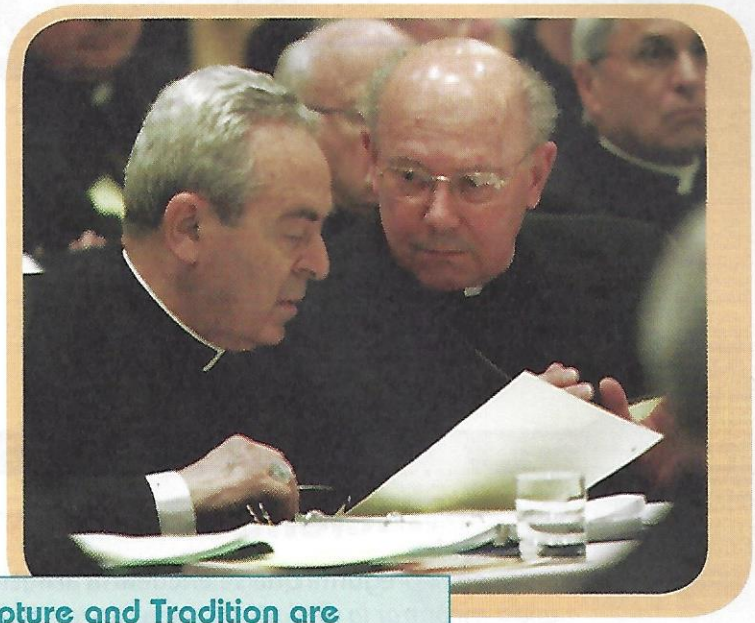
The Church lives by the truth.

Scripture and Tradition are "one sacred deposit of the word of God" and flow "from the same divine wellspring" (*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, 10, 9). Together they make up the deposit of faith. The **deposit of faith** is all the truth contained in Scripture and Tradition that Christ revealed and entrusted to the Apostles and thus to their successors, the bishops, and to the entire Church. The deposit of faith helps the Church to always live by the truth.

The Church grows in knowledge of the truth as a community—when gathered for worship, when hearing God's word in Scripture, when praying together. It is within our community of faith, the Church, that we truly discover the truth. And to guide us in understanding the truth, we depend on the **Magisterium**, the living teaching office of the Church, consisting of the pope and the bishops. In Jesus' name and with the help of the Holy Spirit, the Magisterium interprets both Scripture and Tradition. The Magisterium teaches us how to apply the message of Scripture and Tradition to our lives today.



A meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

> **Scripture and Tradition are "one sacred deposit of the word of God" and flow "from the same divine wellspring"**
> *(Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, 10, 9).*

Through letters, statements, and documents for the whole Church, the Magisterium continually teaches us about the truth. And when the Church encounters new circumstances, questions, and issues, the Holy Spirit guides the Magisterium and the whole Church to develop her understanding of Divine Revelation in Scripture and Tradition. It is said that Scripture, Tradition, and the Church "are so linked and joined together that one cannot stand without the others" (*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, 10).

So, in each generation, the whole Church continues to share and build upon the faith of the Apostles, believe and live the faith, and pass the faith on to the next generation. In this way the Church's faith is always developing, and God's Revelation is living and active in the Church. And the Church hands on to the world all the truth that has been received through God's Revelation.

Faith Words

deposit of faith
Magisterium

Activity **Scripture and Tradition are an essential part of your heritage as a Catholic. Make an emblem or a crest that stands for your family's heritage. Be sure to include symbols for both Scripture and Tradition. How will your family crest remind you and your family to live out the truths of your faith?**