

Vocabulary for Unit 2

animate: To give life to.

Ascension: The “going up” into Heaven of the Risen Christ forty days after his Resurrection.

charism: A special gift or grace of the Holy Spirit given to an individual Christian or community, commonly for the benefit and building up of the entire Church.

charismatic: The word refers to a person gifted with the charism or graces of the Holy Spirit such as healing, prophecy, and speaking in tongues. Because self-deception is always possible, the charisms claimed by such a person must be verified by the Church.

Communion: Refers to receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. In general, your companionship and union with Jesus and other baptized Christians in the Church. This union has its origin and high point in the celebration of the Eucharist. In this sense the deepest vocation of the Church is Communion.

covenant: A personal, solemn promise of faithful love that involves mutual commitments and creates a sacred relationship.

disciples: The general term for any student or follower of a particular teacher. In the New Testament, the disciples are understood as the seventy-two who received instruction from Jesus. In modern usage, the term is generally applied to all the baptized.

evangelization: The proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ through words and witness.

foreshadow: To represent or prefigure a person before his or her life or an event before it occurs.

Gentile: A non-Jewish person. In the Scriptures the Gentiles were the uncircumcised, those who did not honor the God of the Torah. In the New Testament, Saint Paul and other evangelists reached out to the Gentiles, baptizing them into the family of God.

Hellenistic: Of or relating to Greek history, culture, or art after Alexander the Great.

hierarchy: In general, the line of authority in the Church; more narrowly, the Pope and the bishops, as successors of the Apostles, in their authoritative roles as leaders of the Church.

Holy Spirit: The Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, understood as the perfect love between God the Father, and the Son, Jesus Christ, who inspires, guides, and sanctifies the life of believers.

infallibility: The gift given by the Holy Spirit to the Pope and the bishops in union with him to teach on matters of faith and morals without error.

intercession: A prayer on behalf of another person or group.

Magisterium: The Church’s living teaching office, which consists of all bishops, in communion with the Pope.



Pentecost: The fiftieth day following Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the early Apostles and disciples.

petition: A prayer form in which one asks God for help and forgiveness.

sanctify, sanctification: To make holy; sanctification is the process of becoming closer to God and growing in holiness, taking on the righteousness of Jesus Christ with the gift of sanctifying grace.

Trinitarian: Of or relating to the Trinity or the doctrine of the Trinity.

