

The Four Marks of the Church

NAME _____

At each Sunday Mass, when we say the Nicene Creed, we state four things we believe about the Church. We say the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. We call these the “marks”, or characteristics, of the Church. This activity will explore these four characteristics.

For each sentence, write the letter for the “mark” that best fits.

O = One **H** = Holy **C** = Catholic **A** = Apostolic

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| <p>_____ 1. The source of the Church is God himself, the mysterious unity of Three Persons in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.</p> | <p>_____ 7. Where there are divisions among Christians, the Holy Spirit inspires us to pray and work for unity.</p> |
| <p>_____ 2. Through the pope, bishops, and priests, the Church continues the mission Jesus gave his chosen followers: “As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.”</p> | <p>_____ 8. The Church is “universal” because she received from Christ all that is needed for salvation.</p> |
| <p>_____ 3. Catholics all over the world profess the same faith.</p> | <p>_____ 9. All members of the Church share in the work of the first Apostles to spread the good news of Christ.</p> |
| <p>_____ 4. The members of the Church, the People of God, are called saints.</p> | <p>_____ 10. The Church is sanctified by Christ.</p> |
| <p>_____ 5. Jesus invites all people to become fully his within the Catholic Church.</p> | <p>_____ 11. Each particular Catholic church, that is, each diocese, is in communion with the Church of Rome.</p> |
| <p>_____ 6. The Church “canonizes” certain of its members; that is, we recognize as models those Christians who practiced heroic virtue and faithfulness to God and who now dwell with him in heaven.</p> | <p>_____ 12. The Holy Spirit dwells in the Church to ensure the continuous teaching Jesus gave to the Twelve.</p> |

C. Write the letter of the description that best matches the words below.

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| _____ 11. catholic | a. mark of the Church that stresses unity |
| _____ 12. Last Judgment | b. mark of the Church that stresses the apostles' role in establishing it |
| _____ 13. one | c. when Christ returns in glory |
| _____ 14. magisterium | d. mark of the Church that stresses its being open to everyone |
| _____ 15. holy | e. means that a teaching cannot be in error |
| | f. mark of the Church that stresses Jesus being its founder |
| | g. the teaching authority of the Church |
| | h. mark of the Church that stresses its foundation in the apostles |

D. Write a short response to each question on a sheet of paper.

- 16. What does it mean to take the Ten Commandments to heart?
- 17. As Catholics, what is our basic understanding of the Trinity?
- 18. Why is God known as the Creator?
- 19. What is the Kingdom of God?
- 20. What is the Communion of Saints?

Self-Assessment

Rate your understanding of each item below. Use the following:

- A – I understand and can explain it well.
- B – I have a general understanding but am uncertain about some important details.
- C – I do not understand.

- _____ the Nicene Creed
- _____ Kingdom of God
- _____ magisterium
- _____ the marks of the Church
- _____ purgatory

If you do not understand one of the ideas above, write a question you would like to ask about it.

Chapter 3 Quiz

A. Circle the choice that best completes each sentence.

1. When we pray the Nicene Creed, we make a *covenant* / *statement* about who we are and how we live.
2. Mary was sinless from her conception, which we celebrate as the *Assumption.* / *Immaculate Conception.*
3. For three years Jesus taught people how to love and showed them the power of the *Kingdom of God.* / *magisterium.*
4. The work toward the unity of all Christians is *ecumenism.* / *infallibility.*
5. The Church is *catholic* / *apostolic* because it continues the work begun by Jesus' followers.

B. Circle the best answer for each question or the appropriate phrase to complete each statement.

6. What did Moses say is the true way to follow God's teachings?
 - a. to pray without ceasing
 - b. to love our neighbors as ourselves
 - c. to celebrate the Eucharist often
 - d. to love God with all our heart, soul, and strength
7. *Creed* comes from the Latin word that means
 - a. "I believe."
 - b. "I am."
 - c. "God reigns."
 - d. "Praise God."
8. Mary's body and soul were taken into heaven in the
 - a. Annunciation.
 - b. Coronation.
 - c. Assumption.
 - d. Immaculate Conception.
9. What is the term for the pope's teaching on matters of faith and morals?
 - a. infallible teaching
 - b. magisterium teaching
 - c. ecumenical teaching
 - d. dogma teaching
10. What is it called when our time for choosing is over?
 - a. Last Judgment
 - b. purgatory
 - c. assumption
 - d. Particular Judgment

continued

Meeting the Requirements

Any choice we make to do good needs to meet three requirements:

- A. The action must be good.
- B. Our intention must be good.
- C. The circumstances must be considered.

Read each of the items below and place an A, B, or C in the box to indicate which requirement needs to be considered.

A	Example: I needed to pass the Social Studies exam in order to graduate, but since I hadn't studied, I arranged to get the answers from a classmate.
	I volunteered to go work at the shelter mainly because I thought it would help my chances of getting elected student council president.
	I enjoy spending time with Brian because we always talk trash about the guys we can't stand.
	I tried to explain to my friends that the only reason I broke my promise about coming to the party was because my grandmother got sick.
	I really felt bad about not contributing the amount I pledged to the walk-a-thon. If only people understood how hard things have been since my dad lost his job.
	I spent the afternoon with Laura, the girl everyone ignores, because I thought she could get me some passes to the theater where her mother works.
	What's the big deal? We were only taking CDs that were in the clearance bin anyway.
	I decided to join the choir at church because it should improve my chances of getting the lead role in the school musical. The director just happens to be a parishioner.
	I know that Elena said she was late because she had to run an errand for her mom first, but a promise is a promise, and she broke it.

Chapter 4 Quiz

A. Write the word that best completes each sentence.

1. Jesus tells us we can find help in the _____ and the _____.
2. Being free means that we are _____ for our own actions.
3. Our _____ guides us to know whether or not we are making a good choice.
4. We meet others' needs through the _____.
5. By performing acts of _____ you can set an example for others of what it means to be a Christian.

B. Write *T* for *True* or *F* for *False* for each statement.

- _____ 6. The Beatitudes are more about whom we should be than what we should do.
- _____ 7. Any good choice must meet five requirements.
- _____ 8. We meet people's physical needs through the corporal works of mercy.
- _____ 9. A great person has a heart for others.
- _____ 10. As Christians we are called to serve ourselves first, God second, and others third.

C. Choose the best answer for each question or the phrase that appropriately completes each sentence.

11. By practicing what was taught in the Sermon on the Mount, we can find

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| a. suffering. | c. pleasure. |
| b. happiness. | d. our inner self. |

12. God created us to be

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| a. free. | c. loyal followers. |
| b. perfect. | d. tempted by sin. |

13. According to the Gospel of Mark, how we should love our neighbor?

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| a. as ourself | c. as Jesus' followers |
| b. as friends | d. as Mary loved Jesus |

14. Which of the following is a response of love?

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| a. apathy | c. fear |
| b. selfishness | d. forgiveness |

15. John 13:34 deals with

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| a. the Beatitudes. | c. the New Commandment. |
| b. the Ten Commandments. | d. the Great Commandment. |

D. Write a short response to each question on a sheet of paper.

16. What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?
17. How can we find happiness?
18. What are the three requirements of making a good moral choice?
19. How does our conscience help us to make moral decisions?
20. What are actions we can take that show others we are Catholic?

Self-Assessment

Rate your understanding of each item below. Use the following:

A – I understand and can explain it well.

B – I have a general understanding but am uncertain about some important details.

C – I do not understand.

_____ Beatitudes

_____ Ten Commandments

_____ requirements of making good choices

_____ Christian love

_____ Christian service

If you do not understand one of the ideas above, write a question you would like to ask about it.
