

THOUSAND YEARS

ACTIVITY BOOK ANSWER KEYS

Name: _____

Apostles and Martyrs

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What happened in the early days of the Church?
In the early days of the Church the apostles spread the Gospel, carrying out Jesus' command to "make disciples of all nations."
2. What happened to St. Peter?
St. Peter became the first Pope. After much laboring, suffering, imprisonment and travel for the sake of the Gospel, he was crucified upside down.
3. Who was the greatest missionary in the early Church? What did he do?
St. Paul was the greatest missionary in the early Church. He traveled and preached the Good News, especially to the gentiles. Eventually, he also was martyred.
4. What characterized the next 250 years of the Church? Who are the martyrs?
The next 250 years of the Church are characterized by Church persecution. The martyrs are those who died for their Faith.
5. How is it that the "blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church"?
The "blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church" because many people were drawn to the Faith through the witness of the martyrs. They realized that if so many were willing to die for it, the Christian Faith must be great. There was a rapid growth of the Church during this period.
6. How did Ss. Perpetua and Felicity witness to their Faith?
They refused to give up their Christian Faith and died for Christ.

Name: _____

Fathers and Doctors of the Church

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. When and why did the age of martyrdom end?

The age of martyrdom ended in the fourth century when the Emperor Constantine allowed Christians to practice their Faith freely.

2. What is heresy? What is a heretic?

Heresy is the obstinate denial of a truth of the Faith. A heretic is one who holds and teaches a heresy.

3. What is Arianism? When was it denounced?

Arianism is the heresy that denies that Jesus is God. It was denounced in 381 A.D.

4. Who is St. Athanasius? What is his significance in the Church?

St. Athanasius was the Bishop of Alexandria in Egypt in the fourth century. He fought Arianism, even at the cost of exile and threats to his life. His writing and preaching played a significant role in the defeat of Arianism.

5. Who is St. Augustine? What is his significance in the Church?

St. Augustine lived in the fourth century and due to the persistent prayers of his mother, Monica, he converted to Catholicism. Before his conversion, he led a sinful life. He is significant to the Church because after his conversion he became a great theologian, teacher, and bishop who wrote many works in defense of the Faith and on the nature of man and his need for Christ. He is a saint, one of the Church Fathers, and a Doctor of the Church.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Monasteries

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What happened in the fifth century and how did the Church respond?

In the fifth century, barbarians started to invade and threaten the Roman Empire. The Church responded by trying to civilize them and to convert them to Christianity.

2. How did monasteries, with monks and monastic rules, help the Church face this challenge?

Monasteries, with monks and monastic rules, helped the Church face this challenge because they set up schools around Europe. Through their schools, prayer, and missionary work they converted and educated many people.

3. Who is St. Benedict and what is his importance to the Church?

St. Benedict lived in the fifth and sixth century and is called the "Father of Western Monasticism." He founded Monte Cassino and the Benedictine Order. He also wrote the Benedictine Rule, a guide for daily activities of his monks, which consisted of prayer and physical work.

4. Who is St. Columban and what is his importance to the Church?

St. Columban was an Irish missionary monk who preached among the Franks in the sixth century.

Name: _____

The Church Faces Problems

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is Islam?

Islam is a religion that emerged in Arabia early in the seventh century. Followers of Islam are called Muslims.

2. How did Muslims separate the East from the West and how did this separation contribute to the schism in 1054?

Muslims gained control of the Mediterranean Sea. This separated Christians in the East from those in the West. This separation amplified already existing disagreements between the two on the authority of the Pope and the specific wording of certain doctrines. This eventually led to the separation of the Church in the East from the Pope.

3. Explain the great problem that faced the Church from within, near the end of her first thousand years.

Toward the end of her first thousand years, the Church faced a period of corruption of the clergy. As the Roman Empire collapsed, the Church was the only stable force still remaining. Since the clergy were among the most educated, they had to run the government. This became a source of temptation to become too concerned with temporal affairs. Many lost sight of their primary task and led sinful lives, even many popes.

4. Did the Holy Spirit abandon the Church during those years? How can we say the Church is divine when corruption occurs in the Church?

No. The Holy Spirit did not abandon the Church. We can still say the Church is divine when corruption occurs because although her human members may be corrupt, she herself will never formally teach error and the Holy Spirit still guides her.