

WEEK 1

-intro: the forces that the Church will have to fight until the end of the world.

-313, DECREE OF MILAN. Basically placed Christianity on the same level as all other religions. Freedom of Religion, is it a good freedom? What does it mean? What are the impacts? Freedom or Truth? Religious Tolerance in the USA? Discuss.

-Arian Heresy (spiritual battle)

-Barbarian invasions (human battle)

-Constantine, St. Helena

-Licinius, enemy of Christians in the Eastern part of the Empire. His defeat and death enabled the union of East and West.

-Constantinople, its importance and the symbolism, the historical importance. The end of Roman paganism, the new era of Catholic power, the spiritual influence and temporal empire of the popes, the numerous controversies and heresies coming from the East, the temporal influence over the eastern church...

-Constantius, the difference between tolerance and true worship.

-353, prohibition of all heathen sacrifices.

However, the teachings of the Greek and pagan sophists/rhetoricians and philosophers counteracted this. What was the result of the 2 schools of thought?

-Julian the Apostate, (nephew of Constantine) the Flavian family. His direct war against Jesus Christ, using the Church model for his new pagan religion, his failure, the rebuilding of the Temple, his death.

-Theodosius the Great, 100 years after Constantine's Decree, the end of Paganism.

-Christianity in Persia. Bishop Abdas, Jacob Beth-Lapat the Megalomartyr.

-Armenia, the first Christian Nation.

-Abyssinia. Frumentius and Aedesius. St. Athanasius

-Nestorian Heresy (Jesus had 2 persons, divine and human, Mary was only his human mother, not Mother of God, just Mother of Jesus, only his human person died, etc.) ,

Monophysite Heresy (only the divine nature of Jesus, not a human, therefore he did not truly die, truly take our humanity,...), Arian Heresy(denied the divinity of Christ, He was only a chosen supreme creature to atone for our sins, but not one with God).

QUESTIONS

1. What is the importance of Constantinople, for the world, for the Church?
2. Name and explain the 3 most important emperors who affected the Church in the IVth century.
3. Name and explain 3 heresies born in the IVth century.

WEEK 2 (P.104-125)

First, it is important to understand the reason why the Church has been so intent on seeking and teaching the truth. The importance of learning as much as we can about Creation will help us understand better the awesomeness of the Creator. He is Truth itself.

Arianism was the first heresy which actually hurt the Church almost to the point of destruction.

The great saints who lived and fought it are still today a source of example and inspiration.

The Divinity of Jesus, the Trinity and the Incarnation were always central beliefs of the early Church.

Saint Victor, pope, excommunicated Theodotus who preached that Jesus was only man. From that time on, many Christians tried to understand the mystery of the God-Man. (Sabellius, St. Dyonisius)

Pope Dyonisius refuted this creed in his document to the Bishops of Egypt and Libya. Paul of Samasota refused to obey. Lucian and his pupil Arius.

Alexandria, Arius, his character, his lack of humility, his bishops (Peter, then Achillas, finally Alexander).

How Arianism spread. (Eusebius helps Arius, political weapons, Synod of 320, Arius travels to Palestine, Licinius is defeated by Constantine who calls a council of Nicea in 325, St. Sylvester presides over the council, St. Athanasius, Nicene Creed)

Constantine was present during the whole council. Unity of Church and State.

Constancia, Constantine's sister, Arian, helps Eusebius gain credit.

At the death of Constantine, his sons reigned, but Constantius, Arian, became sole emperor in 350 and spread arianism to the East and West. He condemned St.

Athanasius at a council in Milan and exiled pope Liberius, setting up an anti-pope in Rome.

3 Arian sects. Fall of Liberius (discuss). The 2 councils and the similarities with today's situation? St. Jerome's quote is for today as well!

Julian the Apostate called back the exiled bishops to increase confusion.

St. Basil, Ste. Macrina, St. Gregory of Nazianzus, monastic rule.

380 Edict of Uniformity. New Rome clause will cause schism.

St. Gregory of Nyssa (St. Basil's brother).

QUESTIONS:

1- What is a heretic? What is obstinacy? What is the difference between St. Dyonisius and Paul of Samasota?

2- Who were the children and grandchildren of Constantine, how did they affect the Church?

3- Cappadocia, the 3 great saints.

WEEK 3 (p.126-159)

-St. John Chrysostom: his youth, his mother, (*note how late the baptisms used to be given*) his schooling, his vocation, his physical description, in Alexandria and later in Constantinople. His exile, his call for help from the pope, his goal to convert the Goths. He was the last great Greek Father. Died in 407.

-Origen (185-253) inspired many of the early Church Fathers.

-St. Ambrose of Milan: grew up in Trier, miraculous vocation to episcopacy, St. Gervasius and Protasius, conflict and public penance of Theodosius. Died in 397.
UBI PETRUS, UBI ECCLESIA

-St. Jerome: choleric, sudden change of life, lived in Trier for a while, studied Hebrew and struggled a lot, Vulgate, the switch between classical schooling and Scriptural schooling, medieval Latin became more used. Died in 420.

-St. Augustine: North Africa, Ste Monica, Manichean, life of fun and intellectual learning, (*note St. Monica's behavior and her refusal to eat with him*), Plato and finally St. Ambrose helped the conversion. Died in 430.

-Notice how many of these great saints search for solitude and love the monastic life.

-Donatism: the validity of the sacraments depend on the purity of the minister.

-Pelagianism: Man's natural powers suffice to attain grace and merit the Beatific Vision, Adam's sin was only his personal sin, no consequences to original sin, it is possible to live without sin.

QUESTIONS:

1- Explain the importance of Theodosius' public penance. Can you imagine this today?

2- If you had to write a novel about the Arian period, which characters would you use and why?

3- Who was Attila? Who were the Huns?

WEEK 4 (p. 160-189)

This is a transition chapter: We have arrived at the beginning of the Middle Ages. The Church has had to face many heresies and political changes, it needed to find and establish a structure to be able to continue and lead its flock all over the world.

The East and West divided their territories differently, the differences became more obvious and more deeply rooted.

- The Holy Orders, minor orders
- Country bishops, Chorepiscopy,
- Eparchies or Provinces
- Exarchies
- Clerical celibacy
- Papacy
- Penitential discipline, infant baptism, public penances
- Architecture
- Christian charity
- Monasticism
- The Invasions and the missionaries:

The Roman Empire fell because of its immorality and corruption, the Barbarians invaded and restructured the land, brought destruction and desolation; life then was very uncertain, the raids were frequent and the Empire had not the power to protect the citizens. This time was the ripe moment for missionaries to come and spread the Gospel: St. Remigius, St. Patrick, St. Benedict.

QUESTIONS

- 1- What was the importance of the conversion of Clovis? Why is France called “Eldest daughter of the Church”?
- 2- Tell the amazing story of the Irish conversion.
- 3- Why is St. Benedict considered to have civilized the world through his rule, his schools, his monks? What have the monks done to the world (discoveries)?

WEEK 5 (p.190-216)

The Early Middle Ages

We are entering the Middle Ages of the Church. It was a time of mission, growth, cultural and spiritual amelioration.

Thanks to the Monks, all of Europe was civilized and ultimately attained an age where art, culture, technology and beauty had never been so great.

It was also an age that respected and appreciated God's creation, its purpose and its needs.

The greatest figure of this period is **Pope saint Gregory the Great**. *Servant of the servants of God*.

-The Anicius heir, gave up his wealth and career to the Church.

-The monk, sturdied and grew in wisdom and knowledge, then was sought after by the pope to become his leagate in Constantinople.

-The pastor, who fed the poor, built hospitals, bought off the Lombards. He becomes practically the King of Rome. He wrote many letters, advised many and is the author of the *Liber Regulae Pastoralis* (book that describes all the rules for the Church).

-The apostle of England, he was very involved in the training and selecting of the missionaries sent to England (former Britain) with Augustine at the head.

Irish missionaries:

St. Colomba, (Colum, Colum Cille) apostle of Scotland, Irish prince, Iona, the Druids.

St. Coloman, left Ireland to preach to the Franks, founded monasteries, rule (moral code and penal code, very strict), reforms Gaul (people and clergy), "*A man without an Anam Chara is a body without a head*", his flight from the Queen, his end in Italy.

St. Gall, disciple of St. Coloman, stayed in Alemaniam and died there at the age of 95.

St. Aiden, the Holy Land of Lindisfarne.

St. Finan, successor of St. Aiden.

Easter controversies (stubborn Irish!)

Anglo-Saxon Church

St. Aldhelm and St. Bede. Peace on the island allowed the growth of the Faith and the rise of culture and education. St. Boniface came from this foundation.

QUESTIONS:

1- Describe an Irish missionary band, and a typical Irish monastic settlement.

2- What is the Pallium?

3- Explain the Irish Easter Controversy.

WEEK 6 (p.217-230)

It is time for the evangelization of the North Eastern land. Missionaries came from the islands of Eire and Angles, protected by the Frankish king, they were safely able to travel through many areas. It is interesting to note that the areas that were not hospitable and that were deeply rooted in their pagan religions (Hessians, Thuringians, Saxons and Frisians) are somewhat the same areas that broke away during the Protestant revolt. Note that Bavaria was Christian from very early on.

St. Willibrord evangelized the Frisians and went to Denmark. He established a monastery in Luxembourg. He tried to train local clergy, instead of sending missionaries from other peoples in order to have more success converting.

St. Boniface, a Saxon, succeeded him. He encountered some fierce opposition from older priests in Thuringia, but was successful in founding many monasteries, convents, sending missionaries and religious sisters, establishing dioceses etc. Boniface reorganized and restructured the Frankish church, brought rules and discipline to the clergy. He convened a Synod and made the declaration of allegiance to Rome, at the same time as the East was beginning to drift away from it. (The great Schism was not far.) He founded the monastery at Fulda in Hesse. He was martyred by the Pagan leaders in 753 in Frisia.

QUESTIONS:

- 1- Explain how St. Boniface reformed the Frankish church.
- 2- Explain the importance of Fulda, its impact on the evangelization of the Germanic land.
- 3- Describe the presence of the religious sisters who accompanied St. Boniface.

WEEK 7 (p.231- 247)

Islam and Mohammed

Warriors from the Arabian Desert descended upon the North African Catholic land and imposed Islam as the new religion.

570- birth of Mohammed in Mecca.

The Kaaba, sacred stone, was held in a temple and cared for by the Koraish family. Paganism had mostly disappeared from North Africa and Christians (mostly heretics, coptic) and Jews were the majority.

The Hanifs came up with a mixture of Christian and Jewish beliefs and made a new religion, with Abraham and Ishmael (son of the bonded woman) as their founding ancestors.

Mohammed, a poor young herdsboy had married a rich older widow (Chadija) and became interested in the new religion. He retired to the mountain hills of Mecca and had "a vision of St. Gabriel" giving him the mission to start Islam, for the Moslems.

(*John Smith, founder of the Mormons, has a very similar story.) The rich leader Abu-Bekr was his first influential follower. Jews wondered if he was the Messiah.

(Hegira means emigration or persecution.) Medina became his stronghold. From there, he conquered most of Arabian lands, by sword or promises.

He was very immoral in character and had serious mental illness.

He died in Medina in 632.

Al-Koran was written 30 years after Mohammed's death, by Zaid (Abu-Bekr's secretary).

The main duties of Moslems are: Prayer, Almsgiving, Fasting and Pilgrimage, as well as Holy War, abstinence from pork, wine, etc.

Polygamy is allowed up to 4 wives. Women are owned and can be starved to death by their husband, they must wear veils that cover their whole body in public, they are not allowed to take part in social or political life. Slavery is allowed, slaves belong to their masters who have right over them.

The main beliefs of Moslems are: There is no God but Allah, Mohammed is his messenger, Abraham and Jesus were his Prophets. There is no Trinity. There is no Redemption. Men are subject to Fate (Kismet). There are good and fallen angels. Paradise is a sensual place.

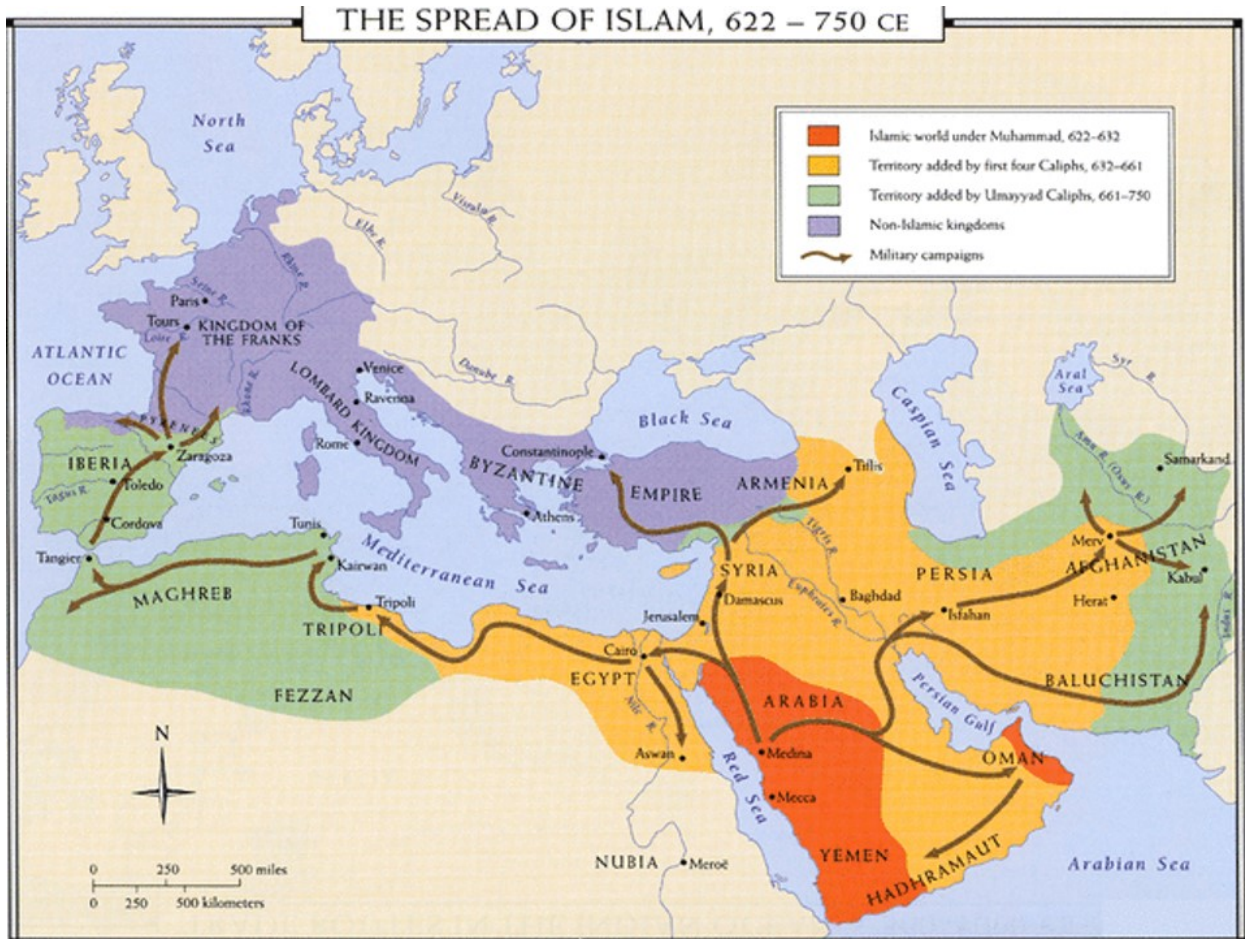
(*It is interesting to see that the Mormon and the Calvinists have some of these beliefs as well.)

Islam and the Saracens spread quickly from North Africa to the East and to Spain as far as into France.

731 Battle of Tours. Charles Martel

QUESTIONS:

- 1- Who was Mohammed?
- 2- What are the main duties and beliefs of the Moslems?
- 3- What were the losses suffered by the Church due to the spread of Islam?



WEEK 8 (p.248-260)

The age of Charlemagne is the age of the true establishment of a Catholic world and government. It is considered the most perfect form, because the temporal power works in **full communion of thought** with the spiritual power. The laws and decisions are all founded on the law of God and the precepts of the Church. (For example, the Holy Days are respected as holy and therefore not work days but fun festive days. This still is the case in Catholic countries such as France, Italy, Austria, Spain, etc...)

Charlemagne was the founder of the chivalry and feudal system. He was a firm Catholic and wanted to establish a system of government that resembled the Church itself, as Jesus instituted it.

*(Note the difference: Toto and his ruthless power hunger; he tried to establish a pope as the current one was dying, he tried to control and order the Church into submission.) Charlemagne was the opposite: he subjected himself to the pope and promised to serve the Church.

Charlemagne fought the Saxon Barbarians for years. Note his patience and how terrible the final punishment (p.251).

Study his coronation (remember Fr. Fister talks about him all the time:)

He founded a lot of schools throughout his empire and began the era of education and great learning which led to amazing discoveries over the next 100s of years.

*The word Carolingian comes from Carolus, the Latin name for Charles.

The other great figure of this period is pope Leo III.

QUESTIONS:

- 1- What were the words of the pope during the coronation of Charlemagne? Who was the pope?
- 2- Explain the story of pope Hadrian I.
- 3- Explain the generosity of Charlemagne overseas. Why did he help the poor?

WEEK 9 (p.261-288)

North and Central Europe.

As the empire built by Charlemagne was weakening, a new set of barbarian invasions from the North, East and South appeared. Iceland was colonised and flourished. Leif Ericson, Catholic, discovered the N American continent.

The Vikings (Norsemen)

The Magyars (Hungarians of Tartar origin), Moravians, Slavs, Russians

The Saracens (Moors, Arabs)

Feudalism: Under the reign of Charlemagne, if there need be, the emperor traveled to protect any place. Now the central authority has lost all power, so the little local lords had to become more organised and defend themselves.

Dukes, dominated over counts, who dominated over barons. Marquis were in charge of the Marches (the border land). Everyone was dependent on the other: the serfs worked the land and were guaranteed food and shelter for their whole life in return; the merchants brought economic wealth and were guaranteed safety in return; the nobles protected all and were guaranteed food and economic growth in return. The moral/spiritual authority of the clergy was the accountability for all to perform their duty. They recieved the tithe from all and provided health care and education in return.

The rise of the wealth of the Church became a danger: usually, the bishop or abbot or a region was very powerful and it was a very sought after position.

The same happened in Rome, where the pope became quite wealthy and powerful. Political intrigues and corruption came to weaken the faith and the moral standards. The papacy was controled by the Spoletto family. There were several popes at the same time... some of them children!

Emperor **Otto** worked hard to bring peace, (his family).

Pope **Sylvester II** had an amazing life (p.270-271)

*Note the missions and conversions in Moravia, Russia, etc. Prussia and Lithuania were last at converting and soon became protestant.

*Note how many of these ruler are now canonized saints. It is astounding.

*Ordeal by hot iron.

Questions:

- 1-** What happened to Pope Formosus? Why?
- 2-** Who was Alberic the Younger? Who was John XII? What did he do?
- 3-** Name the saints who converted the Northern and Eastern countries.



WEEK 10, (p 289-297)

The great Greek Schism: It started at the time when the imperial city moved from Rome to Constantinople. From that moment on, there has always been a certain distrust, jealousy and competition of power and influence. The Divinity of Christ being a point of contention at the time of Arius, the subject of division changed, but the division always stayed.

Caesaro-Papism is the term to understand. It has shown its ugly face in many different ways and places. It is the idea that the political and the spiritual powers have the same importance: under the tyrannical leaders of early times, under the schism, under the protestant revolution, in the philosophy of separation of Church and State etc...

The Greeks developed their own traditions and ways, and started to impose them on everyone, even to the point of excommunicating those who refused their laws, such as fasting.

Iconoclast Heresy was the heresy that destroyed all images (Icono=image, clast=breaking). It was introduced by Emperor Leo the Isaurian who ordered that all statues or other representations of God and holy people be destroyed. It comes from the Jewish law that God could neither be named nor represented.

The Coronation of Charlemagne (a Barbarian Frank) gave the West a new leader and a new defender for the papacy, it also sealed the schism between the East and West.

The Photian Schism started when St. Ignatius was deposed from his episcopal see and Photius was placed in his place. Photius was excommunicated several times, but decided to excommunicate the whole Latin Church instead... For another 150 years, many tensions built up and finally climaxed into the real schism when Cerularius reproached many customs from the Latin culture and excommunicated those practicing them (fasting on Saturdays, using unleavened bread, shaving, ...)

Cerularius ordered the Blessed Sacrament to be cast into the street and trodden underfoot to show that he did not believe in the validity of the consecration. Even today, the Eastern Churches use leavened bread.

16 July, 1054 is the date of the formal break.

Questions

- 1- What is the Filioque controversy?
- 2- Explain the Iconoclast heresy and its impact on the Christian life and Tradition, what would be the consequences in our lives and culture if we had followed that heresy?
- 3- What is Caesaro-Papism? In all its forms throughout history?

WEEK 11 (p.297-310)

We are now arriving at the point of true reform. Following the great schism of the East, the Church realized that she needed to reform her ways and return to a full love and life of the Gospel. **Hildebrand** is the main reformer, he is one of the most important holy Churchmen in HISTORY.

After a period of tepidity and corruption, the monasteries regained their fervor and became anew the centers of holiness and learning. Cluny and others grew and spread throughout Europe and were protected by the local powerful lords. Many kings founded and funded monasteries, protected them and ended up retiring there. Many are buried in their foundations.

This rebirth of piety allowed Hildebrand to be successful in his reform. He is a very important figure of the XIth century, at the side of St. Leo III.

*Note that he helped the emperor Henry III select the next pope (Victor II, last Germanic pope). * Note also that Benedict X was deposed under the German Court (Germanic princes from the former Holy Roman Empire) decision, and Nicholas II was elected instead. This has happened several times throughout history. This privilege had become oppressive and needed to be checked.

Nicholas II provided clear guidelines for the papal elections.

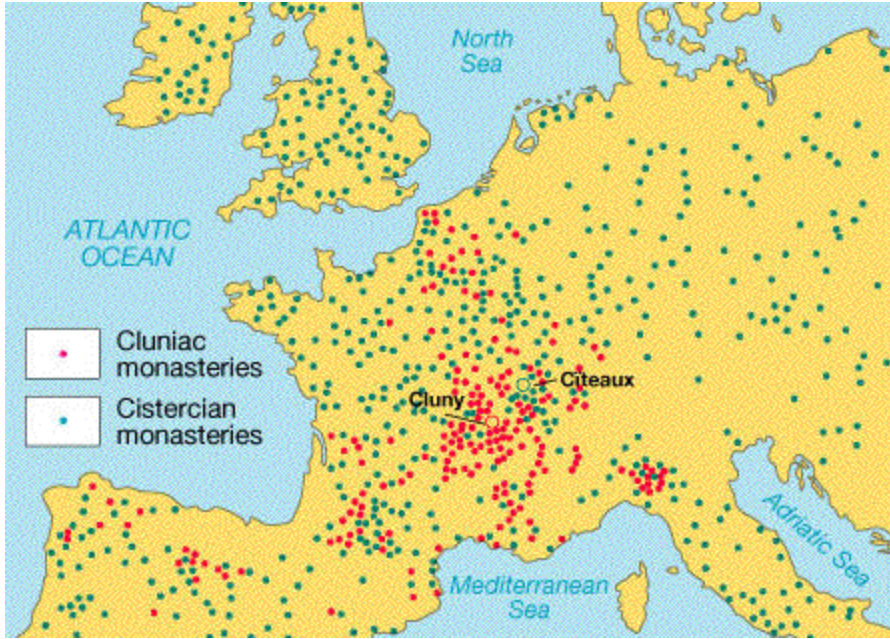
Hildebrand finally had to accept to become pope Gregory VII (53 years old).

Henry IV started a full scale rebellion against the pope that caused many years of great distress to the Church in the Germanic land and Italian kingdoms. Countess Matilda of Tuscany was the pope's most faithful friend and supporter.

The battle over investiture lasted a little while longer, pope St. Gregory died and eventually this crisis ended.

Questions:

- 1- How did the monasteries save the Church in the XIth century? Give examples.
- 2- What is the amazing story of Hildebrand?
- 3- Study Henry IV at Canossa and Theodosius (p.134). Compare and contrast.



WEEK 12, (p.311-331)

Chivalry is born in this period of the Crusades and the Church plays the civilizing role in its foundation and rules.

The Knighthood is given a sacred status and the knights must be holy and trustworthy.

The Turks are now playing an important role in the history of the world, especially Christianity. After 400 years, Islam has spread and increased its power and influence.

The Turks are particularly fierce enemies and barbaric fighters. Once Jerusalem falls into their hands, the Christians are in great peril, enslavement and persecutions abound. The East turns to the West and the Church to ask for help. Pope Urban II responds with the 1st Crusade. Fighting under the sign of the Cross is now a source of graces, indulgences, redemption, and channels the energy of the knighthood.

The age of the Crusade is the golden age of Medieval art, architecture, commerce, literature and philosophy. It reopens boundaries that had been closed between the East and West and enables an immense growth.

Godefroi de Bouillon becomes king of Jerusalem and refuses to wear a crown.

Baudouin the Leper..

This new situation demands the foundation of the 3 orders: Knights of St. John of Jerusalem (later Malta, the only ones left), Knights of the Temple (later disbanded), and Teutonic Knights (later becoming protestant).

Foundation of the **Ransom Orders**, the enslavement of Christians by the Turks kept happening even in the XIXth century (Yousuf). More than a million slaves have been ransomed.

-**St. Bruno**

-**St. Bernard**

-**St. Hildegarde**

-**St. Norbert**

Questions

- 1- Explain the sacred rite of knighthood and its purpose as well as The Ransom Orders.
- 2- Explain the 3 Knightly Orders, what was their purpose and what happened later.
- 3- Describe St. Bernard and St. Hildegarde. Their impact and legacy.

WEEK 13, (p.332-359)

Holy Roman Empire: The Hundred Years War between the popes and the Hohenstaufen followed the Lay Investiture battles. By 1100, the papacy had become the central power that dominated over the temporal kingdoms and empires; it had reached the point of supreme authority over the Western world.

This enabled a certain peace and safety to flourish. However, this did not last, and **Frederick Barbarossa**, the 2nd Hohenstaufen was the instigator of a conflict that would last over 100 years and finish with the destruction of the Hohenstaufen dynasty.

*The **Ghibelline**, supporter of the emperor

*The **Guelf**, supporter of the pope

*Italy then was a land of many little kingdoms, counties, duchies and principalities.

*Great struggles can start by refusing a symbolic gesture. Symbols are very important. Barbarossa and his claims to control all of Italy caused much harm and opened the door to the Protestant Revolt, it also destroyed the union that had kept the Western world in peace. Barbarossa, like several others, ended up on his knees begging for forgiveness. The Peace of Venice and the 3d Lateran Council clearly codified the papal election process, once and for all!

Emp. Henry VI tried to completely finish his taking over full control, but his death stopped him and unraveled his plans.

Emp. Frederick II was the last powerful emperor who fought the papacy despite the fact that he had been protected by Innocent since his childhood.

Norman Kingdom of England: Henry II and St. Thomas à Becket (former friends, and now in bitter conflict over the Constitution of Clarendon). The martyrdom and excommunication of Henry was followed by his public penance but did not end the conflict, and Henry's son John Lackland continued the rift. St. Thomas is said to have delayed the Protestant schism for 300 years.

John, the king, caused lots of conflicts but ended up repenting and pledged himself vassal of the pope. *4th Lateran Council.

Innocent III was the powerful pope who was able to rebuild his temporal land and keep the Papacy as spiritual Head.

*The 4th Crusade was not a holy one, the Children's crusade as well as disaster.

France: Philippe Auguste struggled over his marriage and, as others, was forced to repent. The same scenario happened in Aragon and León.

Main Medieval heresies: Albigensians (St. Dominic), Waldensians. The corruption and complacency of the clergy and authorities caused tepidity which in turn led to heresies. Holy war against heretics, such as crusades were coming to an end, but an inquiring Church tribunal was set up to help the full disappearance of the heresies. The well known term **Inquisition** needs to be understood well.

Questions:

- 1- Who were the Guelfs and the Ghibellines? What was the struggle over? What are examples of Lay Investiture battles in more recent History, even today?
- 2- Why are heresies dangerous to the State as well as the souls? Why should a Catholic Monarch help the Church fight heresies?
- 3- What are the 8 historical events/steps that eventually led to what we now call the Inquisition? (p354-356)

WEEK 14, (p.360-371)

The rise of the Mendicant Orders (Franciscan and Dominican orders) was the natural conclusion of the needs of the time.

The Western world became more economically powerful, traveling was easy and commerce came from all over the rest of the world. This growth allowed a new social class to rise and become important: the Bourgeoisie. It is the middle class, the “commercial” class. They are called Bourgeois because they bought properties on the outskirts of the towns, the “Bourg”, but were neither landowners (nobles) nor land tenders (peasants/serfs). They provided goods, comfort, luxury, not food or protection. With peace, people wanted more luxury, they worried less about food or protection. With the rise of material comfort, came more tepidity in spiritual matters.... Thus the mendicant orders! They were fully poor, depending on the alms that people gave them, and their goal was to preach a return to deep spiritual commitment. They also were very well educated, and trained. The Third Order was founded at this time, for Lay people who wanted to pray and practice some of the order’s rules while staying in the world.

St. Dominic (Domingo de Guzman) was one of the founders of such an order. He belonged to the noble class of Hidalgos. A perfect knight and gentleman. His family gave priests and soldiers. *Fratres Predicadores*

It was not until St Dominic started spreading the devotion to the Rosary, that he made great conversions in the Albigensians territory.

St. Francis Bernardone on the other hand, came from the uprising Bourgeoisie. His father was a merchant, and his family was not used to giving his children to the service of the Church, more into business and economic growth. He was full of the chivalrous stories and loved the minstrel adventures. *Fratres Minores* were founded.

St. Francis went to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and tried to convert the Muslims. They did not convert, but they were so impressed by his visit that they gave his community the duty to care for the Holy Sepulchre (still today).

St. Elizabeth of Hungary is one of the gems that comes from the Franciscan Third Order. She was the king’s daughter and married to the Landgrave of Thuringia. Had 3 children and was widowed at 24. She died shortly after her husband.

*Read the Canticle of the Sun.

Questions:

- 1- What is the Bourgeoisie? What can it be compared to today?
- 2- What were the Mendicant Orders?
- 3- Who was Saint Elizabeth of Hungary?

WEEK 15, (p.372-390)

This is the age of the rise of Medieval Universities and the development of Scholasticism and mysticism.

The Classical Roman education had been lost for a while due to all the political unrest, but it was brought back by the monks and Countess Matilda. New subjects such as Law, Philosophy, Astronomy and Medicine were added to the Classics (Rhetoric, Grammar, Logic, etc).

Salerno was known for its Medical school

Bologna was known for Law

Paris was known for Philosophy.

The age of intellectual knowledge was beginning... With it, a social change took place that was very important for the Renaissance, for the political games (St. Jeanne d'Arc) and ultimately for the Protestant revolt.

German religious women Mystics seemed particularly open to mysticism (piety and asceticism)

The Late Middle Ages was an age of artistic growth never equaled: poetry, drama, architecture...

Questions

1- Who were the great Mystic Women of Helfta?

2- Who was St. Thomas Aquinas? Why was he called the Angelic Doctor?

3- Describe some of the arts of the late Middle Ages: poetry, drama, Romanesque and Gothic architecture.

WEEK 16, (p.391-404)

The XIIIth century marked the end of the Holy Roman Empire's power over Europe and the Church. France took over the influence and power that the Germanic empire used to hold. It became the center of spiritual and intellectual growth as well as power. The close alliance between the Church and the French kingdom was a blessing as long as the king remained a humble faithful ruler, and the pope remained faithful to his spiritual vocation. Saint **Louis IX** (1226-1270) reigned for most of this century and left a huge legacy behind him. One of the treasures he left behind was the Crown of Thorns and the Sainte Chapelle that he built to house it.

Pope **Boniface VIII** had to face **Philippe le Bel** and **Edward I** in the battle of the "tithes". His pontificate was blessed by The **Bull of Jubilee in 1300**, ending with the **Ubi et Orbi** blessing, but the rest of the time was conflictual.

Anagni was the last and terrible blow, which led to Boniface's death.

The XIVth century marked a turn in the papacy: because of the unrest of the Roman political situation and the growing influence of the French, the new pope (Clement V) decided to settle in the papal state, the Comtat Venaissin, whose capital was Avignon. The pope had long held this territory, but they decided to build the palace of the popes, many cardinal homes and enriched this region with beautiful Italian art.

*Note the battle over authority.

*Note that the interregnum period was very long at that time, between elections of the pope. The unrest was continuing in Rome with the Germanic emperor's disputed election and his setting up a new anti-pope.

The next 70 years were very confusing and ended up bringing the great Schism and the end of the supremacy of the papacy, on a political level. The early Avignon popes were actually good and austere, but over time, the papal life in Avignon became more worldly, and the popes soon forgot that they were the bishops of Rome.

Sainte Bridget of Sweden and **sainte Catherina of Siena** were the 2 most noticeable advocates for the return of the pope to Rome.

The most fascinating missionary enterprise was taken during this period (1245-1368): The Franciscans (John of Monte Corvino) went to evangelize the **Mongol** empire and actually had a lot of success all the way into China.

The famous **Ming Dynasty** stomped out Christianity from China, when the **Tartar** empire was crushed in 1368.

Questions:

- 1- Who was Louis IX? What was his life and legacy? Why is he a saint?
- 2- Who were St. Bridget and St. Catherina of Siena?
- 3- Who were the Mongols / Tartars?

WEEK 17,(p. 404-419)

The Great Schism of the West (1377-1417).

The Babylonian captivity (1309-1377) was followed by 40 years of chaos and misfortunes. An Italian pope was elected and took the name of Urban VI, and made it clear that the Church would remain in Rome, and leave Avignon. This upset many cardinals who decided to flee, cancel the pope and elect a new one in Naples. The world divided over which pope they supported, and as time passed, 2 separate papal courts formed and grew apart: 2 colleges of cardinals, 2 popes, 2 camps (France, Flanders, Spain and Scotland on 1 side; England, the Holy Roman Empire on the other). The Universities of Oxford, Prague and Paris demanded negotiations to unite and re-elect a pope for all. The cardinals from both colleges came and elected Alexander V in Pisa, but the other 2 popes refused to step down. There were therefore 3 popes, 3 sets of cardinals etc...The council of Constance (1414) ended the Schism by uniting Christendom.

Wycliffe and Huss

The chaos of these disputes opened the door for heresies to grow. Pre-Protestant ideas started being spread by Wycliffe (English) and Huss (Bohemian). It is interesting to note that they were both from the famous universities of Oxford and Prague.

Calvinism before its time: refusal of transubstantiation, predestination, refusal of sacraments,... These heresies were condemned at the council of Constance and Huss was burned in 1415. The Church promised reforms, but....

In 1438, at Ferrara, a Synod was called to try to reunite the East and the West.

However, this reunion did not hold and the Orthodox Church is still separated.

Humanism became the new ideology of the early Renaissance: The pagan influence vs. the Christian influence battle affected the culture. The popes became patrons of the arts as well as true warriors. The XVth century marks a strong political struggle: the Christian States have lost unity, the papal State has taken some importance, the Italian Sovereign cities have become richer and more powerful, and most of all a new terrifying enemy has emerged: the Turks.

*The Borgia popes

*Savonarola

*Thomas à Kempis

Questions

1- What is Humanism? What is Nepotism?

2- Who was Wycliffe? Huss?

3- Who was Savonarola?

WEEK 18, (p.420-436)

Modern Times 1517- 1930

After the heresies taught by Wycliffe and Hus, condemned by the council of Constance, the Western world became more and more interested in developing intellectual thought and this led to an increase of ideas and a decrease of faith.

Luther was the famous heretic who made the new ideas and theories widespread. He was poor as a child and very scrupulous, he was very intelligent and studied very fast, however he was morally troubled and depraved. He entered the monastery to avoid trouble and brought heresy into the church. He wrote his 95 Theses in 1517. The Indulgences were the excuse. He received a lot of support, but most people wanted reforms, not a schism.

Elector Frederick of Saxony and Philip of Hesse (who wanted to divorce his wife) supported Luther until the end.

Rome thought it was just a little quarrel, so Leo X did not respond forcefully.

Confrontation with Cardinal Cajetan showed Luther's deception and he was condemned in Leipzig for following Hus. Excommunicated.

The pope appealed to Charles V, emperor, who was attacked on every border: King of Spain where there was turmoil, at war with France, at war with the Turks, and having to deal with the revolution in his Empire. After examination, he put Luther under ban from the Empire. Ordered his books to be burned.

Luther's new Bible and its private interpretation brought terrible results.

*The Peasants revolt;

*John of Leyden in Münster;

Rather quickly, the religion took a political turn and absolute leaders (state churches) were set up. Charles V tried his best to stop the spread and to reunite the parties, but was not successful.

Luther ended his life in unhappy semi isolation, ranting against the papacy.

The Peace of Augsburg ended the battles, unfortunately giving the Protestant States their political status from then on.

Denmark enforced persecution and absolute imposition of Lutheranism right away, Sweden and Norway followed.

Zwingli brought protestantism to Switzerland.

Questions:

- 1- Where does the term Protestant come from? What did they protest against?
- 2- How did Luther treat Wingli?
- 3- How did the Scandinavian countries eradicate Catholicism so quickly?

WEEK 19 (p.437-456)

Calvin came after Luther. His master was Melchior Wolmar.

There were many differences between Luther and Calvin from the start. Switzerland became the home of Calvin, where he imposed his ideas and ruled as a dictator.

*note: Capitalism was born from Calvinism.

*note: the importance of the Humanist and universities as vehicles to spread the heresies.

*Huguenots and the French Wars of Religion. Remember the Cathars (Albigensians).

*Edict de Nantes.

Holland and Scotland had been protected by Spain and France, but eventually rebelled and decided to adopt the new doctrines of Calvinism as well. This marked the tragic end of the Stuart dynasty.

In England, the revolt against the Church took a different path, Henry VIII hated heresies and only wanted a schism to allow for his multiple marriages. The conflict was over jurisdiction and (of course) money. He is the **first absolute monarch** ever, being head of his Anglican church as well as his kingdom.

His son Edward VI continued his father's breakdown of the faith, his daughter Mary Tudor tried to return the kingdom to faith, but finally Elizabeth, betraying her own promise, finished the schism and persecuted all Catholics remaining.

Ireland stood faithful under excessively cruel persecution.

Questions:

1- Where does Capitalism come from? Why?

2- Who were the Huguenots? Whose heirs were they?

3- How did Ireland react to the English persecutions?

WEEK 20 (p. 468-481)

The Church, facing this enormous catastrophe, had to react and purify itself. It entered an age of glory: some of the greatest saints and missionaries revived the Faith and took it all over the globe. New orders were founded such as the Jesuits, the Oratorians, the Visitation Sisters, the Theatines, Capuchins, Barnabites, Ursulines,...

Great saints such as St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, St. François de Sales, Peter Faber, Matteo Ricci, St. Pius V ...

Explorers such as Vasco de Gama, Jacques Cariter, Cristobal Colòn,...

In 1545 the council of Trent opened to respond to the Protestant heresies and codify many of the articles of faith and discipline that were discussed. It ended in 1563, issuing a catechism published by Pope Pius V in 1566.

*note how the Jesuits took their vows (p.480)

Questions:

- 1- Who was St. Francis Xavier? What did he do in his life?
- 2- How did the missionaries evangelize current upstate New York? What happened?
- 3- What was the life and legacy of Eusebio Kino?

WEEK 21 (p.482-501)

This week is an in-depth study of some of the greatest saints that helped reform and strengthen the Church back into a healthy and strong Bride of Christ.

Saint Charles Borromeo: Italian, born in 1538, nephew of pope Pius IV. Made cardinal at age 21. Incorrupt body.

Pius V (Dominican), Gregory XIII and Sixtus V (Franciscan): popes who counter-reformed the Church, rebuilt it and enriched it.

Saint Philip Neri: the happy saint, apostle of Rome, founder of the Oratory.

Saint Peter Canisius: the apostle of the Germanic States.

Saint Angela Merici and Saint Teresa de Jesus: reformers of their orders.

Saint François de Sales and Sainte Jeanne de Chantal: founders of the Visitation.

Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen: Capuchin, apostle of Switzerland, martyred by the Calvinists.

Saint Vincent de Paul and Sainte Louise de Marillac: apostles of Charity and the Foreign Missions.

Questions

1, 2 and 3: Choose 3 saints that have touched you the most in this chapter, and tell us about them, their lives and their legacy.