



Catholic Church History

St. John XXIII Faith Alive

The First 600 Years!

1. The Story Overview:

The Church is instituted by Christ and led by the Holy Spirit. Spread by the Apostles and St. Paul the Church grows. The Church will struggle to survive and grow in the face of persecution until they have toleration. Fundamental questions must be addressed. What do we believe? How do we handle problems ? Who are we?

2. The Acts of the Apostles:

Ascension, Peter, Eucharist, Temple, Stephen, Antioch, Paul's journeys, Rome...
It is time to read it again!!

3. Main Centers of Christianity: 5 Centers

Jerusalem (Israel), Antioch (Syria), Alexandria (Egypt),
Constantinople (Turkey) and Rome (Italy)

*The Catholic Church grows across the Mediterranean Sea, from Northern Africa across the Middle East, Turkey and Italy.

4. Church Councils: The role of a church council is to answer pressing questions in the church or address problems affecting the church. The council is made up of hundreds, even thousands of people from all parts of the Church. Together they pray, question, discuss and decide the best way forward.

5. Heresy Questions & Problems: Heresy means false teaching. Something being taught that is not the teaching of the Church. They sometimes lead to us growing in our teaching, sometimes they are flatly rejected. The look at a heresy is a dialogue, an exchange.

6. Turmoil & World Change: The fall of the Roman Empire leads the Church into duties, roles and civil responsibilities it did not choose to fulfill. Yet, with great civil power and authority will come human weakness, sin and corruption. Corruption was the exception to the rule. The protection of human life and society was a noble valid pursuit.

