



It is compared to the mystery of the incarnate Word. The visible social structure of the Church serve the Spirit of Christ, who vivifies it, in the building up of the body.

This is the one Church of Christ which in the Creed is professed as one, holy, catholic and apostolic, which our Saviour, after His Resurrection, **commissioned Peter to shepherd, and the other apostles to extend and direct with authority.**

This Church constituted and organized in the world as a society, subsists in the Catholic Church, which is governed by the successor of Peter and by the Bishops in communion with him, although many elements of sanctification and of truth are found outside of its visible structure. **These elements, as gifts belonging to the Church of Christ, are forces impelling toward catholic unity.**

Just as Christ carried out the work of redemption in poverty and persecution, so the Church is called to follow the same route that it might communicate the fruits of salvation to ALL. Thus, the Church, although it needs human resources to carry out its mission, is not set up to seek earthly glory, but to proclaim, even by its own example, humility and self-sacrifice. Christ was sent by the Father "to bring good news to the poor, to heal the contrite of heart", "to seek and to save what was lost". **Similarly, the Church** encompasses with love all who are afflicted with human suffering and in the poor and afflicted sees the image of its poor and suffering Founder.

The Church, always in need of being purified, always follows the way of penance and renewal. The Church, "like a stranger in a foreign land, presses forward amid the persecutions of the world and the consolations of God" announcing the cross and death of the Lord until He comes. By the power of the risen Lord it is given strength that it might, **in patience and in love**, overcome its sorrows and its challenges, both within itself and from without, and that it might **reveal** to the world, faithfully though darkly, **the mystery of its Lord until, in the end, it will be manifested in full light.** ✦

Source from:
Vatican II Documents
by Austine Flannery OP (1975)

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INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY

BUL 45/2023

4 & 5 November 2023

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

31st Ordinary Sunday

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

COMMUNION (INCLUSIVE), PARTICIPATION (CREATIVE) & MISSION (BRIDGE BUILDING)

MONTHLY FOCUS:
CHURCH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

FOCUS EVENT:
YOUNG PEOPLE DAY



LUMEN GENTIUM

**Vatican II DOGMATIC CONSTITUTION
ON THE CHURCH**

**PROMULGATED BY HIS HOLINESS
POPE PAUL VI
ON NOVEMBER 21, 1964**

No 8. Christ, the one Mediator, established and continually sustains here on earth His holy Church, the community of faith, hope and charity, as an entity with visible delineation through which He communicated truth and grace to all. The society structured with hierarchical organs and the Mystical Body of Christ, are not to be considered as two realities, nor are the visible assembly and the spiritual community, nor the earthly Church and the Church enriched with heavenly things; rather they form one complex reality.