



English Martyrs Catholic Church

2 Mitcham Lane, London SW16 6NN



CONFIRMATION 2019: Session 5 - **The Church**

The Church	Consider...	Source/ reference
The Mystical Body of Christ	The Church and a church.../ There is only one Church Not...the building...the living stones/ the cells Christ is the Head we are the Body	"In that body the life of Christ is communicated to those who believe, and who, through the sacraments, are united in a hidden and real way to Christ in his Passion and glorification." Lumen Gentium
The Bride of Christ	Just as a man and once are mystically united, become one through the sacrament of Matrimony, Our Lord is the Bridegroom who forms One Mystical Body, with His Bride, The Church.	The Church's one foundation, Is Jesus Christ her Lord, She is His new creation, By water and the Word. From heaven He came and sought her, To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
Holy Mother Church	The Church is Mother because she is a Bride...When we are baptised, we emerge out of the Baptismal font, as a child is born from his mother's womb. The Mother continues to nourish, protect and guide	The Church is a Mother because she is a Bride who is forever bringing forth children of light, pillars of holiness, sources of inspiration, challengers of truth, and defenders of the Faith. <i>M. Angelica</i>
The 4 marks of the Church	In the Creed we profess our faith in the One (as in one Body), Holy (set aside for God), Catholic (universal) and Apostolic (handed down from the Apostles) Church:	"From this it follows that if one member suffers anything, all the members suffer with him, and if one member is honored, all the members together rejoice." Gal 3:27-28.
Our Lady is the perfect Model of the Church	Our Lady is the Spouse of the Holy Spirit and the Mother of Jesus. She gave Our Lord to the World...that is what the Church still does...Mary gave birth to the Head...she gives birth to the members	The first man born of Mary is the God-man, Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ, the head of mankind, is born of her, the predestinate, who are members of this head, must also as a necessary consequence be born of her. One and the same mother does not give birth to the head without the members nor to the members without the head, for these would be monsters in the order of nature. <i>The True Devotion, St Louis Marie de Montfort</i>
The people of God	The Church Militant The Church Suffering The Church Triumphant	But penances are not done by ourselves alone; the penitent is helped by others who are in the Body of Christ....all are one because governed by one Head, vivified by one Soul, and professing the same Faith. Just as it is possible to graft skin from one part of the part to the other, and just as it is possible to transfuse blood from one member of society to another, so, in the spiritual organism of the Church, it is possible to graft prayer and to transfuse sacrifices. Ven Fulton Sheen
The Passion of the Church	The Church, the Body suffers and will suffer like Christ and in Christ.	3. From the outset it should be noted that the society established by the Redeemer of the human race resembles its divine Founder, who was persecuted, calumniated and tortured by those very men whom He had undertaken to save. Pope Pius XII ¹⁸ If the world hates you, know ye, that it hath hated me before you. John 15:18

With thanks to Bishop Robert Barron for this excellent programme on The Church: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZ9AIMIz-Jo>