

## **Sacred Tradition** (CCC 50-141)

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### **Through Sacred Tradition we find our balance: who we are and what God desires from us**

#### **1. What is Sacred Tradition?**

- a. Tradition is nothing other than the fullness of the teaching of Jesus and the Apostles (CCC 81, 83)  
Tradition transmits the entirety of the Word of God – CCC 81
  - i. Jesus came and taught the apostles
  - ii. The apostles preached orally first and then wrote some down
  - iii. Tradition is the fullness of the oral preaching of the Divine Revelation of Jesus
- b. Scripture and Tradition together make one sacred deposit of the Word of God

#### **2. Types of Tradition – CCC 83**

##### **a. Big T tradition - Apostolic**

- i. Traditions that cannot change
- ii. Part of the Word of God given to us through Divine Revelation
- iii. Examples:

##### **b. Little t tradition - Ecclesial**

- i. Traditions that can change
- ii. Not part of Divine Revelation
- iii. Examples:

#### **3. The authority of Tradition**

- a. Jesus warns against the traditions of men, but not tradition from God – Mark 7:6-9
- b. Paul on tradition
  - i. 1Co 11:2 – maintain the traditions
  - ii. 2Th 2:15 – hold to tradition
  - iii. 2Th 3:6 – be cautious of those who reject tradition

#### **4. Magisterium** (pope and bishops in union with Him) (CCC 83-100, 888-892)

- a. The Magisterium brings authoritative interpretation to Scripture and Tradition
  - i. Example: Acts 15 – The apostles declare that circumcision is not necessary to be saved  
Acts 10, 11 – Peter teaches that more than Jews can be saved by Jesus
- b. Sacred Tradition provides the interpretive lens through which Scripture can be rightly interpreted.
  - i. Example: Bible, Trinity, Jesus, Baptism, Eucharist, Bishops and more...
- c. What is needed to know the truth: Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium (authoritative interpretation)