Church Structure and Leadership

The structure of the Catholic Church can be pictured as a series of concentric rings, as shown in the following diagram. Each ring represents a special area of responsibility within the Church. As the circles get smaller, the roles are more specific. The Chi-Rho is a symbol for Christ. By Baptism, every role in the Catholic Church is connected with Christ’s ministry.

**Pope**

**Bishops**

**Priests and Deacons**

**Consecrated Life**

**Lay Faithful**

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