

Why I Am Catholic

Stability in a world of confusion, uncertainty and fads.

This year many people are not only shopping for Christmas gifts, they are "God shopping" as well. They go to a different church each week looking for the one that's the "right fit" and agrees with their personal opinion.

Sadly they are not looking for a church that teaches God's unchanging truth, they are looking for something that is hip and fashionable today. They want a "feel good" message and a church that teaches and supports public opinion. They don't want anyone to tell them they are wrong about anything, God included. They refuse to see any moral absolutes or any eternal truths.

Over the last 10-15 years, many non-denominational churches have sprung up, taking one or two Christian teachings and making them the whole of their message. Any inconsistencies are over looked or ignored. Some have become mega-churches and their minister's millionaires. They read the Bible through a personally chosen, previously determined viewpoint rather than through God's eyes.

Often these new "fad churches" have instant success and lots of early growth. Over time they have internal conflict as members disagree about core beliefs and principles. Different personal interpretations lead to bitter argument and division. They have no central authority to resolve disputes and their ministers have almost no accountability—they decide and shape what their church stands for. Over time there are often splits and/or turf wars. Some of these "fad churches" fade away or close as their members leave and go shopping elsewhere.

The Bible warns about the trends we are seeing. "Beloved, do not trust every spirit but test the spirits to see whether they belong to God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." (I John 4:1) "I urge you brothers, to watch out for those who create dissensions and obstacles, in opposition to the teaching that you learned; avoid them." (Romans 16:17)

Christ gives His Truth to the Catholic Church. He gives us the fullness of His truth, the Holy Spirit to help us clearly and faithfully know and pass on what He has taught us, and still work in the Church to safeguard and defend that Truth. He promises He will be with us "always, until the end of the age." (Mt 28:20) the Catholic Church has stood for almost 2,000 years and survived countless physical and spiritual battles. Part of that is having a consistent teaching office.

Even Mainline Protestant Churches that have existed for 300-500 year have changed their core teachings and beliefs in recent years based on public opinion or political pressures. They forgot persecution and the world's hatred come with proclaiming God's truth.

God's truth never changes. Our understanding may change, and hopefully deepen, but as we change, God does not change. His Church cannot change its core beliefs or principles either. New things arise, but we must apply the same core beliefs and eternal truths to see things as God sees them. God is the stable guide.

Other denominations will have to explain to Him why they keep changing. The "fad churches" will fade away and one day all will return to the truth.