

## Vocabulary for Unit 4

**apocrypha:** Writings about Jesus or the Christian message not accepted as part of the canon of Sacred Scripture.

**college of cardinals:** A Church body made up of all the cardinals whose function is to advise the Pope about Church matters and to elect a successor following the death of a pope.

**deuterocanonical:** Books of the Old Testament that do not appear in the Hebrew Scripture but are accepted by the Church as part of the canon of Scripture.

**grace:** The free and undeserved gift of God's loving and active presence in our lives, empowering us to respond to his call and to live as his adopted sons and daughters. Grace restores our loving communion with the Holy Trinity, lost through sin.

**humanism:** A cultural and intellectual movement that emphasized classical learning, such as Latin and Greek literary and historical texts, and that focused on human achievements rather than on the divine.

**justification:** An invitation toward conversion, which happens as a response to God through the active life of faith. It involves the removal of sin and the gift of God's sanctifying grace to renew holiness. Justification was accomplished by Christ's Paschal Mystery, in his sacrificial death for all humanity.

**merit:** God's reward to those who love him and by his grace do good works. We cannot "merit" justification or eternal life, which are a free gift of God. The source of any merit we have before God is due to the grace of Christ in us.

**predestination:** The belief that each person's fate after death is predetermined by God and that no one can do anything to change it.

**theocracy:** A form of government in which God is understood to be head of the state, ruling by divine guidance granted to its clergy or other ruling officials.

