

JULY 5: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Zec 9:9-10 | Rom 8:9, 11-13 | Mt 11:25-30 | CCC 830-831, 868

THE CHURCH IS APOSTOLIC

- The word 'Catholic' means universal
- The Church offers the fullness of salvation to all of humanity
- As such, she has been sent out to all the world -All of humanity, in turn, is called and invited to union with Christ in the Church

Why is the Church called "Catholic"? The Church is catholic, that is universal, insofar as Christ is present in her: "Where there is Christ Jesus, there is the Catholic Church" (Saint Ignatius of Antioch). The Church proclaims the fullness and the totality of the faith; she bears and administers the fullness of the means of salvation; she is sent out by Christ on a mission to the whole of the human race. (*Compendium #166*)

JULY 12: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 55:10-11 | Rom 8:18-23 | Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9 | CCC 857, 861-865, 869

THE CHURCH IS APOSTOLIC

- The Church is built on the foundation of the Apostles
- She guards and hands on the teaching of the Apostles
- She is taught, governed and sanctified by bishops, the successors of the Apostles, in communion with the Pope (Peter's successor)
- We refer to the passing on of this mission and ministry in the sacrament of Holy Orders as "Apostolic Succession"

Why is the Church apostolic? The Church is apostolic in her origin because she has been built on "the foundation of the Apostles" (Eph 2:20). She is apostolic in her teaching which is the same as that of the Apostles. She is apostolic by reason of her structure insofar as she is taught, sanctified, and guided until Christ returns by the Apostles through their successors who are the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter. (*Compendium #174*)

JULY 19: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wis 12:13, 16-19 | Rom 8:26-27 | Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30 | CCC 774-776, 780, 1113-1131

THE CHURCH AND THE SACRAMENTS

- Sacraments are visible and efficacious (effective) signs of grace instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, through which God gives divine life
- The Church is referred to the "universal sacrament of salvation" because she is the sign and instrument of the reconciliation and communion God desires for all of humanity
- This salvific (saving) work of the Church is especially visible in the Seven Sacraments
- The Seven Sacraments are: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony

What does it mean to say that the Church is the universal sacrament of salvation? This means that she is the sign and instrument both of the reconciliation and communion of all of humanity with God and of the unity of the entire human race. (*Compendium #152*)

JULY 26: SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 | Rom 8:28-30 | Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46 | CCC 1691-1698

LIFE IN CHRIST

- Beginning in baptism and through all the sacraments, new life is communicated to the faithful
- This is a life as children of God
- It is the divine life (God's life) lived in the grace of Christ and the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Life in Christ is an elevated calling, but also one to which all are called

How is the Christian moral life bound up with faith and the sacraments? What the symbol of faith professes, the sacraments communicate. Indeed, through them the faithful receive the grace of Christ and the gifts of the Holy Spirit which give them the capability of living a new life as children of God in Christ whom they have received in faith. (*Compendium #357*)

