

Ephesians 3:1-13
The Catholic Church

God's vital institution ...

I. Genuine Saints

- A. That Number
- B. A Multitude

II. Real Communion

- A. Deep Bond
- B. Tangible Love

III. A Household of Grace

- A. Forgiven Sinners
- B. Forgiving Sinners

... calling out to a dying world.

Children, Listen ...

1. Who is a part of God's true church?
2. Are there people in the true church all over the world?
3. Are people who trusted in Jesus that have died part of the true church?
4. Will there be a day when all of God's people, past, present, and future and from all over the world be together?
5. People who are part of the true Christian Church become a part of what we call a local church like ours. What is the name of your church? Will you pray for your church?

Heidelberg Catechism
Lord's Day 21

54. Q. What do you believe concerning the holy catholic Christian church?

A. I believe that the Son of God, out of the whole human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, defends, and preserves for Himself, by His Spirit and Word, in the unity of the true faith, a church chosen to everlasting life. And I believe that I am and forever shall remain a living member of it.

55. Q. What do you understand by the communion of saints?

A. First, that believers, all and everyone, as members of Christ have communion with Him and share in all His treasures and gifts. Second, that everyone is duty-bound to use his gifts readily and cheerfully for the benefit and well-being of the other members.

56. Q. What do you believe concerning the forgiveness of sins?

A. I believe that God, because of Christ's satisfaction, will no more remember my sins, nor my sinful nature, against which I have to struggle all my life, but He will graciously grant me the righteousness of Christ, that I may never come into condemnation.