

The Roman Catholic Church in Medieval Europe

How influential was the Roman Catholic Church in Medieval Europe?

PREVIEW

What is the most important building in your neighborhood or community?

On a separate sheet of paper, make a simple sketch of the building. Next to your sketch, describe how the building is used.

READING NOTES

Key Content Terms

As you complete the Reading Notes, use these terms in your answers.

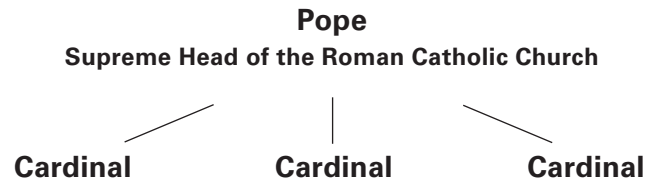
religion	Roman Catholic Church	sacrament	natural law
persecute	clergy	pilgrimage	religious order

Section 2

1. Which Roman Emperor issued a decree allowing Christians to practice their religion freely? How had Christians been treated by Romans before that time?

2. Describe two roles the Roman Catholic Church played in society after the fall of Rome.

3. Draw a diagram showing the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church during the High Middle Ages. For each group of clergy, write a one-sentence explanation of its role. Use the example below to begin your diagram, or create your own.



4. In your own words, summarize the conflict between Pope Gregory VII and the Holy Roman emperor, Henry IV. Use the words *appoint*, *duty*, *excommunicate*, *beg*, and *authority* in your summary.

Section 3

1. According to the teachings of the Catholic Church, what was the purpose of sacraments?

2. Draw a simple symbol that illustrates the meaning of each of the seven sacraments. Then write one sentence explaining it.

Symbol	One-Sentence Explanation
Baptism	
Confirmation	
Eucharist	
Matrimony	
Holy Orders	
Penance	
Extreme Unction	

Section 4

1. Why did people undertake pilgrimages during the Middle Ages? What were some of the popular destinations of pilgrims?

2. What were some of the challenges pilgrims faced on their journeys?

3. What was the goal of the Crusades?

Section 5

1. In what ways did the art of medieval Europe reflect the influence of the Roman Catholic Church?

2. Draw a simple sketch of each of the following key architectural features of cathedrals and define each one.

nave and transept

stained-glass window

gargoyle

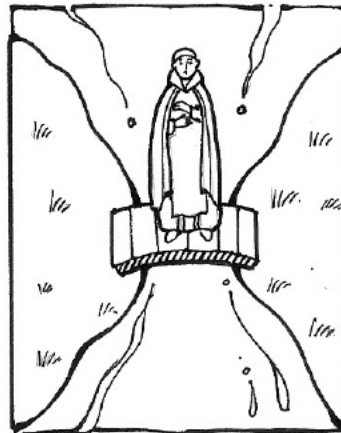
flying buttress

Section 6

1. Explain two advances in education during the Middle Ages.

2. Who was Thomas Aquinas? How did he bring together ancient philosophy and Christian theology?

3. Label the appropriate parts of the image at the right to help yourself remember the phrase, “bridging the gap between faith and reason.” Use the terms *faith*, *reason*, and *Thomas Aquinas* in your labels.



Section 7

1. The word *holiday* comes from _____.
What types of things did Christian holidays celebrate?

2. What were some of the ways in which people celebrated religious holidays?

Section 8

Complete the matrix below to explain the similarities and differences between Benedictine monks and Franciscan friars.

	Benedictine Monks	Franciscan Friars
Where did they live?		
What promises or sacrifices did they make to join the order?		
How did they spend their time?		

P R O C E S S I N G

On a separate sheet of paper, create an acrostic poem that describes the influence of the Roman Catholic Church in medieval Europe.

Use your book, Reading Notes, and Student Handout to complete your poem. Your poem must meet the following requirements.

- It must have nine short stanzas, or lines. Stanzas may vary in length; some may be only one line, while others may be longer.
- The first letter of the poem's stanzas must spell out the words THE CHURCH. So, the first word of Stanza 1 must begin with the letter *T*, the first word of Stanza 2 with the letter *H*, and so on. (Use the example at right to set up your poem).
- The poem must contain at least five of the Key Content Terms from this lesson.
- The poem must contain correct spelling and grammar. Type or write your final draft neatly in ink.

<p>T</p> <p>H</p> <p>E</p> <p>C</p> <p>H</p> <p>U</p> <p>R</p> <p>C</p> <p>H</p>	
--	--