

Study Lesson Number: 33

THE MARKS AND ATTRIBUTES OF THE CHURCH

T H E C H U R C H

M A R K S

- (1) ONE
- (2) HOLY
- (3) CATHOLIC
- (4) APOSTOLIC

A T T R I B U T E S

- (1) AUTHORITY
- (2) INFALLIBILITY
- (3) INDEFECTIBILITY

THE MARKS OF THE CHURCH:

How do we know that the Catholic Church is the one true Church established by Christ?

We know that the Catholic Church is the one true Church established by Christ because it alone has the marks of the true Church.

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WHICH IS THE ONE TRUE CHURCH ESTABLISHED BY CHRIST?

THE ONE TRUE CHURCH ESTABLISHED BY CHRIST IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

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What do we mean by the marks of the Church?

By the marks of the Church we mean certain CLEAR signs by which all men can recognize it as the true Church founded by Jesus Christ.

What are the chief marks of the Church?

The chief marks of the Church are four:

It is one, holy, catholic or UNIVERSAL, and apostolic.

Why is the Catholic Church one?

The Catholic Church is one because all its members, according to the will of Christ, profess the same faith, have the same sacrifice and sacraments, and are united under one and the same visible head, the Pope.

Why is the Catholic Church Holy?

The Catholic Church is holy because it was founded by Jesus Christ, who is all-holy, and because it teaches, according to the will of Christ, holy doctrines, and provides the means of leading a holy life, thereby giving members who are holy to every age.

Why is the Catholic Church catholic or universal?

The Catholic Church is catholic or universal because, destined to last for all time, it never fails to fulfill the divine commandment to teach all nations all the truths revealed by God.

Why is the Catholic Church apostolic?

The Catholic Church is apostolic because it was founded by Christ on the apostles and, according to His divine will, has always been governed by their lawful successors.