

## **The Bluffers Guide to the Church.**

### **4. Is the Pope a Catholic? The Catholic Vision**

***Catholic = Kata holos (According to the Whole)***

#### ***Biblical Grounds for Catholicity***

**Great Commission**

**Body metaphor**

**Paul's Collection**

**The Vine**

#### ***The local church and the wider Church***

#### ***History***

**Ignatius – the Post-Apostolic Crisis**

**Irenaeus – the Gnostic arguments**

**Cyprian – *extra ecclesiam nullus salvus est***

**Augustine – the Donatist schism**

## ***What Holds Catholicity?***

What helps the Church to stay Catholic?

### **1. Fanatical Obedience to the Pope**

The Development of the major Sees

### **2. Ministerial Structures**

Bishops

### **3. Councils of the church**

### **4. Mutual Hospitality**

Pilgrimage

Support

Prayer

The problem of the Great Schism

### **5. Scripture**

The tradition of reading Scripture

The critical function of Scripture

### **6. Creeds**

Baptismal formulae

Rules for interpretation

Rules for membership?

## ***Infallibility and Indefectibility***

***So, is the Pope a Catholic?***