

A Closer Look

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 3**.

❖ Following Jesus' instruction, the disciples gathered in a room in Jerusalem to await the Spirit. Together with Mary, they prayed and waited for nine days. Then, on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, the Spirit came to them in the form of wind and tongues of fire.

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❖ Peter told the people that they must repent to be saved. His instruction is found in Acts of the Apostles 2:38.

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❖ The Church was made known to the world on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit united the first Christians in Jerusalem and formed them into a community of faith. They were one in their belief in Jesus and his teachings, in the Eucharist, in prayer, and in their love for one another.

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❖ We are nourished by the Eucharist and bound together in a mystical communion by our belief in Jesus and our desire to do God's will. This mystical communion features a diversity of members and functions. Our shared lives are a sign of the kingdom in the next world.

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❖ We continue to meet Jesus through the Church in the Eucharist and in the members. As members of the Church, we are called to be a living sacrament. The more we follow Jesus' way, the better we represent the Kingdom of God.

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❖ A herald is a messenger sent to announce something. The Church is sent by Christ to announce the good news of Christ's teaching. Every day the Gospel, which means "good news," is proclaimed at Mass when the community gathers to celebrate.

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❖ Like any institution, the Church has laws and traditions. *The Code of Canon Law* contains rules that guide all aspects of Church life.

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❖ Over and over, Jesus told his followers that they must serve one another with love. He taught his most dramatic lesson the night before he died. At the Last Supper, he washed and dried the feet of the apostles. Then he told them to serve one another the same way.

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❖ To be a disciple of Jesus is to follow him in all situations. As a Church, we are a community of disciples. Jesus is our one true leader, and we are united in our following of him.

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❖ The family has been called the domestic church—a Church in miniature. The Christian home is a community of grace and prayer and a school of human virtues and Christian charity.

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