

A Church That Is Catholic

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 8*.

❖ In God’s plan, everyone is included. No one is left out. Jesus showed that God loves all people and wants to save everyone from sin and death.

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❖ The Church is catholic, meaning that it is “universal, worldwide, total, for all.” Because the Church is catholic, those who are not Christian are related to us in other ways. The Church strives to communicate effectively with every culture and nation in the world. When we strive to increase understanding between different religions, we call that interreligious dialogue.

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❖ When members gather for the Sunday eucharistic liturgy and then promote the well-being of all people, the sign of being catholic becomes visible.

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❖ Cultural and political differences led to a split in 1054 between the Eastern and Western Churches. Those Eastern Churches are referred to as Orthodox. Today 21 Eastern Catholic Churches have rejoined with the Roman Church. The five major Eastern Catholic Churches are the Chaldean, Syrian, Coptic, Armenian, and Byzantine.

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❖ In a Byzantine Church, the Eucharist is given under the forms of tiny bread cubes mixed with wine that people receive on a spoon.

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❖ Communion with the pope, the fullness of the Gospel, and the Mass and sacraments are elements shared among the Eastern and Western Catholic Churches.

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❖ Founded in 1843, the Holy Childhood Association is an international organization of students in Catholic elementary schools that helps less fortunate children.

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❖ Pope John Paul II called for a “new evangelization” directed toward people who have heard the Good News but are indifferent to it.

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