

**Looking for Answers –  
Explore What The Catholic Church Really Teaches –  
Part 3**



**Question:**



Why do Catholics believe that their Church is the one true Church of Jesus Christ? Would not it be more reasonable to believe that Christ's true Church is a spiritual union of all Christian denominations?

**Answer:**

Catholics believe that theirs is the one true Church of Jesus Christ, first, because theirs is the only Christian Church that goes back in history to the time of Christ; second, because theirs is the only Christian Church which possesses the invincible unity, the intrinsic holiness, the continual universality and the indisputable apostolicity which Christ said would distinguish His true Church; and third, because the Apostles and primitive Church Fathers, who certainly were members of Christ's true Church, all professed membership in this same Catholic Church. (See the Apostles' Creed and the Primitive Christian letters.)

Wrote St. Ignatius of Antioch, illustrious Church Father of the first century: *Where the Bishop is, there let the multitude of believers be; even as where Jesus is, there is the Catholic Church.* Our Lord said: *There shall be one fold and one shepherd,* yet it is well known that the various Christian denominations cannot agree on what Christ actually taught. Since Christ roundly condemned interdenominationalism – *And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.* St. Mark 3:25 – Catholics cannot believe that He would ever sanction it in His Church.

## Question :

Why do Catholics refuse to concede that their Church became doctrinally corrupt in the Middle Ages, necessitating the Protestant Reformation?



## Answer:

Catholics refuse to concede such a thing out of faith in Jesus Christ. Christ solemnly pledged that the gates of Hell would never prevail against His Church (St. Matthew 16:18), and Christ solemnly promised that after His Ascension into Heaven He would send His Church *another Paraclete...the Spirit of truth*, to dwell with it forever (St. John 14:16 – 17), and He inspired the Apostle Paul (1 Timothy 3:15) to describe His Church as the *pillar and ground of the truth*. If the Catholic Church (which Protestants admit was the true Church of Jesus Christ before Luther's revolt) became doctrinally corrupt as alleged, it would mean that the gates of Hell had prevailed against it – it would mean that Christ had deceived His followers. Believing Christ to be the very essence of truth and integrity, Catholics cannot in conscience believe that He could be guilty of such deception.

Another thing: Catholics cannot see how the division of Christianity into hundreds of rival camps and doctoral variations can be called a Reformation of the Christian Church. In the Catholic mind, hundreds of conflicting interpretations of Our Lord's teachings do not add up to a true interpretation of Christ's teachings.