

We Believe

Exploring the Apostle's Creed

**I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH,
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS**

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I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD;

WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT; BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY;

SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE; WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD AND BURIED;

HE DESCENDED INTO HELL; THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD;

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**HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN; AND SITS AT
THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY;
FROM WHENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.
I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT;**

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**THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH,
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS;THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS;
THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY;
AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.**

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**I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH,
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS**

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**WHAT IS THE "HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH"?
NOT THE CHURCH DENOMINATION
CATHOLIC = COMPREHENSIVE OR UNIVERSAL**

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WHAT IS THE "COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS"?

"SAINTS" ARE NOT SUPER-HOLY BELIEVERS

SAINTS ARE ANYONE WHO IS

TRULY A BELIEVER IN CHRIST

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1 CORINTHIANS 1:2 ESV

**TO THE CHURCH OF GOD THAT IS IN CORINTH, TO THOSE SANCTIFIED IN CHRIST
JESUS, CALLED TO BE SAINTS TOGETHER WITH ALL THOSE WHO IN EVERY PLACE
CALL UPON THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, BOTH THEIR LORD AND OURS:**

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**"COMMUNION" OF THE SAINTS REFERS TO
OUR COMMON FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP THAT WE HAVE
BECAUSE WE ARE UNITED IN CHRIST**

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CREATED NEW IN CHRIST (EPH. 2:10);

CRUCIFIED WITH HIM (GAL. 2:20),

BURIED WITH HIM (COL. 2:12), ;

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST AND HIS DEATH (ROM. 6:3);

UNITED WITH HIM IN HIS RESURRECTION (ROM. 6:5)

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CHURCH IS ESTABLISHED BY HER UNION WITH CHRIST

"THE REALITY OF SALVATION AND THE REALITY OF THE CHURCH ARE IN FACT ONE AND THE SAME REALITY. TO BE UNITED TO CHRIST IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED. AT THE SAME TIME, TO BE UNITED TO CHRIST IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE CHURCH: THE CHURCH, AFTER ALL, IS THE BODY AND BRIDE OF CHRIST."

SOURCE: CROSSWAY.ORG

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"WE ARE CHRISTIANS ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE CHURCHIANs. A CHURCHLESS CHRISTIANITY IS CONTRADICTION LIKE CHRIST WITHOUT A BODY...THIS IS BECAUSE OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD APART FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CORPORATE BODY OF CHRIST". — WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE BY MICHAEL F. BIRD

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THE COMPONENTS OF A VITAL CHURCH

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1: TRUTH

**ACTS 2:42 AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE
APOSTLES' TEACHING...**

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2: FELLOWSHIP

**ACTS 2:42 AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO ... THE FELLOWSHIP,
ACTS 2:46 AND DAY BY DAY, ATTENDING THE TEMPLE TOGETHER AND BREAKING BREAD IN
THEIR HOMES, THEY RECEIVED THEIR FOOD WITH GLAD AND GENEROUS HEARTS,**

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3: PRAYER AND PRAISE

ACTS 2:42 AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES ...

TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND THE PRAYERS.

ACTS 2:46 AND DAY BY DAY, ATTENDING THE TEMPLE TOGETHER...

ACTS 2:47 PRAISING GOD...

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4: SUPERNATURAL

**ACTS 2:43 AND AWE CAME UPON EVERY SOUL, AND MANY WONDERS
AND SIGNS WERE BEING DONE THROUGH THE APOSTLES.**

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5: GENEROSITY

**ACTS 2:44-45 AND ALL WHO BELIEVED WERE TOGETHER AND
HAD ALL THINGS IN COMMON.**

**45 AND THEY WERE SELLING THEIR POSSESSIONS AND BELONGINGS AND
DISTRIBUTING THE PROCEEDS TO ALL, AS ANY HAD NEED.**

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6: OUTWARD

**ACTS 2:47 ...HAVING FAVOR WITH ALL THE PEOPLE. AND THE LORD ADDED
TO THEIR NUMBER DAY BY DAY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.**

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