your way to Christ. St. John received Mary as his Mother not only for himself but also for all of us. The Mother of Christ is the Mother of all Christians. After you have found Mary, and through Mary, Christ, your Savior, you are on the secure path toward Salvation. It was by Mary that our salvation began. We must go to Mary and pray to her if we are to be given the grace necessary to find the True Church of her Divine Son and be saved.

Christ conferred upon the Apostles the power to teach, govern and sanctify. **"SIMON PETER, FEED MY LAMBS!"**

These words were addressed to Peter alone and they conferred upon him the primacy of jurisdiction over the entire Church.



As Christ Himself was the Good Shepherd, so then Peter became the supreme shepherd in Christ's Church. He is to act as Christ's vicar on earth. Today, Christianity is hopelessly divided. Of all the Churches in existence, the Catholic Church alone has these four Marks; hence It alone is Christ's True Church. The four Marks of the Church by which It may be identified and easily recognized are:

UNITY, HOLINESS, CATHOLICITY and APOSTOLICITY

The Catholic Church and It alone possesses the Mark of Holiness; Christ, Its Founder, is Holiness itself. Christ instituted the Seven Sacraments which were to serve mankind as the seven Channels of Grace and Sanctification.

Catholic means universal. The Catholic Church is Apostolic. It teaches the same doctrine which the apostles taught, It inherited the same mission or authority of uninterrupted succession of pastors and the apostolicity of the Church is theirs alone.

Christ is still upon earth. He is with His own. He lives in the Tabernacles of the Catholic Church. **"He who is not with Me, is against ME!"** Religious indifferentism is positively evil! It is wrong to say that every man is free to embrace and profess any religion, guided by the light of reason. We must not be surprised to see the Church persecuted, calumniated and misrepresented, for Christ, her Founder, declared that She would be: **"They have persecuted Me, and they will persecute you too. If the world hates you, know that it hated Me first."**

LET US REMAIN STEADFAST AND CLING ALWAYS AND FEARLESSLY TO OUR CATHOLIC ROOTS OF DOGMA, DOCTRINE AND DEVOTION!

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