Welcome to a study of Christian roots. These roots that go back to Jewish times when Jesus was inserted into history at Bethlehem and later sent the Spirit to guide Christians down through the corridors of time. Since then Christian spirituality, liturgy, parishes, educational and health-care services emerged in communities which subsequently sprang up around the Middle East, Mediterranean Sea, and Western Europe. By recovering these early roots and their organic development through the early, medieval, renaissance, and reformation periods, Christians rejuvenate the faith energies of their communities and regain the freedom to act decisively for the future.

**Source Materials: Books and Articles**

**Textbooks:**

**General Histories:**
* Aubert, Roger, ed. The Christian Centuries, Vols. 1,3,5.
* Jedin, Hubert. History of the Church. 8 vols; also by John Dolan in 3 vols.

**Journals:**
* American Catholic Historical Association Catholic Historical Review, 1919-.
* Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture, 1932-.
* Ecumenical Review, 1948-.
* Journal of Ecclesiastical History, 1950-.
* ATLA (American Theological Library Association) Religion Database 1975-.
* ATLA (American Theological Library Association) Ten Year Subset 1998-
* Canadian Periodical Index.
* Catholic Periodical & Literature Index (CD Rom).
* Bibliography of Canadian Religious History. Online, Canadian Catholic Historical Association web site.
Course Outline by Lectures

1. **Forming of Christian Communities and Cultures**: Thomas Bokenkotter, *Concise History of the Catholic Church* (TB), Chaps 2-3.

2. **Establishing the Church**
   Old Israel and New Israel, in W. H. C. Frend’s *The Early Church*, Chapt. 4

3. **Constantine to Justinian: Structural Development**: TB, Chaps. 4 & 6
   Conversion of Constantine in A.H.M. Jones’ *Constantine and the Conversion of Europe*, Chapt. 6
   From Communio to Leadership of the Whole Church, in Schatz’s *Papal Primacy*, pp. 28-38.

4. **Nicaea to Chalcedon: Doctrinal Development**: TB, Chaps. 5 & 9
   *Way to Nicea*, Bernard Lonergan, pp. 1-17
   *First Seven Ecumenical Councils*, Leo D. Davis, Chapt. 2

5. **Structural and Doctrinal Pluralism**: TB, Chaps 13
   Byzantium’s Second Encounter with the West by Joseph Gill in *Byzantium*, pp. 113-33

6. **Dominion of Devout Princes, 500-1050**: TB, Chapt. 10
   Diocesan Organization, in *History of the Church* III, ed. by Hubert Jedin and John Dolan, pp. 258-269

7. **Papal Hegemony: Three Popes and Three Emperors**: TB, Chaps. 11-12
   Gregory VII Struggled with Henry IV, in *The Crisis of Church and State, 1050-1300*, Brian Tierney, pp. 45-73
   Innocent III and Frederick II, in *The Crisis*, Tierney, pp. 127-149

8. **Evolution of Monasticism**: TB, Chapt. 14
   Second Benedict and his Progeny in *Western Monasticism*, Peter King, Chapt. 5
   Cloister and Community in *The Dissolution of the Monasteries*, G.W.D. Woodward, Chapt. 2

9. **Medieval Parish Culture**: TB, Chapt. 18
   Inner Life of the Church in *History of the Church* IV, pp. 566-85
   Dissolution and Misinterpretation in *A Short History of Western Liturgy*, Theodor Klauser, pp. 94-116

10. **Conciliar Movement versus Papal Autocracy**: TB, Chaps. 16-17
    Conciliar Theory Examined in *Council over Pope?* Francis Oakley, pp. 56-77
    Crisis of Primacy in the Late Middle Ages, in *Papal Primacy*, Klaus Schatz, pp. 100-123

11. **Protestant Reformation**: TB, Chaps. 19-20
    The Saxon Hus in *Here I Stand: Life of Martin Luther*, Roland Bainton, (1950), pp. 102-20
    Germany in *Reformation in National Context*, edited by Bob Scribner et al. (1994), pp. 4-29

12. **Early Modern Catholicism**: TB, Chapt. 21
    The Historiography of the Society of Jesus by John W. O’Malley

**Important Information**

**Seminar Report**: The student will prepare a Seminar Report from the assigned readings for each session and hand it in to the instructor at the end of the class period.

**Research Paper**: An essay of 12-pages double-spaced (12 point font) is required on an historical event in church history. He/she should establish a theme, three points, conclusion, and include pagination, indent paragraphs, footnotes (I don’t read endnotes), and bibliography. Papers will be due at the third meeting, November 25. Some topics are listed below.
Collaborative Recapitulation: In a three-page type-written essay, the student reviews the highlights of the course, and then, presents it orally during the classroom exam. This is a comprehensive display of what students learned during the term and includes a main theme, three points, a conclusion, and is due on Exam Day, December 9.

Possible Essay Topics


7. The Council of Constance (1414) or the Papacy directing the church? See Brian Tierney, *Foundations of Conciliar Theory* (1965) and Francis Oakley, *Council Over the Pope?*

