

Marks of the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 14**.

The Nicene Creed was written centuries ago to help Christians remember the important beliefs of the faith. In the Nicene Creed, we identify the four Marks of the Church.

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The four Marks of the Church are that it is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

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God is one in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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The Church is holy because the Church lives in union with Jesus Christ, the source of holiness.

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Catholic means “universal.” The mission of the Church is universal because the Church was sent to proclaim Christ to the entire human race, which includes a diversity of different peoples and cultures.

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The pope and the bishops are the successors of the apostles.

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Mary is the greatest example of holiness. Her song of response to God, titled the *Magnificat*, praises God for the gift of grace.

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The Nicene Creed begins with “I believe in one God.”

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God gives each of us different gifts, or virtues, to perform good works.

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Paul wrote to the Ephesians about unity and love.

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