

# 4 The Church

## A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

### A Belonging ....

Everyone feels the need to belong. So many different groups ... clubs ...

Are you in any group or club ?

What's the name of the group?

Who are the people in it?

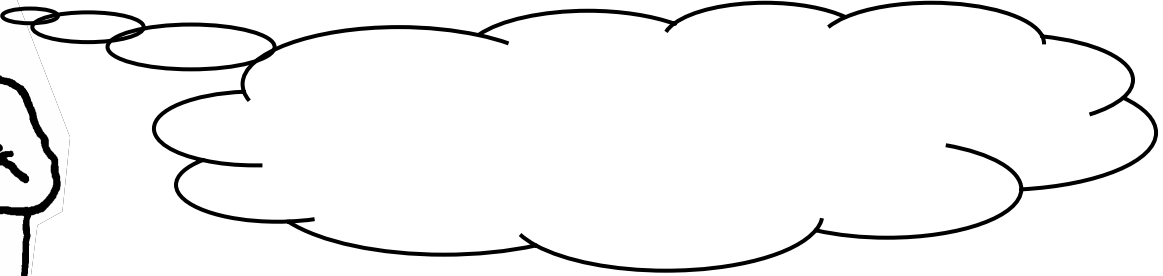
What's the aim? What do you do?

### B Another Group / Community

As a Christian you belong to another group ... You belong to the Church.



What is the Church for you? Who started it? What do you think about it?



The Catholic Church is a huge organisation made of people who believe in One God and all that he revealed to us through the Holy Bible and the Church's tradition over the years. We profess all that we believe in when we say the Creed.

Having a Universal character, the Church is for everyone. There are no boundaries in the Church. Everyone is one in the same family — one Community: man or woman, black or white, any nationality, any age.

At the same time the Church is made up of smaller parts — smaller Communities.

**PARISH:** A community of Christians, living in any one particular area, town or village. They gather, worship and celebrate in a Parish church normally dedicated to a saint. A Parish Community is led by a Parish Priest.

Name of my Parish.

Name of my Parish priest.

**DIOCESE:** A diocese is a group of parishes in the same area of a country. A Diocese is led by a Bishop or Archbishop, a spiritual shepherd. Each Diocese has a Cathedral, a special church where the Bishop holds his seat — the Cathedra.

Name of my Diocese 

Name of our Bishop 

**UNIVERSAL CHURCH:** All parishes and Dioceses in all countries of the World form the Universal Church. This is led by the Pope, the head of the Church on Earth and successor of St Peter who was the first one to be chosen by Jesus himself to lead the Church.

What is the name of the current Pope? 

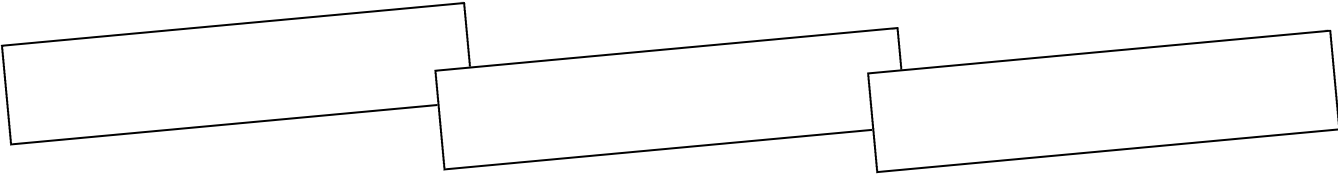
Which state does he live in? 

## C And me ?? ... Where do I fit in ??

Every member of the Church should feel they are making a difference. We are not just bystanders in the Church but active members. Different people contribute and help the community by getting involved in a variety of jobs in their parish or Diocese. These are called **ministries**. Some help the sick, some read, others serve and others do the cleaning in the church. Some are Catechists, others do the flowers, and so many other jobs as are needed.

## D Groups in my parish

In the spaces below write the names of groups or ministries in your parish.



## MINISTRIES IN THE CHURCH / PARISH

Write about any ministries in your parish that you'd be interested to help in.

