

Purpose of Existence

What is the purpose of “Church”? Why did Jesus establish a Church upon earth? What is the Church’s true identity?

**“The Church, like Jesus, lives among the people and for the people”
Pope Francis**

“For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit...If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy” 1 Corinthians 12: 13, 26

Why do we attend Church? Is it Just for ourselves? Jesus established the Church, so that we may be one as He and the Father are one [John 17:11]. In this oneness we are guided and lead by the advocate, the Holy Spirit, so that we may always move forward ever closer, and grow in perfection with our Father. Oneness is only obtained when the Church is truly alive in Her Missionary Soul. If our faith only exists to serve ourselves, then what good is it? Faith must be shared, openly through the guidance of the Spirit, so that the Church may grow in perfection, as She grows to embrace more and more those who have yet to come to know the love of God.

“The Church on earth is by her nature missionary since, according to the plan of the Father, she has as her origin the mission of the Son and the Holy Spirit.’ [Ad Gentes 2] The ultimate purpose of mission is none other than to make men share in the communion between the Father and the Son in their Spirit of love.” CCC 850

“All the Christian faithful must direct their efforts to lead a holy life and to promote the growth of the Church and its continual sanctification, according to their own condition.” Code of Canon Law 210

*Shepherd of our hearts,
enliven the Mission of Your Church within every heart.
Grant that all members of Your Church,
may love as You love, live as You have taught us to
live, and grow evermore as one Body.
May we look beyond ourselves and the small realities of
our lives, and look towards the full reality of creation.
May our hearts be as beacons of light,
leading all to the loving embrace of Your Church.
With gentle understanding,
may we develop compassion
for each and every
child of God.
AMEN*