

The People of God

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 11**.

King Louis IX of France had a great love for God and for the French people. He made fair laws and protected the people from unjust treatment. He supported the building of hospitals, schools, and religious institutions.

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Jesus' disciples make up the universal Church, a community of believers that is open to everyone.

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We become full members of Jesus' Church through the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

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We receive new life in Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism. The Eucharist strengthens our union with Christ and his Church. The grace of the Holy Spirit strengthens us through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

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We receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

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Another way to describe who we are as a Church community is as the People of God. The People of God worship together publicly at Mass.

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When the risen Jesus visited the Apostles, he instructed them to go forth and make new disciples and continue his mission by teaching others how to follow God's commandments.

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Saint Dominic was a preacher from Spain who founded a new religious community called the Order of Preachers. The members of this community are also called Dominicans.

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