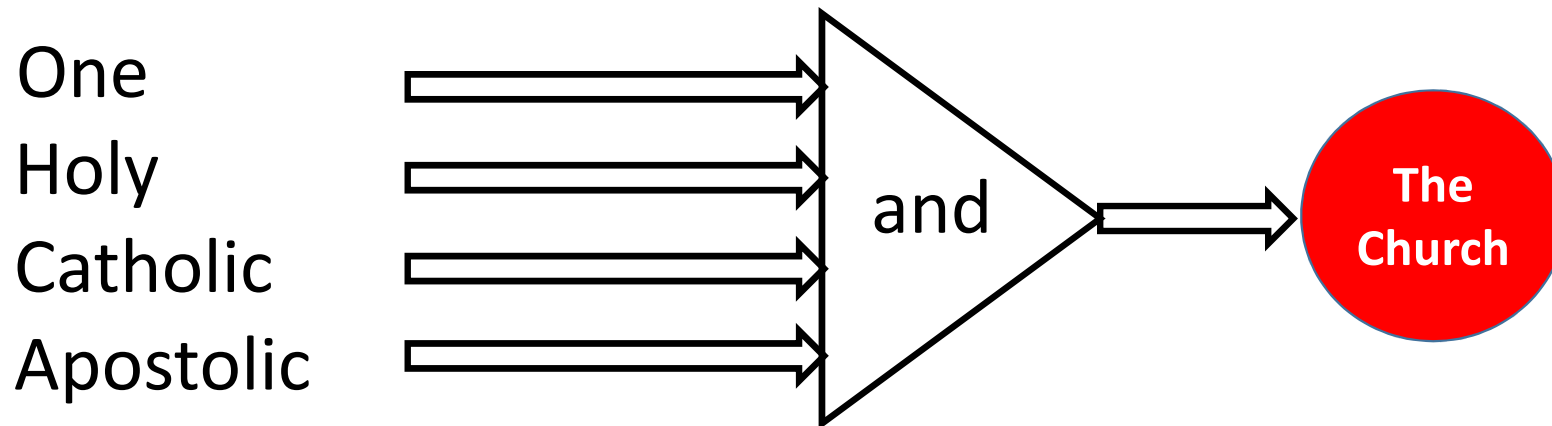




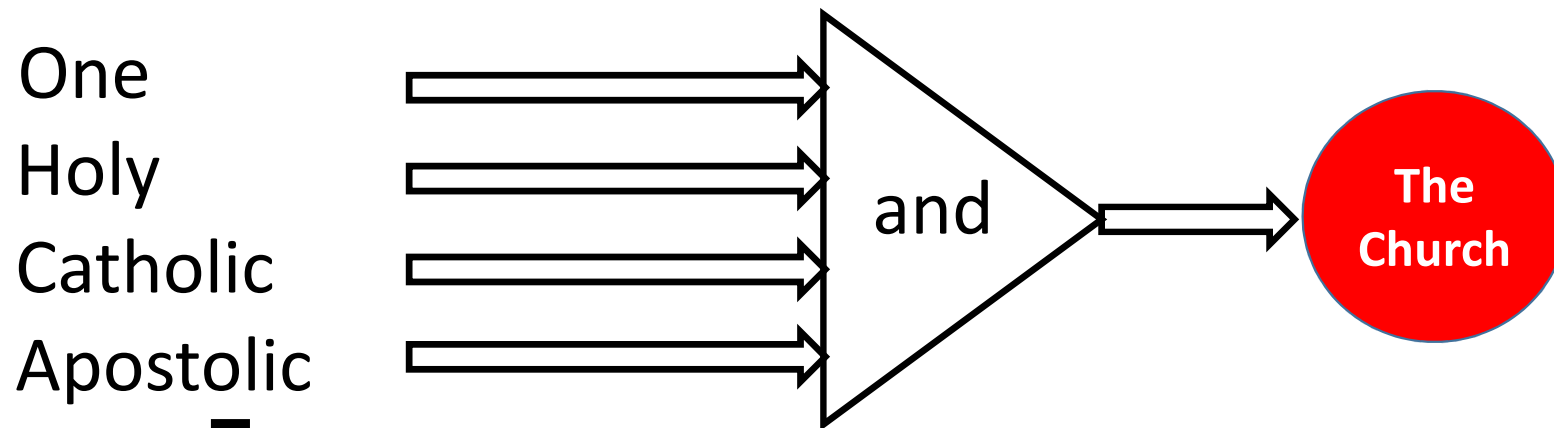
Sacraments

Definition of the Coptic Orthodox Church?

The four defining characteristics of the Coptic Orthodox church as stated in the Nicene Creed are:



Definition of the Coptic Orthodox Church?



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Apostolic means having a direct link with the apostles, AND,
keeping the apostolic faith!

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Trinitarian, Scriptural (Biblical), Sacramental, Conservative

Sacrament – Meaning:

- A religious ceremony or act of the Christian Church that is regarded as an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual divine grace, in particular.
– Google.
- An invisible grace of the Holy Spirit that is received through a visible or audible act / physical material.
- The work of the Holy Spirit in us through the Sacraments, giving us His gifts, blessings and comfort, and guidance to Salvation!!!

Sacramental Church

Having seven sacraments:

1. Baptism
2. Chrismation (Confirmation)
3. Reconciliation (Repentance and Confession)
4. The Eucharist (Communion)
5. Matrimony
6. Priesthood
7. Unction of the Sick

ALL Sacraments are instituted by the Lord Himself!

Redemptive Sacraments – REQUIRED for Salvation

1. Baptism - (Redemptive)
2. Chrismation (Confirmation) - (Redemptive)
3. Repentance and Confession - (Redemptive)
4. The Eucharist (Communion) - (Redemptive)

Non-Redemptive Sacraments – Not Required for Salvation

1. Matrimony - (Non-Redemptive)
2. Priesthood - (Non-Redemptive)
3. Unction of the Sick - (Non-Redemptive)

Sacramental Church

Having seven sacraments:

1. Baptism - (Redemptive) - **John 3:3-5, Acts 8:35 -38, Romans 6:3-5, Mark 16:16**
2. Chrismation (Confirmation) - (Redemptive) - **Acts 8:14-17, Acts 19:1-6, John 2:20,27**
3. Repentance and Confession - (Redemptive) - **Luke 13:3, Matthew 3:2**
4. the Eucharist (Communion) - (Redemptive) - **John 6:53-58**
5. Matrimony - (Non-Redemptive)
6. Priesthood - (Non-Redemptive)
7. Unction of the Sick - (Non-Redemptive)

Visible Sign vs. Invisible Grace

Sacrament	Physical Material	Invisible Grace
Baptism	Water	New birth and a new nature
Chrismation	Chrism or oil of Myron	Receive the Holy Spirit
Reconciliation (Repentance & Confession)	Verbal Absolution	Forgiveness of sins
Eucharist (Communion)	Bread & Wine Liturgy prayers	True Body & Blood of Christ, Unity with Christ, Forgiveness of sins, Eternal life!.
Unction of the Sick	Oil & Prayer	Receive physical and spiritual healing
Holy Matrimony	Bride & Groom, Liturgical Prayers	The Holy Spirit unites the couples
Priesthood	Ordained man through laying of the Hands	Grace to administer sacraments and authority to conduct & manager church services and matters.

What is needed for Sacraments

1. The Proper Ritual !!! (method & materials):

- Baptism: – water & oil
- Eucharist: bread & wine
- And .. A special services/prayer

2. A Canonically Ordained Orthodox Priest!

- A priest ordained by the laying on of hands
- Acts by the power of the Holy Spirit to do the sacramental work
- Liturgical prayers, Give blessings, Confessions, others

Classification of Sacraments

Sacraments = Spiritual Medicine

Disease = Sin

Physician = The Lord Jesus working through the Priest

Hospital = Church

Examination = Confession

Types of Treatments

Preventive:

where the treatment (sacrament) prevents sin and corruption

Curative:

the treatment (sacrament) cures sin and corruption

Supplementary:

the treatment (sacrament) gives strength to overcome sin

Types of Treatments

Preventive Sacraments:

- **Chrismation:** having the Holy Spirit within, protects us against sin and evil, and strengthens us in our spiritual struggle.
- **Matrimony:** Protects the couple from falling into lust.

Curative:

- **Baptism:** cures the inherited corrupt nature from Adam and Eve.
- **Reconciliation (Repentance & Confession):** cures sin. Any sin!.
- **Unction of the Sick:** cures physical and spiritual illness.

Supplementary:

- **Eucharist:** unites us with God, grants power and helps against evil and sin.
- **Priesthood:** grants the priest grace and authority to teach, guide, absolve, etc.

Glory be to God Forever