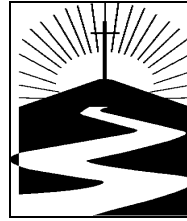


STUDY GUIDE TO THE TWELVE ARTICLES OF FAITH - July, 2013



October 11, 2012 – November 24, 2013



Article 9

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

If you are interested in exploring this Article of Faith with your children, you can read questions 129 through 145 in the YOUCAT (*Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church*).

We would encourage you to explore the meaning of this article of faith at home by reading the Bible:

Matt 10; 2-4; Lk 10:16; John 16: 12-13; Eph 4:4-6; Eph 5:27; Col1:5-6; Eph 2:20

This Article of Faith is explored in depth in the following sections of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*:

- The Church is One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic (811 -16)
- The word Church is used to refer to those communities that have their own “ecclesiastical heritages” (833-835)
- Outside the Church there is no salvation (846-847)
- The Church professes one Lord, one Faith, one baptism, and forms one body. (866)
- Principal vocation of the laity in the church. (898)

You can view a short video presented by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops at the following link:

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/videos.cfm>

If you wish to join us for a more detailed explanation of this Article of Faith, we will be meeting on Sunday, July 7th at 7:00 PM in the School Library. On Sunday night we will be studying this by viewing and discussing Lesson 6 of the DVD Series, *Catholicism*, by Father Robert Barron, “A Body Both Suffering and Glorious: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church.” The Church, the Creed states, is “one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.” These four characteristics, remarks the CCC, are, “inseparately linked with each other, indicate essential features of the Church and her mission. We will reflect on these four marks in light of what we have already considered regarding the faith.

Contact Linda Banecker at LindaBaneckerAFF@aol.com or 610-828-0344

Faith Formation is a Lifelong Journey

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To go into greater depth with this Article of Faith, we would ask that you consider some additional reading and joining our online Book Club



Book Title & Description

For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada The Cristero War and Mexico's Struggle for Religious Freedom (Español: Cristiada)
by Ruben Quezada, Ignatius Press

This book tells the epic tale of Mexico's heroic struggle for religious freedom in a little-known conflict called the Cristero War in which many faith-filled Catholics gave their lives for religious freedom. The book highlights the story of Blessed Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio, a young boy who was martyred for this faith during the Cristero war at the age of 14. As a companion to the inspiring movie, this book answers the questions: Who were the Cristeros? What drove the Mexican government to ruthlessly persecute Catholics? Can a priest "wage war"? Why did thousands of Catholics - priests, religious, lay people - willingly give their lives in the Cristiada? What role did the U.S. play in ending this bitter conflict? What did the Pope do to support the Church in Mexico? Which characters in the movie went on to become Catholic saints and blessed in real life? Why is this dramatic episode of history so little known today? What is the lesson of the Cristiada for those struggling for religious freedom today?

Purchasing Information

www.ignatius.com \$11.00

Reflection Questions (based on the book & movie *below*)

1. Why did Blessed Jose del Rio love his faith so much? What experiences did he have that led him to be courageous in offering his life for Jesus Christ?
2. What did it mean to the Mexican people to lose the ability to practice their faith? What would it mean to you if the government prohibited you to practice your faith?
3. What does the story of Blessed Jose del Rio have to say to the young people of today?

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4. How do you think someone so young found the courage to die for his faith?

Suggested Activity

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