



WHAT DOES THE POPE DO?



#141 What is the Pope's responsibility? As successor of St. Peter and head of the college of bishops, the Pope is the source and guarantor of the Church's unity. He has the supreme pastoral authority and the final authority in doctrinal and disciplinary decisions. Jesus gave Peter a unique position of preeminence among the apostles. This made him the supreme authority in the early Church. To this day every Bishop of Rome has been, like Peter, the supreme shepherd of the Church, whose real Head is Christ. Unity in matters of faith and morals, which is guaranteed by the Church's Magisterium, or teaching authority, with the Pope at the head, is one reason for the remarkable resilience and influence of the Catholic Church.

#143 Is the Pope really infallible? Yes. But the Pope speaks infallibly only when he defines a dogma and makes an authoritative decision in doctrinal questions of faith and morals.

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

St Pius X

St Pope Pius X was Pope from 1903 to 1914 at the beginning of WWI. His life was a dedicated to helping those in need, especially the poor and marginalized. He worked to spread the teaching of the Eucharist and did all he could to stop WWI from happening. His motto was "Restore all things in Christ."



St John XXIII

St Pope John XXIII was Pope for only a few short years from 1958 to 1963. Throughout his whole life he was known for his work to help the poor, unprotected and to be a real pastor for the areas in his charge. As Pope he started the Vatican Councils which changed the Church in the modern age.



GOSPEL



ANSWERS

Jesus rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist..
— John 13:1-16

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS: