I'm not a bot

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The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. A group of U.S. cardinals returned from Rome after a two-day conference with the pope. What are a cardinal's duties, and what do their ranks mean? The title of cardinal is bestowed by papal appointment. Cardinals perform two primary duties: to act as advisers to the pope at his request, and to eventually elect his replacement. Upon a pope's death or resignation, the College of Cardinals elects a member of the church to serve as the new pontiff (cardinals over age 80 may not vote). While a two-thirds majority vote is initially required to elect, a pope may be elected by a simple majority vote if nine days of voting produce no winner.The voting process last occurred in 1978 with the election of Pope John Paul II. The three ranks of cardinals are cardinal bishop, cardinal deacon, and cardinal priest. Only six cardinals hold the title of cardinal bishop. Each cardinal bishop holds jurisdiction over a church in a suburb of Rome. These cardinals work in departments of the Roman Curia, the central administration of the church. Often called "the pope's cabinet," cardinal deacons also work full-time in the curia. The senior cardinal deacon has the honor of ceremoniously announcing the newly elected pope from the balcony of the Vatican. Cardinal priests are bishops who serve in dioceses outside Rome. The overwhelming majority of cardinals are cardinal priests, including U.S. cardinals. Bonus Explainer: So, why do some cities have an archbishop but not a cardinal? Each of the 32 ecclesiastical provinces in the United States has a ruling archbishop, who is appointed by the pope, but it's up to the pope to decide whether to make each archbishop a cardinal. So far, Pope John Paul II has promoted 12 U.S. archbishops; before his death in 1978, Paul VI promoted one. Of those 13, five are either retired or based at the Vatican. The other eight represent New York City, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston, Los Angeles, Detroit, Philadelphia, and the District of Columbia. Next question? Explainer thanks the Vatican Web site, writer Michael Sean Winters, and Adam D. Pederson for asking the question. bishop | cardinal |As nouns the difference between bishop and cardinalis that bishop is an overseer of congregations: either any such overseer, generally speaking, or (in Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Anglicanism, etc.) an official in the church hierarchy (actively or nominally) governing a diocese, supervising the church's priests, deacons, and property in its territory while cardinal is a number indicating quantity, or the size of a set, e.g., one, two, three. See Wikipedia article on Cardinal number.As a verb bishopis to act as a bishop, to perform the duties of a bishop, especially to confirm another's membership in the church.As a proper noun Bishopis {{surname|from=common nouns}.As an adjective cardinal isof fundamental importance; crucial, pivotal.From (etyl) bishop, bisshop, bischop, biscop, from (etyl) , used in Greek and Latin both generally and as a title of civil officers. Cognate with all European terms for the position in various Christian churches (see); compare bisp.(en noun)(Christianity) An overseer of congregations: either any such overseer, generally speaking, or (in Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Anglicanism, etc.) an official in the church hierarchy (actively or nominally) governing a diocese, supervising the church's priests, deacons, and property in its territory.*'s Pastoral Care (Hatton MS.), 1*:Ælfred kyning hateð gretan Wærferð biscep .*1382 , (w, Wycliffe's Bible), Acts xx. 28*:Al]] the folk in which the Hooly Gost sette [[you, ?ou bischopis .*::[Compare'' ''ouerseers'', [[w:English Revised Version, ERV '''''bishops'' with the marginal gloss ''or overseers .]* (John Wyclif), ''Selected Works , III. 310*:Crist veriest bischop of alle.*1641 , 'Smectymnuus', Vindic. Answer Hvmble Remonstr. , §16. 208*: of blessed memory said, no Bishop''', no King:'' it was not he, but others that added, ''No Ceremony, no '''Bishop .*1715 , William Hendley, A Defence of the Church of England , 16*:''... In his 'Epi?tle to the ''Magne?ians'',' ''he exhorts them to do all things in the love of God'', telling them, ''the Bi?hop pre?ides in the place of God ...*1845 , J. Lingard, Hist. & Antiq. Anglo-Saxon Church 3rd ed., I. iv. 146*:These ministers were at first confined to the three orders of bishops , priests, and deacons.*1868 , Joseph Barber Lightfoot, St. Paul's epistle to the Philippians , 93*:It is a fact now generally recognized by theologians of all shades of opinion, that in the language of the New Testament the same officer in the Church is called indifferently 'bishop ' .# (religion, obsolete) A similar official or chief priest in another religion.#*, translating Orosius's History , v. iv. §1#*:... wæs eac Romana ieldesta biscep .#*1586 , Thomas Bowes translating Pierre de la Primaudaye's The French Academie , I. 633#*:The Caliphaes of the Sarasins were kings and chiefe bishops in their religion.#*1615 , William Bedwell, Arabian Trudgman'' in translating ''Mohammedis Imposturæ , sig. N4#*:The Byshop of Egypt is called the Souldan.# (obsolete) Any watchman, inspector, or overlooker.#*1592 , Lancelot Andrewes, Sermons (1843), v. 516#*:No pinnacle so high but the devil is a bishop over it, to visit and overlook it.# (obsolete) The holder of the Greek or Roman position of episcopus, supervisor over the public dole of grain, etc.#*1808 , The Monthly Magazine and British Register , 26 109#*:They gave away corn, not cash; and (Cicero) was made bishop , or overseer, of this public victualling.# The chief of the Festival of Fools or .(chess) The chess piece denoted which moves along diagonal lines and developed from the shatranj alfil ("elephant") and was originally known as the aufil or archer in English.*1562 , Rowbotham in Archaeologia , XXIV. 203*:The Bishoppes some name Alphins, some fooles, and some name them Princes; other some call them Archers.*1656 , Francis Beale translating Gioachino Greco as The royall game of chesse-play, being the study of Biochimo , 2*:A Bishop or Archer, who is commonly figured with his head cloven.Any of various African birds of the genus Euplectes ; a kind of weaverbird closely related to the widowbirds.(dialectal) A ladybug or ladybird, beetles of the genus Coccinellidae .*1875 , William Douglas Parish, A Dictionary of the Sussex Dialect*:'Bishop', ' Bishop -Barnabee,*:Tell me when my wedding shall be;*:If it be to-morrow day,*:Ope your wings and fly away.A sweet drink made from wine, usually with oranges, lemons, and sugar; mulled and spiced port.*ante'' 1745 , (Jonathan Swift), ''Women who cry Apples'' in ''Works (1746), VIII. 192*:Well roasted, with Sugar and Wine in a Cup,*:They'll make a sweet Bishop .*1791 , J. Boswell, (Life of Johnson) , anno 1752 I. 135*:A bowl of that liquor called Bishop , which Johnson had always liked.*1801 , (Samuel Taylor Coleridge), Poems , II. 169*:Spicy bishop , drink divine.(US, archaic) A bustle.*, John Saxe, Progress*:If, by her bishop , or her 'grace' alone,*:A genuine lady, or a church, is known.(UK, dialectal, archaic) A children's smock or pinafore.*1874 , (Evelyn Waugh) in Lanc. Gloss. (E.D.S.)*:Here; tak]] him, an wesh him; an' put him a [[clean, clen bishop on.Generally speaking, Christian churches observe their highest positions—popes, patriarchs, archbishops, etc.—as specially-empowered bishops; thus the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church is the Bishop of Rome, while the Pope of the Coptic Church is nominally bishop of Alexandria though resident in Cairo. In several denominations, the charism of a laying on of hands is believed to introduce new bishops to an unbroken apostolic succession initiated by the Holy Ghost at the Pentecost described in the 2nd chapter of the Book of Acts. Traditionally, the rank of bishop has been restricted to men and many denominations continue this practice. Even denominations permitting the marriage of priests (such as Eastern Orthodoxy) typically require complete celibacy from those promoted to bishophood: owing to traditional aversions to divorce, this usually restricts the rank to single men and widowers. Catholic bishops are also priests; Eastern Orthodox bishops are usually (but not always) monks.* (normally) diocesan bishop, suffragan bishop * (canon law) ordinary, (Eastern Orthodoxy) hierarch * (as creators of priests) consecrator* (highest-ranking) catholicos, major archbishop, patriarch, pope * (higher-ranking) archbishop, cardinal, eparch, exarch, metropolitan, metropolitan bishop, primate * (territorial sovereigns) prince-bishop, prince-archbishop, Prince of the Church * titular bishop * (lower-ranking) coadjutor bishop, assistant bishop, auxiliary bishop * (as creators of other bishops) principal consecrator, principal co-consecrator * (retired) bishop emeritus* (Roman Catholicism, Methodism, worldwide) college * (Eastern Orthodoxy, worldwide) Holy Synod, synod * (Roman Catholicism, regional) conference, episcopal conference * (others, regional) assembly, sobor, synod * (ad hoc) council, ecumenical council * (ad hoc, pejorative) conciliabule, conciliabulum * (cardinals) college]], [[papal conclave, conclave* {{der3, archbishop , assistant-bishop, assistant bishop , auxiliary bishop , bash the bishop , Bishop Barker , Bishop's Bible, Bishops' Bible , bishop's-cap, bishop's cap , bishop-coadjutor, bishop coadjutor , bishop's collar , bishop-commissioner , bishop's court , bishop-designate , bishop-designed , bishop's elder , bishop-elect , bishop emeritus , bishopess , bishopful , bishop's-hat , bishophood , bishoping , (obsolete) bishopist , bishop-leaves , bishop's length , bishopless , bishoplet , bishopling , bishop pawn , bishop plover , bishopric, bishoprick , Bishopric of the Forces , bishop-seat , bishop-see , bishopship , bishop sleeve, bishop's sleeve , Bishop to the Forces , bishop-weed, bishop's weed, bishop's-weed , (obsolete) bishopwick , bishop wort, bishop's wort, bishop's-wort , coadjutor bishop , diocesan bishop , Lord Bishop , metropolitan bishop , presiding bishop , prince-bishop , ruling bishop , said the actress to the bishop , suffragan bishop , Synod of Bishops , titular bishop}} * (African weaverbirds) {{der3, bishop-bird, bishop bird , black bishop, Angola black bishop, northern black bishop, southern black bishop , Cape bishop , fire-crowned bishop , fire-fronted bishop , golden-backed bishop , orange bishop , red bishop, black-winged red bishop, northern red bishop, southern red bishop , yellow bishop , yellow-crowned bishop , Zanzibar red bishop}} (cognates)* (your Grace), (your Excellency), (my Lord), (my Lord Bishop) * Most Reverend, Right Reverend * diocese, see * cathedral, catholicon, katholikon, sobor * alb, amice, biretta, buskins (stockings), cappa magna, cassalb, cassock, chasuble, choir dress, cope, dalmatic (tunic), epimanikia (cuffs), episcopal gloves, episcopal sandals, epitrachil, mantya (mantle), mitre (hat), omophor, phelonion, rochet (surplice), sakkos, sticharion, stole, tunicle, vestments, zucchetto (skullcap) * bugia, cathedra (throne), crozier (staff), dikirion, engolpion, epigonation, episcopal ring, fashia (sash), maniple, orletz (rug), panagia, pectoral cross, trikirion, zone (belt)(Christianity) To act as a bishop, to perform the duties of a bishop, especially to confirm another's membership in the church.* Thorpe's Laws , II. 348 (Bosw.)Se biþ gesett... to bisceopgenne cild.* , Shoreham , 5Wanne]] the , bisschopeth [[thee, theTokene]] of marke he set on [[thee, the.* 1622 , W. Yonge, Diary (1848), 50The Marquis of Buckingham and his wife were both bishopped , or confirmed by the Bishop of London.* 1655 , T. Fuller, Church-hist. Brit. , ix. 81Harding and Saunders Bishop it in England.* 1971 , , Religion and the Decline of Magic , Folio Society 2012, page 35:Here too physical effects were vulgarly attributed to the ceremony... as evidenced by the case of the old Norfolk woman who claimed to have been 'bishopped ' seven times, because she found it helped her rheumatism.# (by extension, jocularly, obsolete) To confirm (in its other senses).#* 1596 , W. Warner, Albions Eng. , x. liv. 243Why sent they it by Felton to be bishoped at Paules?#* 1700 , (John Dryden) translating (Boccaccio)'s Cymon & Iphigenia'' in ''Fables , 550He.., chose to bear The Name of Fool confirm'd, and Bishop'd by the Fair.(Christianity) To make a bishop.* 1549 , H. Latimer, 2nd Serm. before Kynges Maiestie , 5th Serm. sig. PvivThys]] hathe bene often tymes... [[seen, sene in preachers before they were byshoppyd or benificed.* 1861 November 23 , Sat. Rev. , 537There may be other... matters to occupy the thoughts of one about to be bishopped .(Christianity, rare) To provide with bishops.* 1865 December 6 , Daily Telegraph , 5/3Italy would be well bishoped if her episcopacy... did not exceed fifty-nine.(UK, dialectal) To permit food (milk) to burn while cooking (from bishops' role in the inquisition or as mentioned in the quote below, of horses).* ante'' 1536 , Tyndale, ''Works , 166 (T.)If the porage]] be burned to, or the meate ouer [[roasted, rosted, we say the bishop hath put his foote in the potte or the bishop hath played the cooke, because the bishops burn who they lust and whosoever displeaseth them.* 1641 , (John Milton), Animadversions , 9It will be as bad as the Bishops foot in the broth.* 1738 , (Jonathan Swift), Compl. Coll. Genteel Conversat. , 10The Cream is burnt to.Betty . Why, Madam, the Bishop has set his Foot in it.* 1863 , E. C. Gaskell, Sylvia's Lovers , I. 64* :She canna stomach it if it's bishopped e'er so little.* 1875 , Lanc. Gloss. , 40Th' milk's bishopped again!To make a horse seem younger, particularly by manipulation of its teeth.* 1727 , R. Bradley, Family Dict. at "Horse"This way of making a Horse look young is... called Bishoping .* 1788 , Francis Grose, A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue 2nd ed.B(ishopped)', or T(smallcaps, o '''bishop'''). A term among hor?e]] dealers, for burning the mark into a on the fire, to take its chance; which, when burnt to, was [[said, ?aid to be ' bi?hopped .* 1840 , E. E. Napier, Scenes & Sports Foreign Lands , I. v. 138I found his teeth had been filed down and bishoped with the greatest neatness and perfection.Eponymous, from the surname Bishop.(UK, colloquial, obsolete) To murder by drowning.*1840 , R.H. Barham, Some Account of a New Play'' in ''Ingoldsby Legends 1st series, 308*:I Burked the papa, now I'll Bishop the son.*1870 , Walter Thornbury, Old Stories Re-told*:There were no more Burking murders until 1831, when two men, named Bishop and Williams, drowned a poor [14-year-old] Italian boy in Bethnal Green, and sold his body to the surgeons.*2002 , Helen Smith, Grave-Robbers, Cut-throats, and Poisoners of London , 66*:John Bishop and another grave-robber called Thomas Williams had drowned the boy, a woman and another boy in a well in John Bishop's garden in (Bethnal Green)... Bishop and Williams were hanged outside (Newgate Prison) in December 1831 in front of an angry crowd of 30,000.* Oxford English Dictionary'', 1st ed. "bishop, ''n.'", "bishop, ''v.1'", and "bishop, ''v.2 ". Oxford University Press (Oxford), 1887. * Webster's New International Dictionary . "Bishop". 1913.(en adjective)Of fundamental importance; crucial, pivotal.a cardinal rule* ShakespeareBut cardinal sins, and hollow hearts, I fear ye.* Sir Thomas Brownethe cardinal intersections of the zodiac* DraytonImpudence is now a cardinal virtue.(nautical) Of or relating to the cardinal directions (north, south, east and west).a cardinal markDescribing a "natural" number used to indicate quantity (e.g., one, two, three), as opposed to an ordinal number indicating relative position.Having a bright red color (from the color of a Catholic cardinal's cassock).(en noun)A number indicating quantity, or the size of a set, e.g., one, two, three.*1920 , (Bertrand Russell), Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy , p.83:*:This cardinal number is the smallest of the infinite cardinal numbers; it is the one to which Cantor has appropriated the Hebrew aleph with the suffix 0, to distinguish it from larger infinite cardinals'. Thus the name of the smallest of infinite ' cardinals is .(lb) A word used to represent a cardinal number; a cardinal numeral.*2005 , , (w, Wheelock's Latin) , 6th ed. revised, p.97:*:The commonest numerals in Latin, as in English, are the "cardinals ".An official in the .)*{{quote-book, year=1932, author=(Maurice Baring), chapter=16, title= Friday's Business , passage=His uncle, a Cardinal , engages a Spanish youth of Moorish descent called Diego, an expert singer and player on the virginal, to unlock the secrets of the heart,A genus of songbirds of the finch family, Cardinalis .Any of various related passerine birds of the family Cardinalidae (See) and other similar birds that were once considered to be related.**:Breezes blowing from beds of iris quickened her breath with their perfume; she saw the tufted lilacs sway in the wind, and the streamers of mauve-tinted wistaria swinging, all a-glisten with golden bees; she saw a crimson cardinal winging through the foliage, and amorous tanagers flashing like scarlet flames athwart the pines.A shade of scarlet, the traditional colour of a Catholic cardinal's cassock.:A woman's short cloak with a hood.* (1733-1764)*:Where's your cardinal ! Make haste.Mulled red wine.:(Hotten)* cardinal bird * cardinal concern * cardinal number * cardinal fish * cardinal flower * cardinally * cardinal numeral * cardinal point * cardinal spider * cardinal symptom * cardinal virtue * cardinal vowels * cardinalate * cardinality * cardinalship * incardinate* * Contrast with ordinal (numbers) * (abbreviation) Edited by Tayyaba Rehman — By Maham Liaqat — Updated on March 25, 2024Cardinals are high-ranking clergy in the Catholic Church, often advisors to the Pope and eligible to elect a new Pope, while Bishops oversee dioceses, focusing on spiritual leadership and administration at a more local level.Cardinals, appointed by the Pope, hold significant influence within the Catholic Church, serving as senior church officials and often being involved in governing the Vatican City. Bishops, on the other hand, are responsible for the spiritual and administrative oversight of their dioceses, guiding priests and deacons.While all Cardinals are bishops (with rare exceptions), not all bishops are Cardinals. The elevation to Cardinal is seen as an honor and a sign of closer ties to the Vatican, emphasizing a Cardinal's broader responsibilities, including the potential to participate in a Papal conclave.Cardinals wear distinctive red attire, symbolizing their willingness to defend the faith unto bloodshed, whereas bishops wear purple, reflecting their jurisdictional authority and role within the Church.The title of Cardinal includes various ranks (Cardinal Deacon, Cardinal Priest, and Cardinal Bishop), reflecting their duties and seniority within the College of Cardinals. Bishops, while they may have different titles (such as Archbishop or Patriarch), primarily focus on their diocesan responsibilities.Advisors to the Pope, elect new PopeSpiritual and administrative leaders of diocesesGoverning the Church, potential Papal electorsOverseeing a diocese, guiding priests and deaconsRed to signify willingness to defend faithPurple to reflect jurisdictional authorityCardinal Deacon, Cardinal Priest, Cardinal BishopArchbishop, Bishop, Patriarch (varies by region)A senior ecclesiastical leader in the Catholic Church, advisor to the Pope.The Cardinal was called to Rome for an important Vatican council.Oversees the administration of a diocese within the Catholic Church.The Bishop visited every parish in his diocese annually.Eligible to participate in the election of a new Pope.As a Cardinal, he will be part of the next Papal conclave.Wears purple attire, denoting their authority and role.Dressed in purple, the Bishop presided over the celebration.Represents the Pope in various capacities.The Cardinal represented the Vatican at the international peace conference.Can hold titles such as Archbishop or Patriarch, depending on their jurisdiction.The Archbishop led the regional synod of bishops.Wears red attire, symbolizing their commitment.The Cardinals gathered, recognizable in their red robes.Responsible for ordaining priests and deacons.The new priests were ordained by the Bishop in a solemn ceremony.Holds a title indicating a close tie to the Church's central administration.He was elevated to Cardinal, reflecting his dedication to the Church.Acts as a spiritual leader and shepherd to their community.The Bishop's guidance was sought by many during the crisis.(Paracheirodon axelrodi), a freshwater fish.A bishop is an ordained or appointed member in a religious institution, who is generally entrusted with a position of authority and oversight. The title is most often used in Christian churches, but is also used in some Japanese Buddhist institutions, and by the Japanese new religion Tenrikyo.Of foremost importance; paramountA high-ranking Christian cleric, in modern churches usually in charge of a diocese and in some churches regarded as having received the highest ordination in unbroken succession from the apostles.Dark to deep or vivid red.Abbr. B(Games) A usually miter-shaped chess piece that can move diagonally across any number of unoccupied spaces.Abbr. Card. Roman Catholic Church A high church official, ranking just below the pope, who has been appointed by a pope to membership in the College of Cardinals.Mulled port spiced with oranges, sugar, and cloves.A dark to deep or vivid red.(Christianity) An overseer of congregations: either any such overseer, generally speaking, or (in Eastern Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Anglicanism, etc.) an official in the church hierarchy (actively or nominally) governing a diocese, supervising the church's priests, deacons, and property in its territory.A North American bird (Cardinalis cardinalis) having a crested head, a short thick bill, and bright red plumage in the male.A similar official or chief priest in another religion.A short hooded cloak, originally of scarlet cloth, worn by women in the 1700s.(obsolete) The holder of the Greek or Roman position of episcopus, supervisor over the public dole of grain, etc.(obsolete) Any watchman, inspector, or overlooker.Of fundamental importance; crucial, pivotal.A chief of the Festival of Fools or St. Nicholas Day.(nautical) Of or relating to the cardinal directions (north, south, east and west).(chess) The chess piece denoted ♗ or ♝ which moves along diagonal lines and developed from the shatranj alfil ("elephant") and was originally known as the aufil or archer in English.Describing a "natural" number used to indicate quantity (e.g., zero, one, two, three), as opposed to an ordinal number indicating relative position.Any of various African birds of the genus Euplectes; a kind of weaverbird closely related to the widowbirds.Having a bright red color (from the color of a Catholic cardinal's cassock).(dialectal) A ladybug or ladybird, beetles of the family Coccinellidae.(Roman Catholic) One of the officials appointed by the pope in the Roman Catholic Church, ranking only below the pope and the patriarchs, constituting the special college which elects the pope. (See Wikipedia article on Catholic cardinals.)A flowering plant of the genus Bifora.Any of a genus of songbirds of the finch family, Cardinalis.A sweet drink made from wine, usually with oranges, lemons, and sugar; mulled and spiced port.Any of various related passerine birds of the family Cardinalidae (See Wikipedia article on cardinals) and other similar birds that were once considered to be related.(color) A deep red color, somewhat less vivid than scarlet, the traditional colour of a Catholic cardinal's cassock. cardinal red}}A children's smock or pinafore.(math) dot=, a number indicating quantity, or the size of a set (e.g., 0, 1, 2, 3). Cardinal_number.}}(Christianity) To act as a bishop, to perform the duties of a bishop, especially to confirm another's membership in the church.(grammar) dot=, a word used to represent a cardinal number.To confirm (in its other senses).(Lobelia cardinalis), a flowering plant.(Christianity) To make a bishop.A woman's short cloak with a hood, originally made of scarlet cloth.(obsolete) Mulled red wine.To permit food (especially milk) to burn while cooking (from bishops' role in the inquisition or as mentioned in the quotation below, of horses).Of fundamental importance; preëminent; superior; chief; principal.The cardinal intersections of the zodiac.Impudence is now a cardinal virtue.But cardinal sins, and hollow hearts, I fear ye.To make a horse seem younger, particularly by manipulation of its teeth.One of the ecclesiastical princes who constitute the pope's council, or the sacred college.The clerics of the supreme Chair are called Cardinals, as undoubtedly adhering more nearly to the hinge by which all things are moved.A woman's short cloak with a hood.Where's your cardinal! Make haste.A spiritual overseer, superintendent, or director.Ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.It is a fact now generally recognized by theologians of all shades of opinion, that in the language of the New Testament the same officer in the church is called indifferently "bishop" ( ) and "elder" or "presbyter."In the Roman Catholic, Greek, and Anglican or Protestant Episcopal churches, one ordained to the highest order of the ministry, superior to the priesthood, and generally claiming to be a successor of the Apostles. The bishop is usually the spiritual head or ruler of a diocese, bishopric, or see.The cardinal bird, also called the northern cardinal.In the Methodist Episcopal and some other churches, one of the highest church officers or superintendents.(Roman Catholic Church) one of a group of more than 100 prominent bishops in the Sacred College who advise the Pope and elect new PopesA piece used in the game of chess, bearing a representation of a bishop's miter; - formerly called archer.The number of elements in a mathematical set; denotes a quantity but not the orderA beverage, being a mixture of wine, oranges or lemons, and sugar.A variable color averaging a vivid redAn old name for a woman's bustle.If, by her bishop, or her "grace" alone,A genuine lady, or a church, is known.Crested thick-billed North American finch having bright red plumage in the maleTo admit into the church by confirmation; to confirm; hence, to receive formally to favor.Serving as an essential component;The central cause of the problemAn example that was fundamental to the argumentComputers are fundamental to modern industrial structureTo make seem younger, by operating on the teeth; as, to bishop an old horse or his teeth.Being or denoting a numerical quantity but not order;A clergyman having spiritual and administrative authority; appointed in Christian churches to oversee priests or ministers; considered in some churches to be successors of the twelve apostles of ChristPort wine mulled with oranges and cloves(chess) a piece that can be moved diagonally over unoccupied squares of the same colorCardinals often have broader responsibilities, especially in relation to the Vatican and the global church, but "power" can vary based on the context of their roles.Bishops are appointed by the Pope, often from among priests with significant pastoral experience and theological education.Yes, bishops are often elevated to Cardinals as recognition of their service and to involve them more directly in the governance of the Catholic Church globally.While there is no strict limit to the number of Cardinals, the number of Cardinal electors (those under 80 years old eligible to vote for a new Pope) is traditionally set at 120.As of the last update, the Catholic Church ordains only men as priests or bishops, and consequently, Cardinals are also male.An Archbishop typically oversees an archdiocese, which is a larger or more significant diocese, and may have other bishops under their jurisdiction. The title reflects higher administrative responsibility.New Cardinals are appointed at the discretion of the Pope, often in a consistory that can occur when there are vacancies within the College of Cardinals or as deemed necessary.In a Papal conclave, Cardinals are responsible for electing a new Pope, a process conducted in secrecy within the Vatican.The ring a Bishop wears symbolizes their marriage to the Church; it is a sign of their fidelity and commitment to their diocese.Cardinals, in their role as senior ecclesiastical leaders, often work closely with Bishops, providing guidance and support, especially in matters that affect the global Church.Yes, a Cardinal can be removed from their position by the Pope, though such actions are rare and would usually be due to serious misconduct or other significant reasons.A Cardinal is typically addressed as "Your Eminence," while a Bishop is addressed as "Your Excellency" or "Bishop [Last Name]."Historically, there have been Cardinals who were not bishops, but recent norms require that Cardinals be ordained bishops, with few exceptions granted by the Pope.In addition to their duties as a Cardinal, they often continue to serve in a leadership role within their home diocese or in the Roman Curia, influencing both local and global Church matters.Sergeant vs. CorporalDRAM vs. SRAM Tayyaba Rehman is a distinguished writer, currently serving as a primary contributor to askdifference.com. As a researcher in semantics and etymology, Tayyaba's passion for the complexity of languages and their distinctions has found a perfect home on the platform. Tayyaba delves into the intricacies of language, distinguishing between commonly confused words and phrases, thereby providing clarity for readers worldwide. Skip to main contentAccessibility feedbackWhat is the difference between an archbishop and a cardinal? An archbishop is usually the bishop of a major metropolitan archdiocese and may also be a cardinal. A cardinal is a member of the college of cardinals, and, according to current requirements, is usually a bishop. There is a regulation that a cardinal who is not already a bishop must be ordained to the episcopate, but this rule can be dispensed. So, with permission, it is possible for a layman or a priest to be a cardinal.Did you like this content? Please help keep us ad-free Enjoying this content? Please support our mission!Donatewww.catholic.com/support-us In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. December 17, 2009 Q: What's the difference between a bishop and an archbishop? And why are some archbishops addressed as "Cardinal" but others aren't? -Jackie A: On the surface, it certainly can seem that members of the Catholic hierarchy fill identical roles but don't always have identical titles. The system is actually consistent and reasonable, once one understands how it works! Jackie's question actually contains two separate parts, the first pertaining to the Church's organized system of dioceses, and the second to its system of hierarchical ranking. We'll take a look at each one separately. Every inch of this earth, if it has been evangelized and now has a permanently established Catholic presence on it, has been organized into dioceses, also referred to in legal parlance as "particular churches" (defined in canon 369). Rome alone has the authority to create and determine the boundaries of a diocese (c. 373). The head of a diocese is called a bishop (c. 376). The average Catholic is no doubt familiar with these concepts thus far. But few are aware that dioceses are then grouped into ecclesiastical provinces. Canon 431.1 explains that the reason for this arrangement is to promote common pastoral action among neighboring dioceses, and to foster close relations between diocesan bishops in the same region of the world. In other words, a diocese is not supposed to be an island unto itself, in communication only with Rome. While of course Rome is the supreme authority, to which every diocesan bishop is answerable, there are also relations between dioceses themselves that officially must be maintained. As a rule, several dioceses are grouped together into an ecclesiastical province under the leadership of the bishop of one particular diocese, determined by the Pope (c. 435). That bishop is technically the metropolitan of the ecclesiastical province. In his own diocese, the metropolitan is referred to as an archbishop, and the diocese which he heads is an archdiocese. In other words, an archbishop is the bishop of an archdiocese, which is the diocese which heads up an ecclesiastical province. It's actually not as confusing as it sounds! The diocese of Camden, New Jersey, for example, is in the ecclesiastical province of Newark; we say therefore that Camden is a suffragan of the Archdiocese of Newark. To cite another example, the diocese of Orange, California, is in the ecclesiastical province of Los Angeles. The Archbishop of Los Angeles, therefore, is its Metropolitan. This organizational system is the reason why we speak of the Archbishop of Boston, but of the Bishop of Austin, Texas. The first is a metropolitan and the head of an archdiocese; the second is not. Why does the Church need this arrangement? We saw one practical instance of this system at work in the February 6, 2009 column, describing basic marriage-annulment procedure. When a marriage is judged by a diocesan tribunal to be null, the case is automatically appealed and re-heard by another tribunal. The second, appellate tribunal is ordinarily located in the archdiocese of the province to which that diocese belongs (c. 1438 n. 1). Since the nullity declarations of marriage cases originally heard by the tribunal of the archdiocese itself also are appealed automatically, an arrangement is always made for those cases to be heard on appeal elsewhere too, perhaps in a different archdiocese (c. 1438 n. 2). The fact that some bishops and archbishops are called cardinals is an entirely separate matter. There is nothing contradictory about a cleric being a bishop and a cardinal at the same time, because the two concepts are theologically different. When the Pope decides that a certain priest is to become a bishop, this means that the priest is being chosen to be one of the successors of the Apostles (c. 375.1). Since the priest has received the sacrament of holy orders, he is already a member of the clergy; but becoming a bishop now requires episcopal consecration, which raises him to what Vatican II termed "the fullness of holy orders" (LG 21). The mere announcement of his choice by the Pope does not make the priest a bishop; he must also receive the episcopal consecration in order to become a member of the episcopacy. Once he has been consecrated, a bishop has additional sacramental powers that an ordinary priest does not have: bishops may ordain men to the diaconate and the priesthood (c. 1012), and confer the sacrament of confirmation on the faithful (c. 882). A bishop can also consecrate other bishops (see cc. 1012-1014). We can see here that there is a sacramental change when a priest becomes a bishop. But when the Pope announces that a certain bishop is to become a cardinal, there is no such change. There is an official announcement, and a ceremony at the Vatican (where the new cardinal receives his "red hat"), but there is nothing specifically "sacramental" about it. So since a bishop already possesses the fullness of holy orders, what's the point of his being named a cardinal anyway? The existence of cardinals in the Church's hierarchy can be traced back historically to the very early days of the Church. The Pope had certain clerics around him who acted in an advisory role. The term "cardinal" comes from the Latin word cardo, or hinge; these men were key figures in the functioning of the Church on earth. The College of Cardinals which exists in the Church today continues to serve this fundamental purpose (c. 353). The most well known responsibility of the College today is of course the election of a new Pope after the reigning Pope has died, but the Pope also can and does call Consisteries, or official meetings of the College of Cardinals, when he wishes to discuss and get their opinions on various important issues in the Church. While having an administrative role in the practical operations of the Catholic Church is unquestionably important, the job does not itself require any sort of consecration. A bishop, therefore, who has been named a cardinal remains a bishop. This is why a diocesan bishop or archbishop can also be a cardinal. Historically, the bishops of particularly important dioceses throughout the world are normally named cardinals, as a sort of additional honor. While the Pope certainly tries to find the best possible cleric to head every diocese, it is particularly important to have key men in the largest and most influential dioceses of every country. Naming these men to be cardinals is an additional sign of the significant role they play, not only in governing their own dioceses, but also in advising the Pope. Here in the US, traditionally the bishops heading the larger archdioceses like New York, Chicago, and Washington, DC are usually named cardinals as well. This is why it is completely correct to speak, for example, of Cardinal George as the Archbishop of Chicago-because he has both roles and both titles. The relatively new Archbishop of New York, Timothy Dolan, has not (yet) been named a cardinal, so at least for now he is referred to simply as Archbishop Dolan. In order to become a cardinal, it technically is not even necessary to be a bishop. Over the centuries there have traditionally been cardinals who were deacons or priests. Nowadays, as a rule, any non-bishop who is named a cardinal must be consecrated a bishop (c. 351.1). However, it is possible for the Pope to dispense from this law, and Pope John Paul II did exactly that when he named the late American theologian Avery Dulles a cardinal back in 2001. Father Dulles was not required to be consecrated a bishop, so he was created a cardinal while remaining a priest. How does the Pope himself fit into this scenario? His situation is unique. By definition, the man elected in a papal conclave is the Bishop of Rome, so he must be a consecrated bishop. When he is elected as Pope and he accepts the election, he at that very moment becomes Pope (c. 332.1). In other words, there is no such thing as "papal consecration." There is also no particular reason why he would even have to be a cardinal. While Popes ordinarily are selected from among the members of the College of Cardinals, this technically is not a requirement. It is possible for the cardinals who are voting in a papal conclave to elect someone who is not even present and eligible to vote! But since the voters normally are looking for someone who is already experienced and well known in the Church, it is highly unlikely that they will elect someone who is not among them. We have seen, therefore, that bishops who head archdioceses are called archbishops, that some, but not all, bishops are cardinals, and that cardinals are ordinarily bishops. The system may seem confusing, but it is a consistent system nonetheless. Its origins can be found in both the modern administrative structure and the centuries-old history of the Church. Catholic Religious Hierarchy describes the various ministries and offices in their order of precedence which then showcases their rank or the position in the Church during the ceremonies or also at time of liturgies. Catholic Religious Hierarchy simply indicates the divinely and holy instituted ordering of the offices and ministries in the Church. According to the Catholic Religious Hierarchy, the hierarchy of Catholic Church consists of the 2,834 dioceses, a district or a place under the supervision of the Bishop also referred as Bishopric, supervised by a Bishop. Dioceses are then further categorized into smaller individual and personal communities which are termed as Parishes, a territorial area under the pastoral jurisdiction and care of a Parish Priest. Catholic Religious Hierarchy mainly revolves around the Bishops and their ranking in terms of the additional titles provided to Bishops on the basis of their services and the duration of services. The additional titles can be as of Pope, Cardinal, Patriarch and Archbishop. The Bishop is authenticated and affirmed minister who possesses the complete sacrament related to the Holy Orders and holds the responsibilities like sanctifying this entire world, governing of the Catholics under his supervision and jurisdiction and representation of the Church before the world. Catholic Religious Hierarchy portrays the belief of Catholics in the myth of Bishops having a special and unique charisma provided to them by the God. The Bishop Church are further categorized into various forms or in other words one can say that Bishops get some extra additional titles on the basis of their services provided which are the Pope, the Archbishop, the Cardinal, the Patriarch, the Primates etc. The major ranks in the Catholic Religious Hierarchy are further described in brief as below: Catholic Religious Hierarchy The Pope The leader of the entire Catholic Church worldwide and the Bishop of the Rome is referred as the Pope, a successor of the Saint Peter. Papac is the term used for the office of the Pope. Presently Pope Benedict XVI is the Bishop of the Rome and the office holder. The Pope is also the head of the Vatican state. The major responsibilities for the Pope includes the protection of human rights, help in the spread of Christianity and also perform charity tasks. There are approximate 2946 Bishops working under the Pope within the 2946 diocese areas and overall 219,583 priests. The Patriarch The Patriarch acts as a head for different but particular fragmented Churches which further consist of various local Churches. Major Archbishops In the Catholic Religious Hierarchy, the Major Archbishops are ranked and placed at third place below to the Patriarch. They also act as head for some different Churches having some local Churches under them but quite less prestigious than the Patriarch. Cardinal/ Catholicism Cardinals also referred as the Catholicism is the authenticated Bishops appointed by the Pope. They are also termed as the Prince of the Catholic Church. One of the major responsibilities of a Cardinal involves electing the Pope when the seat of the Pope becomes empty due to any reason. The Primates The Primate is a rank or a special title provided to some Bishops in certain Catholic Churches. "Catholic Hierarchy" redirects here. For the unofficial online database, see Catholic-Hierarchy.org. Part of a series on theHierarchy of theCathol

Eastern patriarchs are made cardinals, they too hold the rank of Cardinal Bishop, without being assigned a suburbicarian see. The other cardinals have the rank either of Cardinal Priest or Cardinal Deacon, the former rank being normally assigned to bishops in charge of dioceses, and the latter to officials of the Curia and to priests raised to the cardinalate. The Latin Church title of primate has in some countries been granted to the bishop of a particular (usually metropolitan) see.[57] It once involved authority over all the other sees in the country or region, but now only gives a "prerogative of honor" with no power of governance unless an exception is made in certain matters by a privilege granted by the Holy See or by an approved custom.[58] The title is usually assigned to the ordinary of the first diocese or the oldest archdiocese in the country.[57] Thus in Poland, the primate is the archbishop of the oldest archdiocese (Gniezno, founded in 1000), and not the oldest diocese (Poznań, founded in 968). Notably, the Archbishop of Baltimore is not formally considered a primate of the Catholic Church in the United States, but "prerogative of the place". The closest equivalent position in Eastern Orthodoxy is an exarch holding authority over other bishops without being a patriarch.[57] In the Eastern Catholic Churches, exarchs, whether apostolic or patriarchal, do not hold authority over other bishops (see below). See also: Metropolitan bishop § Catholic Church Archbishop Robert Carlson, Metropolitan Archbishop of St. Louis (2009–2020). He is wearing the pallium. A Latin Church Metropolitan is the bishop of the principal (the "metropolitan") see of an ecclesiastical province composed of several dioceses. The metropolitan receives a pallium from the pope as a symbol of his office. The metropolitan bishop has limited oversight authority over the suffragan dioceses in their province, including ensuring that the faith and ecclesiastical discipline are properly observed.[59] He also has the power to name a diocesan administrator for a vacant suffragan see if the diocesan council of consultors fails to properly elect one.[60] His diocesan tribunal additionally serves by default as the ecclesiastical court of appeal for suffragans (court of second instance),[61] and the metropolitan has the option of judging those appeals personally.[62] The metropolitans of a given territory are also involved in the selection of bishops. Every three years, they compile a list of promovendis - a list of priests who may be suitable for the office of bishop. This is forwarded to the local apostolic nuncio, who evaluates the candidates in a consultative and confidential process. The nuncio in turn forwards the best candidates to the Dicastery for Bishops in Rome, who conduct a final evaluation of candidates and offer their findings to the pope for his final decision of appointment.[63] Eastern Metropolitans in patriarchal or major archiepiscopal churches have a level of authority similar to that of Latin metropolitans, subject to the specific laws and customs of their sui iuris church.[64] Eastern metropolitans who head a metropolitan sui iuris church have much greater authority within their church, although it is less than that of a major archbishop or patriarch.[65] All metropolitans have the title of Archbishop, and the metropolitan see is usually referred to as an archdiocese or archeparchy, a title held not only by the 553 metropolitan sees but also by 77 other sees.[66] An exception is the metropolitan Diocese of Rome. The title of archbishop is held not only by bishops who head metropolitan sees, but also by those who head archdioceses that are not metropolitan sees (most of these are in Europe and the Levant[67]). In addition, it is held by certain other bishops, referred to as "Titular Archbishops" (see "Other Bishops" below) who have been given no-longer-residential archdioceses as their titular sees—many of these in administrative or diplomatic posts, for instance as papal nuncios or secretaries of curial congregations. The bishop of a non-archiepiscopal see may be given the personal title of archbishop without also elevating his see (such a bishop is known as an archbishop ad personam), though this practice has seen significantly reduced usage since the Second Vatican Council. The bishop or eparch of a see, even if he does not also hold a title such as archbishop, metropolitan, major archbishop, patriarch or pope, is the centre of unity for his diocese or eparchy, and, as a member of the College of Bishops, shares in responsibility for governance of the whole church (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 886). Within the Catholic Church the following posts have similarities to that of a diocesan bishop, but are not necessarily held by a bishop. Canon 368 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law lists five Latin Church jurisdictional areas that are considered equivalent to a diocese. These are headed by: A Territorial Prelate, formerly called a Prelate nullius dioceseos (of no diocese), in charge of a geographical area that has not yet been raised to the level of diocese A Territorial Abbot, in charge of an area, which in mission countries can be quite vast, associated with an abbey A Vicar Apostolic (normally a bishop of a titular see), in charge of an apostolic vicariate, usually in a mission country, not yet ready to be made a diocese A Prefect Apostolic (usually not a bishop), in charge of an apostolic prefecture, not yet ready to be made an apostolic vicariate A Permanent Apostolic Administrator, in charge of a geographical area that for serious reasons cannot be made a diocese. To these may be added:[citation needed] An Apostolic Exarch (normally a bishop of a titular see), in charge of an apostolic exarchate—not yet ready to be made an eparchy—for the faithful of an Eastern Catholic Church in an area that is situated outside the home territory of that Eastern Church. A Patriarchal Exarch, a bishop in charge of a patriarchal exarchate—not yet ready to be made an eparchy—for the faithful of an Eastern Catholic Church in an area situated within the home territory of that patriarchal Eastern Church.[68] A Military Ordinary, serving Catholics in a country's armed forces A Personal Prelate, in charge of a group of persons without regard to geography: the only personal prelature existing is that of Opus Dei. An apostolic administrator of a personal apostolic administration: only one exists, the Personal Apostolic Administration of Saint John Mary Vianney An ordinary of a personal ordinariate for former Anglicans[69] A superior of an autonomous mission Of somewhat similar standing is the diocesan administrator (formerly called a vicar capitular) elected to govern a diocese during a vacancy. Apart from certain limitations of nature and law, he has, on a caretaker basis, the same obligations and powers as a diocesan bishop (canons 427–429 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law). Occasionally an apostolic administrator is appointed by the Holy See to run a vacant diocese, or even a diocese whose bishop is incapacitated or otherwise impeded. A diocesan bishop may have bishops who assist in his ministry. The coadjutor bishop of a see has the right of succession on the death or resignation of the diocesan bishop, and, if the see is an archdiocese, holds the title of archbishop. Similarly, a retired diocesan bishop keeps his connection with the see to which he was appointed, and is known as bishop (or archbishop) emeritus of that see. On the other hand, an auxiliary bishop, who may also hold posts such as vicar general or episcopal vicar, is appointed bishop of a titular see, a see that in the course of history has ceased to exist as an actual jurisdictional unit. Important titles or functions usually, but not necessarily, held by (arch)bishops who are not in charge of a diocese or an equivalent community include those of Apostolic Delegate, Apostolic Nuncio, Papal Legate, Patriarchal Vicar, Pontifical Delegate. Main article: Ordinary (church officer) Local ordinaries are placed over or exercise ordinary executive power in particular churches or equivalent communities.[70] The Supreme Pontiff (the Pope) is a local ordinary for the whole Catholic Church.[71][72] In Eastern Catholic Churches, Patriarchs, major archbishops, and metropolitans have ordinary power of governance for the whole territory of their respective autonomous particular churches.[73] Diocesan bishops and eparchial eparchs Other prelates who head, even if only temporarily, a particular church or a community equivalent to it (see above) Vicars general and protosyncelli Main article: Vicar general Episcopal vicars and syncelli Main article: Vicar general Major superiors of religious institutes (including abbots) and of societies of apostolic life are ordinaries of their respective memberships, but not local ordinaries. Main article: Priesthood in the Catholic Church Bishops are assisted by priests[74] and deacons. All priests and deacons are incardinated in a diocese or religious order. Parishes, whether territorial or person-based, within a diocese are normally in the charge of a priest, known as the parish priest or the pastor.[74] In the Latin Church, only celibate men, as a rule, are ordained as priests, while the Eastern Churches, again as a rule, ordain both celibate and married men. Among the Eastern particular Churches, the Ethiopic Catholic Church ordains only celibate clergy, while also having married priests who were ordained in the Orthodox Church, while other Eastern Catholic Churches, which do ordain married men, do not have married priests in certain countries. The Western or Latin Church does sometimes, though rarely, ordain married men, usually Protestant clergy who have become Catholics. A married man aged 35 and above may be ordained as a deacon, with his wife's permission. All sui iuris churches of the Catholic Church maintain the ancient tradition that, following ordination, marriage is not allowed. Even a married priest or deacon whose wife dies may not then marry again. The Catholic Church and the ancient Christian Churches see priestly ordination as a sacrament dedicating the ordinand to a permanent relationship of service, and, like Baptism and Confirmation, having an ontological effect on him. It is for this reason that a person may be ordained to each of the three orders only once. They also consider that ordination can be conferred only on males. Although priests are incardinated into a diocese or order, they may obtain the permission of their diocesan ordinary or religious superior to serve outside the normal jurisdiction of the diocese or order. These assignments may be temporary or more permanent in nature. Temporary assignments may include studying for an advanced degree at a Pontifical University in Rome. They may also include short-term assignments to the faculty of a seminary located outside the diocese's territory. Long-term assignments include serving the universal church on the staff of a dicastery or tribunal of the Roman Curia or in the diplomatic corps of the Holy See. They may also be appointed the rector or to long-term teaching assignments to the faculty of a seminary or Catholic university. Priests may also serve on the staff of their episcopal conference, as military chaplains in the military ordinariates, or as missionaries. The diocesan bishop appoints a vicar general to assist him in the governance of the diocese. Usually, only one vicar general is appointed; particularly large dioceses may have more than one vicar general. The vicar general or one of them is usually appointed moderator of the curia who coordinates the diocesan administrative offices and ministries.[75] A diocesan bishop can also appoint one or more episcopal vicars for the diocese. They have the same ordinary power as a vicar general, however, it is limited to a specified division of the diocese, to a specific type of activity, to the faithful of a particular rite, or to certain groups of people.[76] Vicars general and episcopal vicars must be priests or bishops. In the Eastern Catholic Churches, they are called protosyncelli and syncelli (canon 191 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches). Diocesan bishops are required to appoint a judicial vicar to whom is delegated the bishop's ordinary power to judge cases (canon 1420 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, canon 191 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches). In the Latin Church, the judicial vicar may also be called officialis. The person holding this post must be a priest, have earned a doctorate in canon law (or at least a license), be at least thirty years old, and, unless the smallness of the diocese or the limited number of cases suggests otherwise, must not be the vicar general. As one of the jobs of the judicial vicar is to preside over collegiate tribunals, many dioceses have adjutant judicial vicars who can preside over collegiate tribunals in place of the judicial vicar and must have the same qualifications. The diocesan bishop appoints a chancellor, possibly a vice-chancellor, and notaries to the diocesan chancery. These officials maintain the records and archives of the diocese. They also serve as the secretaries of the diocesan curia. The bishop also appoints a finance officer and a finance council to oversee the budget, temporal goods, income, and expenses of the diocese. The diocesan bishop may appoint priests to be members of the chapter of his cathedral or of a collegiate church (so called after their chapter). These priests are given the title of canon. He also appoints six to twelve priests from the presbyteral council to serve as a college of consultors. They have the responsibility to elect the diocesan administrator in the event of the vacancy of the see. The bishop appoints priests and other members of the faithful to various advisory bodies. These include the presbyteral council, the diocesan synod, and the pastoral council. "The Vicar Forane known also as the Dean or the Archpriest or by some other title, is the priest who is placed in charge of a vicariate forane" (canon 553 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law), namely of a group of parishes within a diocese. Unlike a regional Episcopal vicar, a vicar forane acts as a help for the parish priests and other priests in the vicariate forane, rather than as an intermediate authority between them and the diocesan bishop. This section concerns the priest who in the 1983 Code of Canon Law is referred to by the term parochus, which in some English-speaking countries is rendered as "the parish priest", in others as "the pastor". The English term "pastor" is also used in a more generic sense corresponding instead to the Latin term pastor: The parish priest is the proper pastor of the parish entrusted to him. He exercises the pastoral care of the community entrusted to him under the authority of the diocesan Bishop, whose ministry of Christ he is called to share, so that for this community he may carry out the offices of teaching, sanctifying and ruling with the cooperation of other priests or deacons and with the assistance of lay members of Christ's faithful, in accordance with the law —canon 519 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law in the English translation by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland, assisted by the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Canadian Canon Law Society The pastor (parochus) is the proper pastor (pastor) of the parish entrusted to him, exercising the pastoral care of the community committed to him under the authority of the diocesan bishop in whose ministry of Christ he has been called to share, so that for that same community he carries out the functions of teaching, sanctifying, and governing, also with the cooperation of other presbyters or deacons and with the assistance of lay members of the Christian faithful, according to the norm of law —canon 519 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law in the English translation by the Canon Law Society of America). The parish priest/pastor may be assisted by one or more other priests: Whenever it is necessary or opportune for the due pastoral care of the parish, one or more assistant priests can be joined with the parish priest. As cooperators with the parish priest and sharers in his concern, they are, by common counsel and effort with the parish priest and under his authority, to labour in the pastoral ministry —canon 545 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law in the English translation by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland, assisted by the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Canadian Canon Law Society Whenever it is necessary or opportune in order to carry out the pastoral care of a parish fittingly, one or more parochial vicars can be associated with the pastor. As co-workers with the pastor and sharers in his solicitude, they are to offer service in the pastoral ministry by common counsel and effort with the pastor and under his authority —canon 545 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law in the English translation by the Canon Law Society of America The honorary title of monsignor is conferred by the Pope upon diocesan priests (not members of religious institutes) in the service of the Holy See, and may be granted by him also to other diocesan priests at the request of the priest's bishop. The priest so honored is considered to be a member of the papal household. The title goes with any of the following three awards: Chaplain of His Holiness (called Papal Chamberlain until a 1969 reform),[77] the lowest level, distinguished by purple buttons and trim on the black cassock, with a purple sash. Honorary Prelate (until 1969 called Domestic Prelate), the middle level, distinguished by red buttons and trim on the black cassock, with a purple sash, and by choir dress that includes a purple cassock. Protonotary Apostolic, the highest level, with the same dress as that of an Honorary Prelate, except that the non-obligatory purple silk cape known as a ferraiolo may also be worn. In December 2013, Pope Francis decided to make future grants of the title of Monsignor to priests not in the service of the Holy See only in the rank of Chaplain of His Holiness and only to priests aged 65 or over.[78] Under legislation of Pope Pius X, vicars general and vicars capitular (the latter are now called diocesan administrators) are titular (not actual) Protonotaries durante munere, i.e., as long as they hold those offices, and so are entitled to be addressed as Monsignor,[79] as indicated also by the placing of the abbreviated title "Mons", before the name of every member of the secular (diocesan) clergy listed as a vicar general in the Annuario Pontificio. (Honorary titles such as that of "Monsignor" are not considered appropriate for religious.) Some of the Eastern Catholic Churches of Syriac tradition use the title Chorbishop, roughly equivalent to the Western title of Monsignor. Other Eastern Catholic Churches bestow the honorific title of Archimandrite upon unmarried priests as a mark of respect or gratitude for their services. Married presbyters may be honored with the position of Archpriest, which has two grades, the higher is "Mitred Archpriest" which permits the priest to wear a mitre. In the Latin Church, the title of Archpriest is sometimes attached to the pastors of historic churches, including the major basilicas in Rome. These archpriests are not presbyters, but bishops or cardinals.[80] Similarly, the title of Archdeacon is sometimes conferred on presbyters. Deacons are ordained ministers of the church who are co-workers with the bishop alongside presbyters, but are intended to focus on the ministries of direct service and outreach to the poor and needy, rather than pastoral leadership. They are usually related to a parish, where they have a liturgical function as the ordinary minister of the Gospel and the Prayers of the Faithful. They may preach homilies, and in the Roman Rite may preside at non-Eucharistic liturgies such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, and adoration/benedicition. In the Eastern Catholic Churches, in the absence of a priest, deacons do not vest and may only lead services as a reader, never presiding at weddings or funerals. The scriptural basis and description of the role and qualifications of the deacon can be found in Acts 6:1–9, and in 1 Timothy 3:1–13.[81] They may be seminarians preparing for ordination to the priesthood, "transitional deacons", or "permanent deacons" who do not intend to be ordained as priests. To be ordained deacons, the latter must be at least 25 years old, if unmarried; if married, a prospective deacon must be at least 35 years old and have the consent of his wife.[82] In the Latin Church, married deacons are permanent deacons. In most diocese there is a cut-off age for being accepted into formation for the diaconate.[citation needed] The passage from membership of the laity to that of the clergy occurs with ordination to the diaconate.[83] Previously, the Latin Church rule was that one became a cleric on receiving clerical tonsure, which was followed by minor orders and by the subdiaconate, which was reckoned as one of the major orders. By his motu proprio Ministeria quaedam of 15 August 1972, Pope Paul VI decreed: "The orders hitherto called minor are henceforth to be spoken of as 'ministries'."[84] The same motu proprio also decreed that the Latin Church would no longer have the major order of subdiaconate, but it permitted any episcopal conference that so desired to apply the term "subdeacon" to those who hold the ministry (formerly called the minor order) of "acolyte".[85] Even in those societies within the Latin Church that, with the approval of the Holy See, continue to administer the rites of tonsure, minor orders and subdiaconate, those who receive those rites remain lay people, becoming clerics only on being ordained as deacons.[86] Most Catholics are laity, a term derived from Greek λαὸς Θεοῦ (Laòs Theoû), meaning "people of God". All Christian faithful have the right and duty to bring the gospel message increasingly to "all people in every age and every land".[87] They all have a share in the church's mission and have the right to undertake apostolic activity according to their own state and condition.[88] Lay ministry can take the form of exercising the priesthood of all the baptized, and more specifically undertaking the work of catechists, serving the church pastorally, administratively, and in other ways, including the liturgical services as acolytes, lectors, cantors, and the like,[89][90] initiation sponsors, pastoral care ministers, and members of parish and diocesan consultative bodies.[90][91] Some lay Catholics carry out full-time professional and vocational service in the name of the church, rather than in a secular calling. Though the phenomenon is widespread in North America and much of Europe, the organization and definition of the ministry is left to national bishops conferences. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has adopted the term lay ecclesial ministry for these individuals, as intentionally distinct from the general apostolate or ministry of the laity described above.[92] The consultative leadership of the church, in both the diocese and the parish, usually comprises a Pastoral Council[93][94] and a Finance Council,[95][96] as well as several Commissions usually focusing on major aspects of the church's life and mission, such as Faith Formation or Christian Education, Liturgy, Social Justice, Ecumenism, or Stewardship.[citation needed] See also: Religious institute (Catholic) Religious—who can be either lay people or clergy—are members of religious institutes, societies in which the members take public vows and live a fraternal life in common.[97] This is a form of consecrated life distinct from other forms, such as that of secular institutes.[98] It is distinct also from forms that do not involve membership of an institute, such as that of consecrated hermits,[99] that of consecrated virgins,[100] and other forms whose approval is reserved to the Holy See.[101] Religious institutes have historically been subdivided into the categories of orders and congregations. Male members of orders or congregations are brothers, monks, or friars, while female members are nuns or religious sisters. Each order may have its own hierarchy of offices such superior general, abbot or abbess, mother superior, prior or prioress, or others, and the specific duties and responsibilities for each office will depend on the specific order or congregation. Those who are in the process of joining a religious institute but have not yet taken their perpetual vows may be referred to as postulants or novices. Anglican ministry Apostolic Syndic Catholic Church by country Global organisation of the Catholic Church List of Eastern Catholic exarchates List of Roman Catholic apostolic administrations List of Roman Catholic apostolic prefectures List of Roman Catholic apostolic vicariates List of Roman Catholic archdioceses List of Roman Catholic dioceses (alphabetical) List of Roman Catholic dioceses (structured view) List of Roman Catholic military dioceses List of Roman Catholic missions sui juris List of Roman Catholic territorial prelatures Lists of patriarchs, archbishops, and bishops Order of precedence in the Catholic Church ^ Catechism of the Catholic Church, 873 Archived 6 September 2010 at the Wayback Machine ^ "If any one saith, that, in the Catholic Church there is not a hierarchy by divine ordination instituted, consisting of bishops, priests, and ministers; let him be anathema" (Council of Trent, session XXIII, canon VI on the sacrament of Order). ^ Chisholm, Hugh, ed. (1911). "Hierarchy" . Encyclopædia Britannica. Vol. 13 (11th ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 452. ^ Catechism of the Catholic Church (2nd ed.). Libreria Editrice Vaticana. 2019. Paragraphs 874–896. ^ Catechism of the Catholic Church (2nd ed.). Libreria Editrice Vaticana. 2019. Paragraphs 886, 888, 893, 939. ^ ""Hierarchy" in John Hardon, Modern Catholic Dictionary". Archived from the original on 1 December 2017. Retrieved 1 January 2013. ^ Duffy, Eamon (1997). Saints and Sinners: A History of the Popes. Yale. ISBN 978-0300115970. ^ "CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: Hierarchy". newadvent.org. Retrieved 3 June 2019. ^ Vatican, Annuario Pontificio 2021, p. 1103. ^ Barry, p. 52 ^ "Frequently Requested Church Statistics". Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. Georgetown University. Retrieved 21 January 2024. ^ Committee on the Diaconate. "Frequently Asked Questions About Deacons". United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Retrieved 9 March 2008. ^ "The minister who is able to confect the sacrament of the Eucharist in the person of Christ is a validly ordained priest alone" (__P38.HTM Code of Canon Law, canon 900 §1). While in the English language, the word "priest" usually means someone received into the second of the three holy orders (also called the presbyterate) but not into the highest, that of bishop, the Latin text underlying this statement uses the Latin term sacerdos, which comprises both bishops and, in the common English sense, priests. To refer exclusively to priests in the more common English sense, Latin uses the word presbyter. See Dennis Chester Smolarski, The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 1969–2002: A Commentary (Liturgical Press 2003 ISBN 978-0-8146-2936-9), p. 24. ^ Canon 42 Catholic Church Canon Law. Retrieved 9 March 2008. ^ Canon 375 Archived 19 February 2008 at the Wayback Machine, Catholic Law. Retrieved 9 March 2008. ^ Barry, p. 114. ^ Strenski, Ivan (10 February 2015). Understanding Theories of Religion: An Introduction. Wiley. p. 195. ISBN 9781118457702. ^ Quote: "...especially if [men] are in unity with the bishop, the presbyters, and the deacons, who have been appointed according to the mind of Jesus Christ, whom He has established in security, after His own will, and by His Holy Spirit.[...] Take heed, then, to have but one Eucharist. For there is one flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, and one cup to [show forth] the unity of His blood; one altar; as there is one bishop, along with the presbytery and deacons, my fellow-servants: that so, whatsoever you do, you may do it according to [the will of] God". See Epistle of Ignatius to the Philadelphians, Ch. 1 and 4. ^ "Canon 42". Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches. 1990. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ a b Roman Catholicism (at "Structure of the Church: The College of Bishops"). Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Retrieved 15 March 2012. ^ a b "Canon 375". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ Instruction on the Ecclesial Vocation of Theologian, 19 Member of the Episcopal College by virtue of his sacramental ordination and hierarchical communion, the bishop represents his Church just as all the bishops, in union with the Pope, represent the Church universal in the bonds of peace, love, unity, and truth. ^ Carol Glatz, Vatican statistics: Church growth remains steady worldwide, Catholic Herald (5 May 2014). ^ "Canon 1014". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Archived from the original on 2 April 2007. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ "Canon 1013". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ Lumen Gentium. Catholic Church. p. 27. ^ Annuario Pontificio, published annually by Libreria Editrice Vaticana, p. 23. ISBN 978-88-209-8722-0. ^ Roman Catholicism (at "Structure of the Church: Apostolic Succession"). Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Retrieved 15 March 2012. ^ "Canon 331". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Archived from the original on 2 April 2007. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ "Canon 330". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ Schatz, Klaus (1996). Papal Primacy: From its Origins to the Present. Michael Glazier. ISBN 978-0-8146-5522-1. ^ "#882". Catechism of the Catholic Church. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ "Canon 336". Code of Canon Law. 1983. Archived from the original on 25 May 2012. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ DeVille, Adam A.J. (2011). Orthodoxy and the Roman Papacy: Ut Unum Sint and the Prospects of East-West Unity. University of Notre Dame Press. ^ "Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen gentium § 27". Site da Santa Sé. Archived from the original on 6 September 2014. Retrieved 27 January 2010. ^ Pope John Paul II (22 February 1996). "Apostolic constitution Universi Dominici Gregis". Archived from the original on 6 May 2007. Retrieved 20 April 2007. ^ "Canon 55". 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"The Chaldean Catholic Church" Archived 16 March 2010 at the Wayback Machine, The Eastern Christian Churches: A Brief Survey (6th edition). ^ Ronald Roberson, CSP (2006). "The Armenian Catholic Church" Archived 16 March 2010 at the Wayback Machine, The Eastern Christian Churches: A Brief Survey (6th edition). ^ Canon 53, 1990 Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches ^ Canon 58, Ibid ^ Canon 151, 1990 Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches ^ "Syro Malankara Church says it can use Catholicos title" Archived 14 May 2015 at the Wayback Machine, Indian Catholic News Service, 21 July 2005 ^ Canon 152, 1990 Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches ^ Canon 154, 1990 Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches ^ Canon 438, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ a b Roman Catholicism (at "Structure of the Church: The Roman Curia and the College of Cardinals"). Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Retrieved 15 March 2012. ^ Code of Canon Law (1917), canon 232 §1 ^ Pope John XXIII (15 April 1962). "Cum gravissima". ^ Chas. Augustine, A Commentary on the New Code of Canon Law (Herder 1918), book II, pp. 36–37 ^ Code of Canon Law (1917), canon 239 §1 21° ^ a b c Herbermann, Charles, ed. (1913). "Primate" . Catholic Encyclopedia. New York: Robert Appleton Company. ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 438 ^ Canons 435–437, Ibid. ^ Canon 421 §2, Ibid. ^ Canon 1438, Ibid. ^ Canon 1419 §1, Ibid. ^ "To choose a bishop: A man for the Church, not a "ladder-climber" - Vatican News". 26 April 2021. ^ Canons 133-139, Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches ^ Canons 155-173, Ibid ^ Annuario Pontificio 2017. Libreria Editrice Vaticana. 2017. p. 1136. ISBN 9788820999759. ^ According to Catholic-Hierarchy.org, as of 2007, non-metropolitan archdioceses include 37 in Europe (10 immediately subject to the Holy See, 1 immediately subject to an Eastern Catholic major archbishop, 25 suffragan archdioceses, and 1 military archdiocese), 37 in Southwest Asia (3 immediately subject to the Holy See, 21 immediately subject to Eastern Catholic patriarchs, 4 suffragan archdioceses), 4 in Africa (2 immediately subject to the Holy See, 2 immediately subject to Eastern Catholic patriarchs), 2 in North America (1 immediately subject to the Holy See, 1 military archdiocese), 2 in South America (1 immediately subject to the Holy See, 1 military archdiocese), 2 in Australia (both immediately subject to the Holy See), 1 in Southeast Asia (immediately subject to the Holy See), and 1 in South Asia (immediately subject to an Eastern Catholic major archbishop) ^ Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, canon 314 §1 Archived 4 June 2011 at the Wayback Machine; cf. Bert Groen, William Peter van den Bercken (editors), Four Hundred Years Union of Brest (Peeters 1998 ISBN 978-90-429-0670-9), p. 197, which also mentions Eastern Catholic exarchs appointed in the past even by a metropolitan ^ Apostolic Constitution Anglicanorum coetibus of 4 November 2009 Archived 27 October 2014 at the Wayback Machine ^ Id.c.134 §§1–2 ^ "Canon 134, §1 and §2". 1983 Code of Canon Law. Code of Canon Law. Retrieved 21 August 2009. ^ Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, canons 43 and 45 Archived 4 June 2011 at the Wayback Machine ^ Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, canons 78, 152 and 157 Archived 4 June 2011 at the Wayback Machine ^ a b Roman Catholicism (at "Structure of the Church: The priesthood"). Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Retrieved 15 March 2012. ^ "Canon 475". 1983 Code of Canon Law. The Holy See. 28 January 1983. ISBN 0-943616-79-4. Archived from the original on 12 October 2007. Retrieved 20 August 2009. ^ "Canon 476". 1983 Code of Canon Law. The Holy See. 28 January 1983. ISBN 0-943616-79-4. Retrieved 20 August 2009. ^ "The Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church – Guide". Archived from the original on 2 June 2017. Retrieved 11 June 2006. ^ O'Connell, Gerard (4 January 2014). "Pope abolishes honorary title of monsignor for diocesan priests under the age of 65". Vatican Insider. Retrieved 4 January 2014. ^ "Pariter, qui vicarii generalis aut etiam capitularis munere fungitur, hoc munere dumtaxat perdurante, erit protonotarius titularis" (Pope Pius X, Inter multiplices curas, 62. 21 February 1905) ^ See Archpriest#Roman Catholicism. ^ "The Deacon". St. Brendan Church. Archived from the original on 19 April 2012. Retrieved 7 November 2013. ^ "Canon 1031 §2". 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 266 ^ Ministeria quaedam Archived 3 November 2011 at the Wayback Machine, II ^ Ministeria quaedam Archived 3 November 2011 at the Wayback Machine, IV ^ Instruction on the Application of the Apostolic Letter Summorum Pontificum Archived 23 February 2016 at the Wayback Machine, 30 ^ Canon 211 Archived 3 March 2016 at the Wayback Machine 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Canon 216 Archived 3 March 2016 at the Wayback Machine 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Canon 230 §1, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ a b Roman Catholicism (at "Structure of the Church: The laity"). Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc. Retrieved 15 March 2012. ^ Canon 228 §2, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Co-Workers in the Vineyard (pdf), United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005 ^ Canon 512 §1, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Canon 536 §1, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Canon 492 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Canon 537, 1983 Code of Canon Law ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 607 ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 710 ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 603 ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 604 Archived 18 April 2016 at the Wayback Machine ^ Code of Canon Law, canon 605 Directory of officials Catholic-Hierarchy.org. This is an online database of bishops and dioceses of the Roman Catholic Church. It contains geographical, organizational and address information on each Catholic diocese in the world, including Eastern Catholic Churches in communion with the Holy See, such as the Maronite Catholic Church or the Syro-Malabar Church. It also gives biographical information on current and previous bishops of each diocese, such as dates of birth, ordinations and (when applicable) death. Not officially sanctioned by the church, the website is run as a private project by David M. Cheney in Kansas City. For the sources used by Cheney in his compilation, see . [self-published] GCatholic.org Explanations of the hierarchy Book II: The People of God Liber II. De Populo Dei, Part II: The Hierarchical Constitution from the Code of Canon Law on the Holy See official website Catholic Encyclopedia "hierarchy" article Barry, Rev. Msgr. John F (2001). One Faith, One Lord: A Study of Basic Catholic Belief. Gerard F. Baumbach, Ed.D. ISBN 0-8215-2207-8. Retrieved from " There are two types of Deacons within the Catholic Church, but we're going to focus on transitional deacons. These men are also referred to as seminarians and are students of the Catholic Church. They are generally in their last phase of training for priesthood. They maintain this role for twelve months. Deacons can practice in many similar ways to priests. They can baptise, witness marriages, and perform funerals. After graduating from being a Deacon, individuals become priests. To become a priest, one must undertake the Rite of Ordination. This ordains them into the priesthood. During the ceremony, they promise to uphold the duties of priesthood and to obey his superiors. Once a priest, individuals are able to perform the ceremony of the Eucharist, take confession and perform Anointing of the Sick. Priests are also able to perform Holy Matrimony. There are two types of priests within the Catholic Church, religious and diocesan. Diocesan priests lead individual parishes. They serve the people within their own parish and are not required to take the same vowels as religious priests. Diocesan priests live on a monthly salary and have their meals and lodging provided for them by the parish. Additionally, they may wear whatever clothes they choose outside of service. This type of priest is more common in secular countries without a strong traditional Catholic population. Religious priests, however, vow themselves to a religious order, such as the Jesuits. They wear particular religious garb and take additional vows of poverty and obedience. Priests are unable to hold personal possessions and they own very little other than their clothes. They typically live in a group house alongside other members of the order. Typically they are not provided with a salary and must follow the orders of their superior. Bishops are ministers who hold the full sacrament of holy orders. Catholics trace their origins to the time of the apostles, who were endowed with a spiritual gift by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Bishops are required to be 35 years old, ordained at least five years prior and hold a doctorate in theology. They are believed to truly hold expertise in canon law and sacred scripture. They typically govern over local regions known as dioceses. Becoming a bishop is an important moment in most clergy life, as all senior rankings hold the title bishop. Bishops reach their retirement age at 75 years old. At this time, they are to submit their resignation to the Pope who will then work with him to determine a suitable replacement. Bishops are the third, and fullest level of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Archbishops are particularly important bishops. They oversee large areas of churches called archdiocese. The title comes from the Greek word meaning "chief". Bishops report directly to them when in need of assistance or guidance. The archbishop is best thought of as a manager of bishops for a certain geographical region. Cardinals are leading bishops and members of the College of Cardinals. Their biggest duty is participating in the Papal Conclave, that is, voting for the new Pope. Most have additional duties including missions within the Roman Curia, governmental body of the Holy See. To be eligible to attend these votes, however, Cardinals must be below the age of 80. The current pope, Pope Francis, is known for his particularly diverse group of cardinals- if you can call a group of old, male, Catholic diverse. There are currently 128 serving cardinals. Of those, Pope Francis created 88 from 56 countries. 17 of these countries had never been represented in the College of Cardinals again. In 2019 Pope Francis created several cardinals that are experts in the care of migrants and relations with Islam. The highest honour a member of the clergy can receive is to be elected as the leader of the Catholic Church. The Pope is elected by cardinals under the age of 80 – following the death or resignation of a Pope. There is no limit to how many years a Pope may hold his office. The office of the Pope is referred to as the papacy. The Pope rules the Catholic Church in a very similar way to a king would a country, and he is the head of state for the Vatican City. The Roma Curia (you might remember them to be Cardinals) help the Pope to complete his duties. Newly elected popes much choose a regnal name, many choose to honour the names of previous popes. Each pope chooses his name in reflection of a saint he feels a strong connection to. Catholics believe the pope is infallible when speaking in ex cathedra, and that God will not allow his followers to be misled by having him make a wrong statement when the criteria for ex cathedra are met. As you can see, the Catholic clergy is quite the complicated institution. This article has just touched on the very basics of each of the Catholic cardinal levels. Additionally, you may have noticed we have only referred to males. This isn't because we forgot women, it's because the Catholic Church does not accept women into the clergy but that's a story for another day.