

## Researching the Role of the Magisterium



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The Church perpetuates and transmits to all generations all that she is and all that she believes through her doctrine, life, and worship.

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Sacred Tradition, Sacred Scripture, and the Magisterium are so closely connected that one cannot stand apart from the others.

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The Magisterium is the name given to the official teaching authority of the Church, whose task is to interpret and preserve the truths of the faith transmitted through Scripture and Tradition.

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*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pillar I: The profession of faith (the Creed)

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*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pillar II: The sacraments of faith

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*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pillar III: The life of faith (the Commandments)

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*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pillar IV: The prayer of the believer (the Lord's Prayer)

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The indefectibility of the Church means that the one Church established by Jesus will remain, uncorrupted and faithful to Christ's teachings, until the end of human history.

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Infallibility is the gift of the Holy Spirit to the whole Church by which the leaders of the Church—the Pope and the bishops in union with him—are protected from fundamental error when formulating a specific teaching on a matter of faith and morals.

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The hierarchy of truths does not mean that some truths are less relevant to our faith, but rather that some truths are more fundamental and illuminate other truths.

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Dogmas are those teachings that are recognized as central to Church teaching, defined by the Magisterium, and accorded the fullest weight and authority.

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