

**"CATHOLIC:" AN
ESSENTIAL AND
EXCLUSIVE ATTRIBUTE
OF THE TRUE CHURCH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649467099

"Catholic:" an Essential and Exclusive Attribute of the True Church by Monsignor Capel

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MONSIGNOR CAPEL

**"CATHOLIC:" AN
ESSENTIAL AND
EXCLUSIVE ATTRIBUTE
OF THE TRUE CHURCH**

“CATHOLIC:”

AN ESSENTIAL AND EXCLUSIVE ATTRIBUTE OF
THE TRUE CHURCH.

BY

RIGHT REVD. MONSIGNOR CAPEL, D. D.

Domestic Prelate of His Holiness, Leo XIII., happily reigning,
Member of the Roman Congregation of the Signatura,
Priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster.

“Christianus mihi nomen est; Catholicus vero cognomen.” S. Paoletti, A. D. 1573.

NEW YORK:

WILCOX & O'DONNELL CO., PUBLISHERS, 131 William St.

D. & J. SADLER & Co., 31 Barclay St.

1884. Lj

2-
10.189.



Copyright,
D. & J. SADLER,
1884.

TO THE MEMBERS
OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CONVENTION,
HELD AT PHILADELPHIA IN THE YEAR OF GRACE 1883,
AND TO THOSE WHOM THEY REPRESENTED,
IS THIS LITTLE WORK DEDICATED
BY THEIR SERVANT IN XT,
THE AUTHOR.

CHRISTIANUS MIHI NOMEN EST; CATHOLICUS VERO COGNOMEN;
ILLUD ME NUNCUPAT, ISTUD OSTENDIT;
HOC PROBOR, INDE SIGNIFICOR.*

* St. Pateron, Bishop of Barcelona
A. D. 878.

PREFACE.

The God of Truth cannot have revealed contradictory doctrines. Sects proclaiming contradictory doctrines cannot all be right, though all may be wrong. In like manner the same essential attribute cannot be predicated in the same sense of two religious societies having fundamentally different principles of belief and of worship.

"Catholic" was decreed to be a note of the Christian Church fifteen hundred years ago by its teachers assembled in General Council.

"The Protestant Episcopal Church" in the United States created in the year 1789, now lays claim to the name Catholic. But this is already in the possession of the Roman Church. To try and establish who is the lawful possessor, is the object of this little work.

The importance of the issue will be seen from the following passage written by St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, no less than fifteen hundred and thirty years ago.

"The Church is likewise one, though she be spread abroad, and multiplies with the increase of her progeny; even as the sun has rays many, yet one light; and the tree boughs many, yet its strength is one seated in the deep-lodged root; and as, when many streams flow down from one source, though a multiplicity of waters seem to be diffused from the bountifulness of the overflowing abundance, unity is preserved in the source itself. Part a ray of the sun from its orb, and its unity forbids the division of light; break a branch from the tree, once broken it can bud no more; cut the stream from its fountain, the remnant will be dried up. Thus the Church, flooded with the light of the Lord, puts forth her rays through the whole world, with yet one light, which is spread upon all places, while its unity of body is

not infringed. She stretches forth her branches over the universal earth, in the riches of plenty, and pours abroad her bountiful and onward streams ; yet is there one head, one source, one mother abundant in the results of her fruitfulness. . . . Whoever parts company with the Church and joins himself to an adulteress, is estranged from the promises of the Church. He who leaves the Church of Christ attains not Christ's rewards. He is an alien, an outcast, an enemy. He can no longer have God for a Father who has not the Church for a Mother."

Calm, honest investigation of the matter cannot be other than an olive branch of peace, leading prayerful, earnest souls into the Ark of Salvation.

For the advantage of those who have not a library of the Fathers, there have been appended the Treatise of St. Cyprian on the Unity of the Church written in 251; the eighteenth of the Catechetical Instructions of St. Cyril of Jerusalem, written in 347, and the letter of St. Pacien, Bishop of Barcelona, on the name Catholic, written in 373.

It is thought these treatises, of a dogmatic nature, representing Africa, Asia Minor, Western Europe, and emanating from Saint Bishops of the "Undivided Church," will prove to be voices to which a deaf ear will not be turned. The Oxford translations have for obvious reasons been selected.

To these authors have been added the strong opinion of Lord Macaulay. His words have weight inasmuch as he, a Protestant, sees in the Roman Catholic Church, merely a human Body Politic.

PENTECOST-DAY, 1884.

NEW YORK.

PART I.
THE ARGUMENT.