

The Catholic Tradition on Defining a Cult.

THE ONE TRUE CHURCH

www.catholictradition.org/Tradition/cults.htm

{The following quotes were gleaned from the above article to express the Catholic definition of a Cult. The Question I, **Gary**, would like to present is: *Does the Catholic Church “mirror herself in her definition of a cult”?* To answer this I will quote Catholic sources or Scripture or Use a brief explanation of my own. The article is still on going.}

1. “... the battle we fight is essentially against underworld powers and principalities and just how successful Satan has been in leading astray _____ who are vulnerable at key points in their lives, leading them into the nightmare of apostasy ... *providing them with false hope through membership ... Actually any false religion is equally to be avoided, but you might be asking yourself, just what is a cult ... sect ...*”

{Quoted from: Our Sunday Visitor, Pastoral Answers,

MSGR. CHARLES POPE, September 28, 2014 pg. 15 www.osv.com

Q. “Satan’s Influence: If the devil is truly condemned to hell, how does he continue to wield so much power on earth? ...

A. ... Why God permits freedom to demons ... is mysterious. We know that God permits evil as a necessary condition of freedom for the rational creatures he has created. Angels and humans ...

Demons like human beings, suffer defeats as well as victories. ... Anyone who has ever attended an exorcism can attest that demons do suffer a great deal, **especially** when the faithful pray and make pious use of sacraments and sacramentals such as holy water, relics, blessed medals, rosaries **and so forth**. Faith and love are deeply disturbing to demons.”}

“It is My (**Gary’s**) contention that it is faith in Jesus’ Victory over Satan, accomplished through Jesus’ suffering/death, burial and resurrection, that gives us the victory and an everlasting true hope.

Jesus said: ‘I am the way, and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’ John 14:6.

And our weapons against Satan are not ‘sacraments and sacramentals’ but the armor and the word of God. ‘... Put on the full armor of God ... to stand against ... the devil. ... HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH ... PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. ... shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE ... taking up the shield of faith

... to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one. ... take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ... pray at all times in the Spirit, and ... be on the alert with all perseverance and petition ... pray on my behalf ... to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel' Ephesians 6:10-19.

'In Him [Christ], you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's on possession, to the praise of His glory' Ephesians 1:13-14.

'But God ... even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus ... For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of your selves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. ... In Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace ... in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. ... for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father ... you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household' Ephesians 2:4-6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19.

The Catholic Church, through her teachings, gives her followers a false hope in their battle against Satan for their souls. The Bloodless sacraments, sacramentals, good works, devotions to Mary and Purgatory will not get them to Heaven. It is only through repentance of sin and a faith in Jesus, who shed His blood on the Cross for the cleansing of our souls, that we will glorify God. This is the obedient response to His command to believe to the saving of the soul and to living a victorious Christian life. **Gary.**"

2. *"... the organized groups that originally broke off from the only True Church ..."*

www.google.com Pope (Benedict): Other Denominations not true churches.
www.tldm.org/News11/OtherDenominationsNotTrueChurches.htm

58 Questions on Why the Catholic Church is the Only True Church of Jesus Christ.
www.stpeterslist.com/11866/58-questions-on-why-the-catholic-church-is-the-only-true-church-of-jesus-christ/

Ten Reasons the Catholic Church is the One True Church. Dec. 23, 2013
www.primacyofreason.blogspot.com/2013/12/ten-reasons-catholic-church-is-one-true-23.html

The Marks and Attributes of the Church
www.catholicity.com/baltimore-catechism/lesson12.html

How Do We Know It's the True Church? Twelve things to Look for.
By: Father Dwight Longenecker, Catholic Answers Magazine Vol. 18 #5
<http://www.catholic.com/magazine/articles/how-do-we-know-it's-the-true-church>

Questions and Answers about the Marks and Attributes of the Church (RCC).
<https://www.ewtn.com/faith/teachings/chura2a.htm>

National Catholic Register A Service of EWTN
www.ncregister.com/search/results2/
Search: Is the Catholic Church the One True Church?

Recognizing the True Church by: Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.
www.therealpresence.org/archives/Church_Dogma/Church_Dogma_026.htm

The One True Church by: Fr. Arnold Damen, S.J. (1815-1890)
<http://www.drbo.org/church2.htm>
<http://olrl.org/apologetics/churchbible.shtml>

“**Gary**, The Only True Church includes followers of Jesus Christ who obey the preaching and teaching of the scriptures under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Apostle Paul writes to Timothy:

‘But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables’ 2 Timothy 3:13-4:4.

Gary, ‘The book of Galatians records the instance of false leaders which broke away from The One True Church, some which were in ecumenical dialog with the apostle Peter. These were supposed Christian leaders who came from James. They were of Jewish descent who taught that the Gentiles should obey the law and be circumcised in order to be saved and recognized as members of the church.

Paul writes: 'Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead) ... Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As I said before, so I say now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed' Galatians 1:1-8.

[Gary, Here is Paul's gospel as shared in 1 Corinthians:

'Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that He was seen of Cephas (Peter), then of the twelve. ... then of five hundred brethren at once ... of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all He was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. ... Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed' 1 Corinthians 15:1—8, 11.]

Paul continues to the Galatians: 'But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. ... Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me ... after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. But other of the apostles say I none, save James the Lord's brother' Galatians 1:11, 12, 17-19.

'Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run in vain. But neither Titus who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised. And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. ... But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him ... Barnabas also ... But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews? ... Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in

Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. ...

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness comes by the law, then Christ is dead in vain' Galatians 2:1-5, 11-14, 16, 20, 21.

'The Gospel is of Faith Alone in Christ fulfillment of the law on our behalf. Our debt to God for our sins has been paid in full. Through our faith in Christ His righteousness is credited to our account.

Any Church which claims to be The One True Church and has added laws to the gospel and what Christ has done for the payment of our sin is false. **Gary.**'"

Comparing the "one true" Churches <http://www.theholdermans.com/compare.htm>

Non – Catholic churchgoers before 1965 AD will be cast into Hell!

Doctrinal Flip Flops. Today it is different. www.bible.ca/cath-one-true-church.htm

3. "The notion of Heaven and Hell and how or if one arrives there can vary from vague to specific and ... not at all ..."

"The Catholic Answer' magazine September/October 2011 pg. 28-29 The Question is Titled:

'Are Muslims and Protestants Saved?

www.osv.com

Q. I'm writing about a few puzzling teachings of other faiths. [Some] Muslims believe when they kill in the name of Allah they'll go right to heaven. Do they all get what they believe? (Normally you get what you believe.) (Does this hold true in these circumstances?)

Protestants ...?

F. R., Oakdale, Minn.

A. Protestants ...

It's true that some radical Muslims believe there is heavenly reward for killing infidels who resist conversion to the Muslim faith. We Christians know there can be no possible reward for murder. It is a mortal sin, which cuts the murderer off from God. Strictly speaking, those radical Muslims would not be guilty of mortal sin because they believed what they did was right. But they would still be murderers. Bearing all the spiritual, moral and emotional consequences of having taken innocent life. If God in His mercy should admit them into purgatory, there they would require unimaginable purgation."

{“Gary – Special Note: According to Catholic teachings; members of other Religions are permitted into heaven if they believe they are loving God the best way they know how – this is called being an ‘implicit Catholic’ because had they known the Catholic Church was the One True Church it may be implied that they would have gladly received and been born again through the Catholic Sacrament of Water Baptism.”}

Do Muslims Go to Heaven? – Just for Catholics by: Dr. Joe Mizzi.

www.justforcatholics.org/a135.htm

Non-Catholic churchgoers before 1965 AD will be cast into Hell!

Doctrinal Flip Flops. Today It Is different!

www.bible.ca/cath-one-true-church.htm

Vatican’s New Catechism declares Muslims and Jews to be saved!

<http://biblelight.net/newcat.htm>

Baptism of Desire: Its’ Origin and Abandonment ... April 28, 2011

<http://catholicism.org/baptism-of-desire-its-origin-and-abandonment-in-the-thought-of-saint-augustine.html>

Baptism of Desire Essayed in View of the Extra-ordinary Magisterium.

www.romancatholicism.org/bod-thesis.html

Baptism of Desire – EWTN.com

<https://www.ewtn.com/library/DOCTRINE/BAPTISM.TXT>

Implicit Desire for Baptism – Catholic Theology Q & A

www.catholicplanet.net/forum/showthread.php?t=2960

Roman Catholic Teaching on Implicit Baptism of Desire

the blog of: Ronald L. Conte Jr.

<https://ronconte.wordpress.com/2015/02/01/roman-catholic-teaching-on-implicit-baptism-of-desire/>

The Necessity of the Catholic Church – Holy Trinity Catholic By: Greg Witherow

www.holytrinityparish.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/The-Necessity-of-the-Catholic-Church.pdf

4. “... their roots are directly from the ____ revolt ... *heresies that grew exponentially were a deformation of the Word of God ... formed around an exaggeration of one aspect of doctrine ...*”

Purgatory – “**Gary**: The Apocryphal book of 2 Maccabees is not included in the Jewish canon of Scripture as is not the other Apocryphal books. 2 Maccabees 12:39 – 46 is the passage used to support the notion of purgatory in the ‘Whole Bible’ with some miss used scriptures to help support it from the New Testament: James 2:26 which speaks of the necessity of good works for justification before man but before God our justification is by grace through faith as shared in Ephesians 2:8-10 ‘For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not of works, so no one may boast. For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them’ (St. Joseph NAB). Another verse used is 2 Corinthians 5:10 which says we must appear before God’s judgment seat. It doesn’t say anything about being able to pay money to help dead loved ones get out of purgatory; or that there will be some suffering sinners need to go through to cleanse away sin before they enter heaven. Jesus shared in the Gospel of John: ‘They said to Him, ‘What can we do to accomplish the works of God? Jesus answered and said to them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in the one He sent’ John 6:28, 29.

If you have done good by trusting in Jesus or if you have done evil by not believing on Him you will suffer accordingly.

The Old & New Testaments are overflowing with passages speaking of God’s love, mercy, forgiveness and the blood of the innocent lamb that must be shed for the forgiveness of sin. Here is some of what Apostle Peter wrote:

‘Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ to the strangers scattered throughout ... Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found into praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love: in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of

Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as He which hath called you is holy so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers: But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.

Who by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted, that the Lord is gracious' 1 Peter 1:1 -2:3.

'But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Mass

Mary

5. *"... tend to control doctrinal ideas substantially more narrowly ..."*

6. "... all religions except ___?___ are false, by exerting control on doctrinal ideas, they make it more difficult for their members to learn the truth."

7. "Only the ___?___ has a mandate through ... to preserve and disseminate His saving truth as revealed to His Church."

8. "The word *cult*, is derived from the Latin, *cultus*, which is the worship rendered to God and the veneration of the Saints. The meaning of the word *culture* is derived from it. All cultures are based on some religion, at least in the beginning ...
... very religious, they rigorously place their faith in ..."

9. "'Cults' as we use the term here, are bodies of variant ... that broke off from ... and are reformed from the ideas of the founder or spiritual ... leader's imaginative or unusual interpretation of ... bible ..."

10. "End times doctrine,
: usually quite specific
: in contradiction to the words of Christ Himself,
: are very important, even central to the system of dogma."

11. "Cults in general train their lay adherents to evangelize, some more strenuously than others. One of the methods of acquiring converts is to take advantage of persons who have suffered a traumatic event and may be particularly vulnerable, less able to resist the lure of a promise of happiness along with sympathy from cult members."

12. "Another tactic is financial incentive, which takes various forms from aid to promises of gain ..."

13. "A more subtle and increasingly used method of winning over _____ is to invite them to simply pray ... 'merely study' ..."

14. "Cult members are more ... watchful over the members who show signs of straying."

15. "In cults an early and continual indoctrination is considered vital."

16. "A formal heretic is one who intends to be one, that is, is aware his doctrine is considered heretical, but persists in pride and audacity to resist correction."

17. "... the cult category ... have one characteristic that is a hallmark ... doctrinal deviations can cause banishment."

18. "they also tend to be ... leading to a one – world universal religion ..."

19. "... adherents ... proceeded to compound one error with another, rather than regroup and examine their premise ..."

20. "... this interpretation rests upon an alleged vision of one person."

21. "... the bible is the only source of doctrine from God ..."

22. "... deviates from ... Christianity specifically."

23. "contradicts several passages of the new Testament ..."

24. "... their foremost and great point of doctrine ... their private property ... their view of the atonement.

25. "... do not recognize the Bible as the inspired and final revelation from God ... The Bible has no authority to the mind of adherents of such ..."

26. "... their teachings are contrary to Scriptures, and are in many instances the result of hasty and superficial quoting from the bible."

27. "peculiar tenets concerning the atonement ..."

28. "deviation is in reference to the second coming ..."

29. "... deviates ... from Scriptural teaching."

30. "... Christ's atonement had remained unfinished. There was a task yet to be accomplished ..."

31. "Unless you accept our doctrine there is no hope for you. We alone have the truth."

32. "They never explain how it (is) that they alone are infallible and Peter, who was given the keys to Heaven by Christ is not, or why it is that Christ misled the Apostles and their successors ..."

33. "... a less confrontational approach does not mitigate the prejudice that permeates the cults teachings and the indoctrination inculcated into its adherents at a young age. Any official moderation is strictly a tactic ..."

34. "... THE BLATANT HERESY that Christ's sacrifice on the Cross did not fully atone for sin."

35. "... they disregard the teaching of Christ in the New Testament ..."

36. "... doctrines ... are arrived at by the simple process of quoting one or two texts without making the slightest effort to view them in the light of other passages ..."

37. "... goes far beyond the limits of sound and sober sense."

38. “But we must never forget that this full-blown cult was eventually “born” in a vicious hatred of ___ and they consider us among these who are wicked, to be annihilated.”

“THE IMAGE OF THE TWO HEARTS

We selected the image of the Sacred Heart and Immaculate Heart, because these are the two final mercies God has given to those who belong to Him, in end times, the devotion of which is both grace and remedy. One might think that St. Michael would be a most appropriate choice and indeed his image would; but because Jesus Christ has asked for devotion to His Mother’s Immaculate Heart be accorded full privileges as it were, in the triumph of her Immaculate Heart, this double image of the Two Hearts was used instead.

1. **CULTS, BATTLE OF THE ANGELS**, Bob and Penny Lord, 1997 ... The Lord book can be ordered by calling 1-800-633-2484.
2. **THE CHAOS OF CULTS**, J.K. Van Baalen, William Eardmans Publishing, Michigan, 1931. Out of print.
3. **CULTS, SECTS AND THE NEW AGE**, Fr. James LeBar, *Our Sunday Visitor*, 1989 with *Imprimatur*. This word focuses on New Age, pagan influences and does not address the Adventist. Still Available.
4. **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST TOWARD ROMAN CATHOLICISM**, 1844 – 1865, Reinder Bruinsman, Andrews University Press, Michigan, 1994. Available at Amazon.
5. **CONCISE CATHOLIC DICTIONARY**, Robert Broderick, M.A., Comp., Catechetical Guild Educational Society, Minnesota, 1944 with *Nihil Obstat* and *Imprimatur*, 1943. Out of print.”

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