

“A River Created by Many Streams” – The Three “Senior Churches”

Washington Community Fellowship

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1. Roman Catholicism – approximately 850-900 million people:

Crusades (4 major, beginning in 1095), peak of Papal power, West sacks Constantinople in 1204

Bernard of Clairvaux, monastic reformer (Cistercians), Knights Templar

St. Francis and the Franciscans founded 1209: poverty, penance and preaching

Dominic/Dominicans founded 1216: defenders of the faith

Thomas A Kempis 1380-1471-Brethren of the Common Life, Julian of Norwich: 1342-1413

Teresa of Avila 1515-1582: contemplative life...Carmelites

Counter Reformation, note Jesuits (Society of Jesus) founded by Ignatius of Loyola in 1540: preaching, teaching, social outreach

1820 Oxford Movement (Newman and Keble)

Immaculate Conception 1854, Papal Infallibility 1870

Vatican II, Pope John XXIII, Paul VI – 4 sessions 1962-65

Modern Era: Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II (1978)

2. Eastern Orthodoxy:

Historic Patriarchal Centers: Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria, Constantinople (Rome, until it pulled out), 15 Centers today.

Now have 8 Patriarchs – Russia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romanian have been added.

Veneration of Church Councils (Creeds are Truth, they don't dissect Truth), Church Doctors (Fathers)

Strict adherence to Church Calendar

Tradition: 7 Church Councils and Creeds and Scripture are in concert as the centerpiece

Apophatic Vision – The Mystery of God

Monasticism

Theology of Color (Icons)

Theosis - Deification of Humanity

Unity – Orthodox (means “right believing”) held together by faith and sacraments

Both the Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox Churches adhere to seven sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation (conversion/confession), Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick.

3. Anglicanism (The flexible Harbor offering most streams):

The Church arrives in the British Isles (Augustine of Canterbury, St. Patrick, etc.)

Key Founding Roots:

Apostolic Succession

Apostolic Traditions

Scriptural Authority

Henry VIII – Defender of the Faith title given by Pope in 1521 for work against Lutheran thinking, but due to marriages (ultimately 6) separation take place, 1533-1540

Sir Thomas More

Key Role: Archbishop of Canterbury – Augustine of Canterbury (598) regarded as first Archbishop

Bloody Mary (approximately 300 “Protestants” executed), seeks return to Roman Catholicism

Bishops Cranmer (executed 1555), Latimer and Ridley (executed 1556)

Continental Influence from Reformed thinkers for those who fled Mary

Queen Elizabeth – restores Book of Common Prayer and Toleration

Oliver Cromwell – 1599-1658

British Commonwealth – spread of Anglicanism

Anglican Communion Today:

Anglican Streams: Evangelical, Anglo-Catholic, Liberal, International (note Africa), Continuing

Note:

Printing Press – 1450 – enabling spread of The Bible. Reformers begin putting Bible into common language: Luther in Germany, Wycliffe and Tyndale in England, and King James in 1611 (endures for 200 years!!)

THE EUCHARIST AND READING OF THE WORD ALWAYS PRESENT IN WORSHIP FOR 2000 YEARS!