

JESSENIALS SEVEN

PRESENTATION 5
TEACHER'S GUIDE

WHY BE CATHOLIC?

12+ Through Adult Version

From content by:

Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S. J., Ph.D.

Adapted by: Claude R. LeBlanc, M.A.

Welcome to CREDIBLE CATHOLIC!

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? It is unbelief and skepticism. In our culture, derision of religion, God, the soul, Jesus, and the prospect of finding spiritual meaning in suffering, are not only tolerated but preached and sometimes even celebrated. Many are already infected by the faulty messages which are delivered in four popular, but inaccurate, secular myths. These myths, in one form or another, are as follows:

- **Myth 1:** Science and faith are incompatible, and since science is true, it has replaced religion.
- **Myth 2:** Human beings are like every other animal—merely a complex of atoms and molecules. We have no soul, no eternal destiny, and no transcendent nature. When we die, we die.
- **Myth 3:** There is no explanation for why an all-loving God would allow suffering. Therefore, suffering is fundamentally negative and a loving God probably does not exist.
- **Myth 4:** There is no evidence for Jesus as an historical figure, and therefore his resurrection or divinity. If Jesus did exist, he was just an interesting prophet, but not a Savior or the Son of God.

The 2016 Pew Research Center's Religious Landscape Study indicates that over 40% of millennials have abandoned their faith to unbelief because these four challenges have not been adequately addressed. Unless we specifically and effectively address these challenges to faith, the percentage will continue to grow. What can be done?

OUR SOLUTION: Credible Catholic, a Magis Center curriculum correlated to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, was specifically created to address these challenging myths.

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CREDIBLE CATHOLIC 7 ESSENTIALS PRESENTATION 5 GUIDE

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CREDIBLE CATHOLIC—7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 5 Why Be Catholic?

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Content: This presentation is derived from the *Credible Catholic Little Book (CCLB)* 6 which can be found at <u>crediblecatholic.com</u>. The presentations are interactive, with prayers, questions for discussion, videos, activities and assessments. When leading a discussion, it is important to let your students share without correction to establish trust on the part of your students. The content contains the Church's teachings on the topics, so you do not need to give "correct" answers to the questions.

Handouts: Copy the following pages as a handout. There are places where notes can be added by the students but the commentary should provide them with what they need.

Videos and Audio Files: These are introduced on the previous slides so that you are prepared for them. They automatically start when the next slide is opened.

Time Required: Each presentation was designed to be easily covered in 120 minutes. If you have less time, use your discretion in limiting discussion, omitting an activity (or activities), skipping a video (or videos), and assigning the assessment for homework (see the chart below for recommendations). If you find you have extra time, use it for further class discussion and/or to encourage your students to brainstorm how this information can be used to confront the challenges to faith they face.

Recommendations Based on Available Time						
	Minutes:	60	75	90	105	120
Presentation Text		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Discussion Questions		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Videos		No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Activities		No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Assessment		No	No	No	No	Yes

Using the Presentations: All **Credible Catholic** presentations are free online and can be played on your smart device or computer from our website with no special apps by electing the "**PLAY**" button. You may also download them in PDF format by selecting the "**DOWNLOAD**" button. You may need <u>Adobe Acrobat Player</u>, <u>Adobe Flash Player</u> and/or <u>QuickTime Player</u> (all free online) for the embedded videos and audio files to play the presentations on your computer.

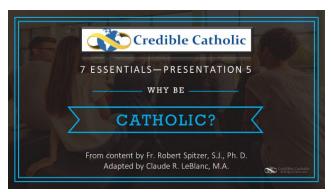
Student and Presenter Surveys are provided at the end of the presentation guide. We would appreciate it if you would administer and send them to us, either to the address at the front of this guide, or by scanning and emailing them to teach@magiscenter.com. We are offering a 25% discount on any one of the products for sale on either of our websites (magiscenter.com/crediblecatholic.com) for each complete set of class surveys you submit.

Need Help? If you have questions, contact us at <u>teach@magiscenter.com</u> and we will get back to you promptly.

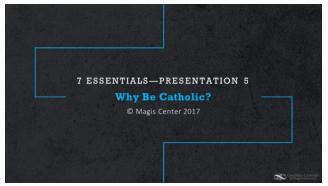
CC 7E Presentation 5: Why Be Catholic?

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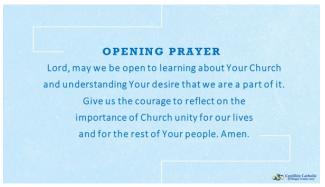
PRESENTATION NOTES



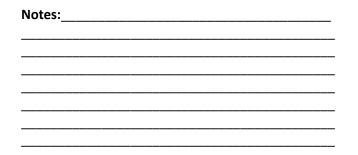
SLIDE 1—TITLE SLIDE



SLIDE 2—COPYRIGHT SLIDE

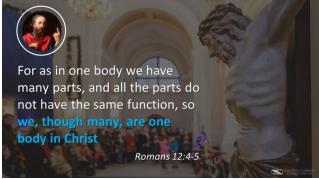


SLIDE 3—OPENING PRAYER





SLIDE 4: Although faith is a very personal thing, most of us want to share it. Belonging to a church connects us with other believers.



SLIDE 5: St. Paul describes this connectedness, for Christians, as our being members of the one "Body of Christ." (1 Cor. 12:27)



SLIDE 6: St. Teresa of Avila put it in another way. She said that, "We are the only hands and feet God has in the world today." What we say and do may be the only way others come to know God. *Do you want to be a part of that?*



SLIDE 7—CHAPTER 1—WHY DO WE NEED A CHURCH? Why do we need a Church? Rather than leaving us alone to do His work, Jesus gave us a Church so that we can work together. The Church fills our need for a supportive spiritual community, and there are many other needs that go along with that.



SLIDE 8: A Church can provide sacred rituals, worship, and symbols. It can communicate and explain God's revealed Word. It can be a source of moral teaching, and provide guidance for our relationship with God.



SLIDE 9: There are many religions in the world. They share some similarities, but they also have many differences. *How is a person supposed to choose which religion is the right one?* We've already demonstrated the evidence for the Resurrection and the divinity of Jesus in *Presentation 3*, but even if we

just limit our search to Christianity, that's not so easy. Did you know there are over 35,000 different Christian churches that have sprung up in the past 500 years? That's an average of 70 new churches a year!



SLIDE 10—LET'S DISCUSS



SLIDE 11: One of the main reasons there are so many different Christian churches is that they can't agree on what the Bible teaches. Do you think that's what Jesus intended? Of course not, there has to be a better way to know what the Bible teaches than having 35,000 different interpretations! What is the "better way?"



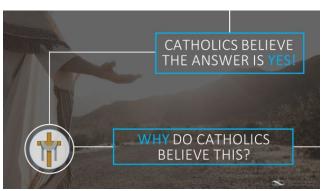
SLIDE 12—ACTIVITY 1: The Need for a Recognized Authority in the Church



SLIDE 13: It's not easy to interpret the Bible. Its writings are based on ancient oral traditions, its content spans nearly 2000 years, and it was written by many authors using a variety of literary styles in at least three languages. Because of this, even careful and prayerful readers can misinterpret God's intended meaning in Scripture.

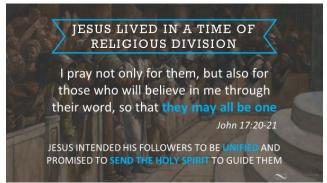


SLIDE 14: The way to avoid this confusion and the division it causes, would be to rely on an *authentic* teaching authority to correctly interpret and communicate what God, and the Bible's authors, want us to know. So, did Jesus provide us with an authentic teaching authority to guide us to the truth the Bible is teaching and help us avoid confusion, deception, and division?

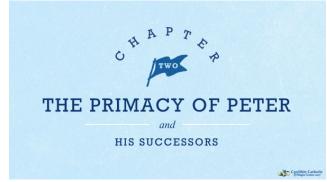


SLIDE 15: Catholics believe the answer is *yes*! Jesus started a Church to be governed by Peter and his

successors until the end of the world, that is, the Catholic Church. *But, why do Catholics believe this?*

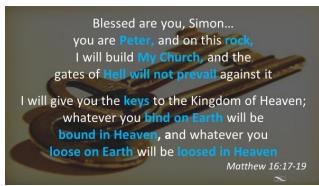


SLIDE 16: Jesus lived at a time when the Jewish religion had many divisions. He understood the consequences of those divisions. The Bible tells us that Jesus intended His followers to be unified (John 17:21) and He sent the Holy Spirit to guide them. (John 14:26)

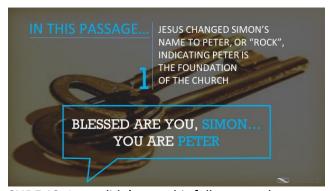


SLIDE 17—CHAPTER 2—THE PRIMACY OF PETER AND HIS SUCCESSORS: The primacy of Peter and his successors.

Notes:_	 	 	



SLIDE 18: Jesus commissioned Peter as head of His Church, saying: "Blessed are you, Simon...You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven." (Matt. 16:17-19)



SLIDE 19: Jesus didn't want his followers to be confused, or deceived, or divided. So, He said five things in this passage which show the Church's authority is built on Peter *and* is permanent. First, Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter, or "rock", indicating that Peter is the foundation of the Church.



SLIDE 20: Second, Jesus used the future tense to describe what *will* begin, not end, with Peter.



SLIDE 21: Third, Jesus said that the Church will last forever.

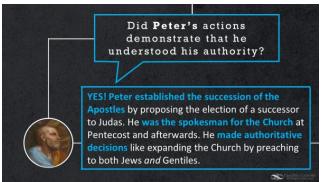


SLIDE 22: Fourth, keys are only given to someone who is trusted to care for an owner's property.



SLIDE 23: And fifth, Jesus designated Peter as the highest authority for His Church. To "bind" means to hold back or keep out, and to "loose" means to letgo-of or forgive.

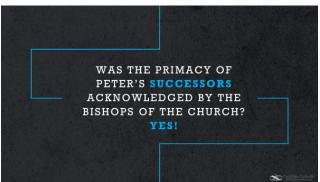
votes	 	 	



SLIDE 24: Did Peter's actions demonstrate that he understood his authority? Yes! For example, Peter established the succession of the Apostles by proposing the election of a successor to the Apostle Judas. (Acts 1:15-26) Peter was also the spokesman for the Church at Pentecost and afterwards. (Acts 2:14-31) And finally, Peter made authoritative decisions like expanding the Church by preaching to both Jews and Gentiles. (Acts 15:7-12)

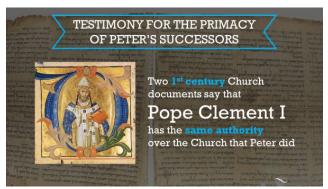


SLIDE 25: Did the other Apostles think Peter was appointed by Jesus to be the head of the Church? Yes! In Acts 15, where the first council of the Church is described, St. Paul and the other Apostles fell silent after Peter makes his decision. His authority was definitive for the whole Church.

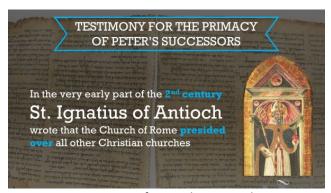


SLIDE 26: Was the primacy of Peter's successors acknowledged by the bishops of the Church?

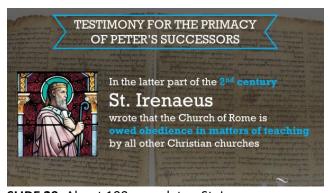
Yes! There are many writings in the early Church that demonstrate this.



SLIDE 27: For instance, two early Church documents describe Pope Clement 1, who was consecrated Bishop of Rome by Peter himself, as having the same authority over the Church that Peter did.

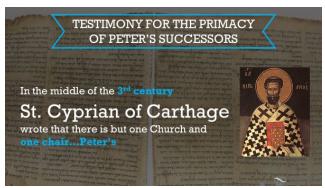


SLIDE 28: St. Ignatius of Antioch wrote a letter saying that the Church of Rome was superior to, and presided over, all other Christian churches.



SLIDE 29: About 100 years later, St. Irenaeus declared that the Church of Rome was owed obedience in matters of teaching by all other Christian churches.

Notes:_	 	 	 	



SLIDE 30: And, in 251 AD, St. Cyprian of Carthage wrote that there is but one Church and one chair; Peter's.



SLIDE 31: For several centuries, the whole Church submitted itself to the primacy of the successor of St. Peter. This practice seems to have achieved its intended role; although there were many challenges facing the young Church, the primacy of Peter's successors maintained Church unity.

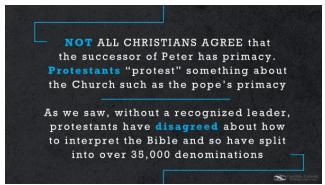


SLIDE 32: Watch this explanation.

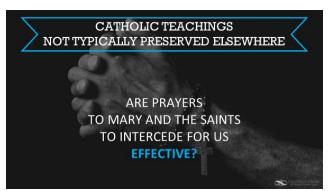
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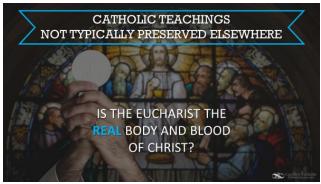
SLIDE 33—VIDEO 5-1: Why Do We Need a Pope?



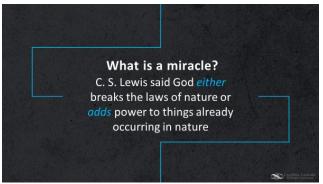
SLIDE 34: Even though it seems clear that Jesus gave Peter and his successors the authority to resolve disputes and lead the Church, not all Christians agree. Many of those who don't are called Protestants. Over the years, more Protestant churches have formed as different interpretations of the Bible led to changes in teaching between each Church.



SLIDE 35: Let's look at some of the teachings found in the Catholic Church which have not typically been preserved elsewhere. The first issue is whether or not prayers to Mary and the saints on our behalf—called intercessions—are effective.



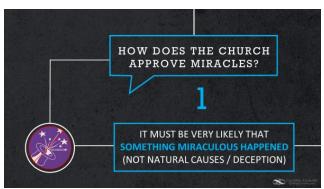
SLIDE 36: And the second issue is whether the Eucharist is the real Body and Blood of Christ. We've picked these teachings because they're often confusing to other Christians, and because there is some outside confirmation for these teachings in the form of recently scientifically validated miracles.



SLIDE 37: But first, what is a miracle? Some people, including some scientists, mistakenly believe that miracles require a breaking of the laws of nature. But, C.S. Lewis, the author of the Chronicles of Narnia, explained that God can, and sometimes does, break the laws of nature. But, in other cases, He simply adds power to things already occurring in nature.



SLIDE 38: How does the Church approve miracles? There are four tests.



SLIDE 39: First, it must be very likely that something miraculous happened; something that can't be easily be explained by natural causes or deception.



SLIDE 40: Second, the person or persons involved must be honest, sincere, moral, mentally sound, and obedient to Church authority.

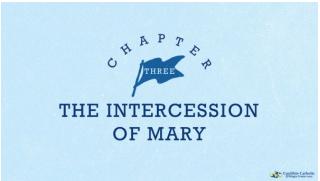


SLIDE 41: Third, if there is a message—such as in a vision—the content must be theologically and morally correct, and free of other errors.

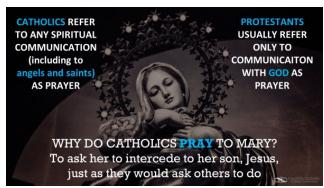
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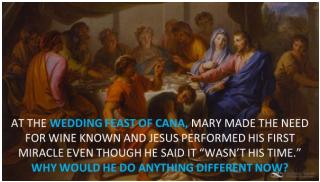
SLIDE 42: And fourth, the miracle must yield positive and continuing spiritual results, such as prayer, conversion, and an increase in charity.



SLIDE 43—CHAPTER 3—THE SUPREME
INTERCESSION OF MARY: Catholics are sometimes
accused of worshipping Mary, and asked, "Why do
Catholics pray to Mary when they could just pray to
God?"



SLIDE 44: One reason for this confusion is that Catholics and Protestants don't necessarily use the word "prayer" in the same way. For Catholics, "prayer" is any spiritual communication with God, an angel, or a saint. Catholics do not worship Mary, but honor her because her Son, Jesus, is the Son of God. Catholics pray to ask her, just as they ask others, to pray with and for them to Jesus, her son. We refer to these prayers as intercessory prayers.



SLIDE 45: Is there anything special about Mary's intercession to her Son? Yes! As the mother of Jesus, she has a unique place in His heart. Wouldn't Jesus, out of great love for His mother, want to grant any request she makes of Him? We saw this in Jesus' life on Earth, when he turned water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana; after His mother, Mary, mentioned the need, he responded obediently. (Jn 1:1-11)



SLIDE 46: As proof of God response to Mary's intercession, there are numerous accounts of apparitions—or visions—and miracles associated with her throughout history. Let's look at a very familiar apparition of Mary because of the recent scientific investigation of the miracles associated with it.

Notes:	 	 	



SLIDE 47: Several well-documented accounts report that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego, an Aztec, in December of 1531. She asked Juan to ask his bishop, Juan de Zumarraga, to build a Church on Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City. The bishop asked Juan for a sign, and when he returned to the hill on December 12th, there were roses in bloom there even though it was Winter. Mary asked Juan to gather the roses into his tilma—a type of cape—and show them to the bishop.



SLIDE 48: When Juan opened his tilma, the bishop saw not only the Winter-blooming roses, but a detailed image of Mary, which we know as Our Lady of Guadalupe.



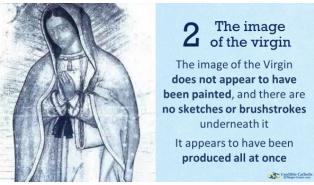
SLIDE 49: This convinced the bishop and he built the church. Juan Diego's tilma, with its miraculous image, is still in that church today.



SLIDE 50: Besides the original miracles of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, there are also five recently discovered miracles associated with it.



SLIDE 51: First, the material of the tilma, which is almost 500 years old, has not deteriorated at all, even though it was left uncovered and exposed to the air, soot, candlewax, incense, and human touch for 115 years. Similar tilmas usually deteriorate within just 15 years.



SLIDE 52: Second, although some parts of the tilma have been painted, the image of the Virgin does not appear to have been. There is no sketch underneath it, no brushstrokes or corrections, and it appears to have been produced all at once.

Notes:_	 	 	

3 Pigments in the image

The pigments of the image on the tilma are from no known natural source, whether animal, vegetable or mineral

There were no synthetic

pigments in 1531



SLIDE 53: Third, the pigments in the image on the tilma are from no known natural source, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral, and there were no synthetic pigments in 1531.



The original Image on the tilma

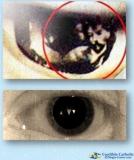
The original image on the tilma has not cracked, flaked or decayed

(The added gold-leaf has flaked and deteriorated considerably)

SLIDE 54: Fourth, the original image on the tilma has not cracked, flaked, or decayed while the added gold-leaf has flaked and deteriorated considerably.

5 The eyes of the image

- The pupils appear to contain
 reflection of Bishop Zumarraga
 and other witnesses
- The images in the pupils have a triple-refection known as the Sanson-Purkinje Effect
- 3. The images in the pupils follow the curvature of the cornea as found in a normal human eye



associated with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is that the eyes of the Virgin have three remarkable qualities that cannot be explained by 1531 technology. In fact, they're even difficult to replicate today. There appears to be an image of Bishop Zumarraga, and several other witnesses to the opening of the tilma, in the pupils. Second, the images in the pupils manifest a triple-reflection known as the Sanson-Purkinje effect—a scientific detail which was unknown at the time. And finally,

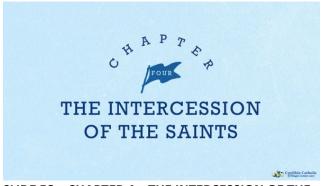
the image in the eyes of the Virgin follows the curvature of the cornea precisely in the way it occurs in a normal human eye.



SLIDE 56: It appears reasonable to believe that the image on this tilma must have a supernatural origin. In fact, this image has been, and still is, responsible for many conversions and miraculous healings throughout Mexico, the Americas, and the rest of the world!



SLIDE 57—LET'S DISCUSS



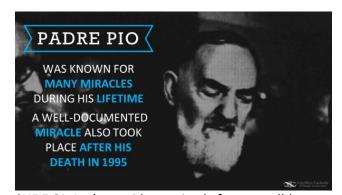
SLIDE 58—CHAPTER 4—THE INTERCESSION OF THE SAINTS: Catholics pray to other saints, just as they do to Mary, and for good reason. There are many medically confirmed miracles connected to the intercession of the Saints to God. For a person to be declared a Saint, two verified miracles are required after their death, a process that takes several years.



SLIDE 59: Here's an explanation of that process.



SLIDE 60—VIDEO 5-2: How the Church Approves Miracles for Canonization.



SLIDE 61: Let's consider a miracle from a well-known and fairly recent saint. During his lifetime, Padre Pio performed many miracles, but miracles continued to occur after his death. A very well documented miracle took place in 1995 that had been connected to Padre Pio. Like all miracles after a person's death, this one required approval by two scientific boards, and two theological tribunals.

Notes:	 		



SLIDE 62: On October 31st, 1995, Consiglia De Martino felt a painful growth in her neck. It quickly reached the size of a grapefruit; about 2 quarts of liquid. A very difficult and complicated surgery was scheduled for three days later. Consiglia began to pray to Padre Pio and phoned his monastery, where she spoke to Fra Modestino Fucci, who had been promised by Padre Pio to help him with prayers of intercession. Fucci also prayed to Padre Pio to intercede to God.

WITHOUT SURGERY, X-RAYS SHOWED A COMPLETE CURE AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE 2 QUARTS OF LIQUID IN CONSIGLIA DE MARTINO'S NECK
THE SCIENTIFIC BOARDS DECLARED IT
"EXTRAORDINARY AND SCIENTIFICALLY UNEXPLAINABLE"

SLIDE 63: On November 2nd, before any medical treatment was given, most of Consiglia's pain and swelling had gone away. By the next day, without surgery, x-rays showed a complete cure and the disappearance of two-quarts of liquid in her neck. The scientific boards declared it "extraordinary and scientifically unexplainable," and, in 1998, the Church declared Consiglia De Martino's case a miracle through Padre Pio's intercession.



SLIDE 64—CHAPTER 5—THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN THE EUCHARIST: A Eucharistic miracle takes place at every Mass when the priest says the words of consecration; the bread and wine become Jesus' Body and Blood. But, there is another, more visible, kind of Eucharistic miracle that has been reported since the 8th century. The following report provides an example of this second type of Eucharistic miracle.

ARGENTINA'S EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE

AUGUST 18TH 1996

Fr. Alejandro Pezet found a discarded consecrated host and placed it in water to dissolve

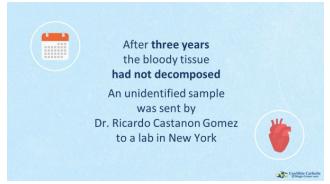
AUGUST 26TH 1996

Fr. Pezet discovered the host had turned into a piece of bloody tissue and notified Archbishop Bergoglio (now Pope Francis)

Credible Catholic Education

SLIDE 65: On August 18th 1996, at the church of Santa Maria y Caballito Almagro in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Fr. Alejandro Pezet discovered a consecrated host that had been thrown away. Because it was dirty, he did not consume it, but he placed it in a small container of water in the tabernacle to dissolve, which usually takes a few days. When Fr. Pezet opened the tabernacle a week later, on August 26th, the host had turned into a piece of bloody tissue larger than the original host. He informed Archbishop Bergoglio—now Pope Francis—who asked that it be professionally photographed.

Notes:	 	 	



SLIDE 66: After 3 years, without any attempt to preserve it, the bloody tissue had not decomposed, which is scientifically unexplainable. In 1999, in the presence of then Cardinal Bergoglio, a sample of the tissue was sent by Dr. Ricardo Castanon Gomez to New York to be scientifically examined. Dr. Gomez did not reveal the source of the sample to the lab.



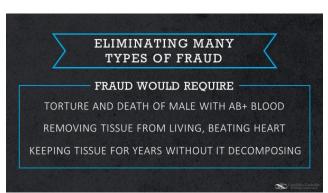
SLIDE 67: Watch this video about the miracle.



SLIDE 68: VIDEO 5-3: Argentina's Eucharistic Miracle.



SLIDE 69: The lab found that the sample was a fragment of a heart muscle found in the wall of the left ventricle close to the valves. This muscle is responsible for the contraction of the heart which sends blood to all parts of the body. A large number of white blood cells penetrated the tissue, meaning that it was under severe stress, as if the owner had been severely beaten on the chest. Because of this, the sample was thought to be taken from *a live human heart!*



SLIDE 70: These findings eliminate many kinds of fraud. It can't be thought that Church authorized the torture and death of a male with AB positive blood type—the same as on the Shroud and the Facecloth of Oviedo—opened his chest while he was still alive, and removed the tissue from his beating heart, somehow keeping it for years without decomposing.

Notes:	 	 	

We must ask: "Where could this tissue have come from?" and "How could it not be miraculous?" This miracle supports the Catholic doctrine of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist.

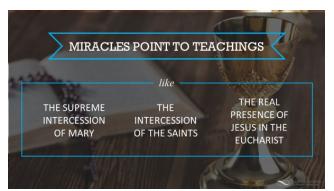
SLIDE 71: We must ask: "Where could this tissue have come from?" This non-decomposing tissue appears to be the result of a transformation of a consecrated host witnessed by Fr. Pezet and Pope Francis. This miracle supports the Catholic doctrine that, during Mass, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.



SLIDE 72—CHAPTER 6—WHAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS THAT OTHER CHURCHES HAVE LOST:

The three miracles we presented--Our Lady of Guadalupe, Padre Pio, and the Eucharistic host—have at least two things in common; each is scientifically verified, and point to one of the Catholic teachings that commonly aren't found in other churches...

Notes:	 	 	

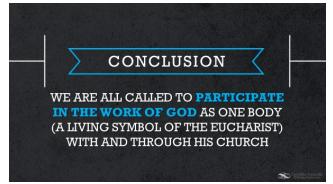


SLIDE 73: ...teachings like the supreme intercession of Mary, the intercession of the Saints, and the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. These miracles point to God's approval of these teachings and help confirm faith in the Church that teaches them.



SLIDE 74: There are four benefits of the Catholic Church that have been lost by many other Christian churches. First, as we have mentioned, belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and the graces received from it. Second, the need for an absolute authority to guide us to the truth of Jesus and prevent division. Third, there's the rich philosophical, scientific, literary, and political intellectual tradition that has developed over the centuries. Fourth, there is an extensive spiritual tradition, including the Sacraments that Jesus instituted, the liturgy, retreats, religious life, pilgrimages, holy objects, and devotions to the Eucharist, Mary and the Saints.

Notes:	 	



SLIDE 75: Out of His perfect love, God wants us to participate in His mission of bringing all humans into relationship with Him. Mary and the Saints give us the best example of God's work through and with humanity. But, we are all called to participate in the work of God as one Body, a living symbol of the Eucharist, with and through His Church.



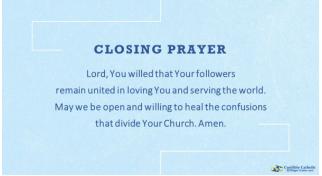
SLIDE 76: Watch this explanation.



SLIDE 77—VIDEO 5-4: Why Be Catholic?



SLIDE 78—ACTIVITY 2: Write a Commercial for the Catholic Church



SLIDE 79--CLOSING PRAYER: "Lord, You willed that Your followers remain united in loving You and serving the world. May we be open and willing to heal the confusions that divide Your Church. Amen."



SLIDE 80—ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Note	es:	 	 	



SLIDE 81—CREDITS

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•		

Name:	Period:	 Date:	

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CREDIBLE CATHOLIC—7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 5 ACTIVITIES Why Be Catholic?

ACTIVITY #1: The Need for a Recognized Authority in the Church

Answer the following questions:

- 1) What would happen if a professional sport did not have referees or umpires? Why?
- 2) Would it matter if the players promised not to cheat?
- 3) How does this relate to the need for a recognized authority in the Church?







ACTIVITY #2: Write a Commercial for the Catholic Church

Imagine you work in advertising and the Bishop wants your agency to write four 30-second radio commercials titled, "Why Be Catholic?"

Commercial 1: The Primacy of Peter and his successors.

Commercial 2: The intercessory roles of Mary and the Saints.

Commercial 3: The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Commercial 4: What Christians miss out on by not being Catholic.

Write the commercial assigned (about 50 words) based on what you learned in this presentation.

Share it with the class.



Managa	Dania di	D-4	
Name:	_Period:	Date:	

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CREDIBLE CATHOLIC—7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 5 ASSESSMENT Why Be Catholic?

Modified True or False: If a statement is true, mark it true. If false, make it true by striking through what is false and writing a correction on the lines provided. It is **unnatural** for people to want to share their faith. 1. 2. There are many good reasons for **belonging** to a church. Is seems clear from Scripture that Jesus **intended** for there to be many 3. different Christians churches. ____ 4. **Catholics** believe that when Jesus established His Church He gave Peter and his successors authority over it. 5. There are **many** miracles associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints throughout the centuries. Miracles associated with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe are **still** being 6. discovered today. 7. In order for a person to be declared a Saint by the Catholic Church, three medically verified and scientifically unexplainable miracles are required. Catholics **believe** that Mary and the Saints have their own power to perform 8. miracles. ____ 9. Catholics believe here are two kinds of miracles associated with the Eucharist; the Real Presence of Christ (transubstantiation), and human flesh and blood miracles. The miracles associated with Mary, the Saints and the Eucharist indicate 10.

God's disapproval of the Catholic doctrines connected to them. _____

CREDIBLE CATHOLIC—7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 5

ASSESSMENT ANSWER KEY

Why Be Catholic?

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Modified True or False: If a statement is true, mark it true. If false, make it true by striking through what is false and writing a correction on the lines provided.

- FALSE 1. It is unnatural for people to want to share their faith. natural
- TRUE 2. There are many good reasons for **belonging** to a church.
- FALSE 3. Is seems clear from Scripture that Jesus intended for there to be many different Christians churches. did not intend
- TRUE 4. Catholics believe that when Jesus established His Church He gave Peter and his successors authority over it.
- TRUE 5. There are **many** miracles associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints throughout the centuries.
- TRUE 6. Miracles associated with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe are **still** being discovered today.
- FALSE 7. In order for a person to be declared a Saint by the Catholic Church, three medically verified and scientifically unexplainable miracles are required. two
- FALSE 8. Catholics believe that Mary and the Saints have their own power to perform miracles. do not believe
- TRUE 9. Catholics believe here are **two** kinds of miracles associated with the Eucharist; the Real Presence of Christ (transubstantiation), and human flesh and blood miracles.
- FALSE 10. The miracles associated with Mary, the Saints and the Eucharist indicate

 God's disapproval of the Catholic doctrines connected to them. approval



7E Presentation 5: Why Be Catholic?

STUDENT SURVEY (12+ Through Adult Version)

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Pleas	se choose the answer that best Did this presentation have voice-over	•		no		
2.	Before viewing this presentation, I had much knowledge	d of this	s topic.			
3.	I understood this presentation:	very well	well	not that well		
4.	I found this presentation:	very interesting	interesting	not that interesting		
5.	(Select all that apply) I liked the: information images	videos	discussions	activities		
	Comments:					
6.	(Select all that apply) I disliked the: information images	videos	discussions	activities		
	Comments:					
7.	This presentation had a very positive			what negative		
8.	This presentation would have been better if:					
9.	Would you like to see a similar type of presentation on another topic? Yes Notes to the proof of					
10.	Would you recommend this preser Why or why not? PRESENTERS: Scan surveys and			Yes No		

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7E Presentation 5: Why Be Catholic?

PRESENTER SURVEY (12+ Through Adult Version)

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Scho	School Name		vel Date	Date		
Plea	ase choose the answer that be Did this presentation have voice-o	•	yes no			
2.	Before presenting this, I had much knowledge		no knowledge			
3.	I found the Presentation Guide very helpful	in preparing for this p	presentation			
	Comments:					
4.	I found it to present t		somewhat difficult			
	very easy Comments:		somewhat annear			
5.	My students participated		somewhat poorly			
	Comments:					
6.	My students participated		somewhat poorly			
7.	This presentation would be better if:					
8.	Would you like to present on other topics in this style? If so, which topic(s)?		Yes			
9.	Would you recommend this pre Why or why not?	sentation to a colleague?	Yes			

PRESENTERS: Scan surveys and email them to: teach@magiscenter.com or mail them to: Magis Center, 13280 Chapman Ave., Christ Cathedral Tower of Hope, 9th Floor, Garden Grove, CA 92840

THE 7 ESSENTIAL PRESENTATIONS

Essential 1—MEDICAL EVIDENCE OF A SOUL: We show evidence, from **Near-Death Experiences** (NDEs) and **Terminal Lucidity** (a clarity of consciousness sometimes occurring shortly before death in persons with dementia, Alzheimer's, and irreversible brain damage) that consciousness is not dependent on physical bodies or brains, and therefore, that we have souls that survive bodily death.

Essential 2—SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OF GOD'S EXISTENCE: We give evidence from the **Big Bang**, the **BVG Proof** (that all expanding universes have to have a beginning), **entropy**, and the "**fine-tuning**" **of the universe for life**, that our universe requires an Intelligent Creator in order to exist.

Essential 3—PHILOSOPHICAL PROOF OF GOD'S EXISTENCE: We demonstrate, using reasoning, from **St. Thomas Aquinas, C. S. Lewis**, and others, the logical necessity for there being a Transcendent Creator of the universe.

Essential 4—PROOF OF JESUS' RESURRECTION AND DIVINITY: We describe evidence from the **Shroud of Turin**, the **Facecloth of Oviedo**, **Historical Documents** (biblical and non-biblical), and the work of **N. T. Wright**, that the Resurrection of Jesus is an historical fact, and that He is divine.

Essential 5—WHY BE CATHOLIC? We show that the Catholic Church is Christ's only authentic living authority, and give evidence of miracles (through the intercession of **Mary** and the **Saints**, and for the real presence of Christ in the **Eucharist**) that demonstrate God's work in the Church.

Essential 6—TRUE HAPPINESS: We explain the four kinds of happiness (coming from **pleasure**, **accomplishments**, **service of others**, and **a loving relationship with God**) and show why only the latter two can give us the pervasive, enduring, and deep happiness we truly desire and need.

Essential 7—WHY WOULD AN ALL-LOVING GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

We guide the learner to understand the **necessity**, **meaning**, and **benefits** of suffering, which are growing in the love of God, others, and ourselves, and attaining happiness for ourselves and others here, and with God for eternity in Heaven!

Rev. 3-21-20