

The Early Church

Read these summaries to review important terms and the main idea of each article in Unit 1.

Refer to the glossary to find definitions of the vocabulary terms.

SESSION 1: JESUS' MESSAGE (pages 1–9)

Preaching the Gospel

DEFINE Salvation, Beatitudes, Kingdom of God

REMEMBER Like Peter, we discover that Jesus is the source of our Salvation, as we develop our relationship with him. The Lord's Prayer is at the heart of the Gospel message.

ARTICLE 1

The Church Begins

DEFINE Pentecost, mission, Lord, Church

REMEMBER After his Ascension, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the community of his followers. Filled with the Holy Spirit, this community became the Church to which we belong today.

ARTICLE 2

SESSION 2: THE CHURCH GROWS (pages 10–16)

Apostle to the Gentiles

DEFINE Pharisee, grace, Council of Jerusalem

REMEMBER Paul became known as the Apostle to the Gentiles because he responded to the Holy Spirit's prompting to share the Good News of Salvation with all people, not just the Jews.

ARTICLE 1

Proclaiming Jesus to the World

DEFINE convert, Eucharist

REMEMBER During the Council of Jerusalem, the early leaders of the Church decided that Gentile converts to Christianity did not also need to follow Jewish laws and customs.

ARTICLE 2

SESSION 3: **WITNESSES TO THE FAITH** (pages 17–23)

ARTICLE 1	The Martyrs and the Communion of Saints
	DEFINE charism, intercessor, Communion of Saints, relic, Gifts of the Holy Spirit
	REMEMBER The early Christian martyrs gave their lives as witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE 2	The Early Martyrs
	DEFINE blasphemy, Sanhedrin, catechumen
	REMEMBER By dying for their faith, Saints Stephen, Polycarp, Perpetua, and Felicity provide examples of how to respond to God's gift of Salvation through Jesus Christ.

SESSION 4: **THE CATECHUMENATE IN THE EARLY CHURCH** (pages 24–30)

ARTICLE 1	Joining the Early Church
	DEFINE catechumenate, liturgy, neophyte
	REMEMBER After the catechumenate, the catechumens are welcomed into the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

ARTICLE 2	The Sacraments of Initiation
	DEFINE justice, character, age of reason
	REMEMBER The graces we receive in Baptism, which help us live a life of faith, are perfected in Confirmation and strengthened in the Eucharist.

SESSION 5: **CELEBRATING ORDINARY TIME** (pages 31–37)

ARTICLE 1	Saints Show Us the Way
	DEFINE venerate, sacramental, canonization
	REMEMBER The liturgical calendar includes feast days of the saints and martyrs. By remembering these holy men and women, we recognize their faithfulness and commit ourselves to following their example.

ARTICLE 2	Turn to Mary
	DEFINE <i>Magnificat</i> , Assumption
	REMEMBER Mary, the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church, is the perfect model of discipleship. We can turn to her for an example of how to live out Jesus' call of love and service.