An Apostolic Church

GRADE 8

CHAPTER 9 Study Guide

Keep these ideas in mind as you study ***Chapter 9****.*

At your Baptism, you became responsible for being a worshiping, believing, and serving member of the Church. You participate in the sacraments. You put your faith in Jesus. You give loving service to all of God's people.

Page **79**

The Church is *apostolic*, which means that it is rooted in the teachings of the Apostles and continues their mission.

Page **79**

The Church has a teaching authority called the *Magisterium*. Through the Church's teachings, life, and worship, the Church passes on a living faith to every generation.

Page **79**

The pope—the Bishop of Rome—is the spiritual leader of the Church. The pope and bishops continue the ministry of Peter and the Apostles. The pope is called the *Vicar of Christ*. He represents Christ on earth and is the leader of all Catholics.

Page **80**

The special responsibilities of bishops are to teach, govern, and sanctify God's people within each one's own diocese. A cathedral is the bishop's church within his diocese. The bishop's chair is a sign of his leadership.

Page **80**

The Church's gift of infallibility means that when the pope proclaims a teaching officially on faith or morals, the teaching is without error. Having the gift of infallibility does not mean that the pope is perfect but that God preserves the pope from error when teaching a doctrine of faith or morals.

Page **81**

The pope and bishops have the responsibility in the Church to share in Christ's ministry as priest, prophet, and king. Like Christ, the pope and bishops are shepherds who speak out for justice and mercy and are willing to suffer for their flock.

Page **81**

©LOYOLAPRESS. All Rights Reserved w3557 www.christourlife.com