

Scavenger Hunt – Electing a New Pope

Junior/Intermediate

Summary: Three timely articles on the papal election are to be read, with questions to be answered in the scavenger hunt worksheet.

Technology/Literacy: Ideally, this activity should be completed online, in an interactive format, go to: <http://www.quia.com/sh/183802.html>

In this format you will find a more enriching reading/viewing experience since the articles contain several interactive links which are very engaging. These links do not provide answers for the Scavenger Hunt, but definitely will encourage further learning on this subject.

If, however, sufficient computer time is not available, all parts of the Scavenger Hunt are attached here for use in hard copy in the classroom:

- Three articles:
 - “Conclave: How a New Pope Will Be Elected”
 - “Electing a New Pope Draws on Tradition and Secrecy”
 - “Contenders in Line to be Pope”
- Scavenger Hunt question sheet
- Scavenger Hunt answers

Conclave: How a new pope will be elected

Posted on February 11, 2013 By [Griselda Nevarez More](#)



Pope Benedict XVI's announcement sets the stage for a conclave to elect a new pope. (AP Photo/Andrew Medichini)

Pope Benedict XVI has announced he will be resigning at the end of February, setting the stage for a conclave to elect a new pope.

[Pope Benedict is the first pope to resign in nearly 600 years.](#) Only three other popes have voluntarily resigned their positions. Most popes have died in office and several days are usually set aside for mourning before the process to select a new pope begins.

How the new pope will be elected

The process to elect someone to succeed Pope Benedict will take place at the end of March. A new pope is elected by the [College of Cardinals](#), which is made up of bishops, priests and deacons. The cardinals gather behind closed doors of the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City and only those who are under the age of 80 can vote to elect a new pope. That means 118 of the 209 cardinals are eligible to vote to elect Pope Benedict's successor.

Every day during the conclave, the cardinals cast two ballots in the morning and two in the afternoon. Voting continues until a papal contender obtains a two-thirds majority needed for election.

Following every vote, the ballots are burned and smoke comes out of the chimney of the Sistine Chapel. Black smoke signals that the cardinals have not made a decision and white smoke signals a new pope has been elected. Bells are also rung to announce the selection of the new pope.

The [newly elected pope](#) is then introduced to Catholics from the loggia overlooking St. Peter's Square in Vatican City where he gives his first blessing.

Who can be elected pope

Only males who are baptized Catholics are eligible to become popes. Dating back to 1378, the cardinals have selected a fellow cardinal to be the new pope.

Though there are currently no clear front-runners, several specialists on the Roman Catholic Church told several media news outlets on Monday that they expect a Vatican insider to succeed [Pope Benedict](#).

One expert said the next pope would need to improve relationships with other religions, especially the Muslim faith. Another expert said the new Catholic leader would need to reach out to women, especially Western women in their 20s and 30s, who would like to see their role in the church expanded.

Read more: <http://www.voxxi.com/conclave-how-new-pope-will-be-elected/#ixzz2LjB53hLw>

Electing a new pope draws on tradition and secrecy

[Alessandro Speciale](#) | Feb 11, 2013 |

VATICAN CITY (RNS) [Pope Benedict XVI](#) will soon become the first pope to resign since 1415, short-circuiting many of the initial stages of electing a new pope. But the Vatican says the transition to a new papacy shouldn't be all that different from normal.

Of course, the traditional rituals associated with confirming the death of a pope and planning his funeral will not be necessary. But the [process](#) outlined below, rife with secrecy and tradition, will largely follow centuries-old protocol.

The Interregnum

Pending the election of a new pope, most of the cardinals who lead the Vatican's bureaucracy — the Roman Curia — leave office.

There are three exceptions. The camerlengo, who takes charge of property and money matters. The vicar of Rome, who continues to provide for the pastoral needs of Romans. And the major penitentiary, the official who grants absolutions and dispensations.



Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano presents the papal fisherman ring to Pope Benedict XVI at the new pope's installation Mass. The fisherman's ring bears an image of Peter, his boat and his net, which figure in two Gospel accounts of miraculous catches of fish. Benedict said that while fish die when removed from the sea, "in the mission of a fisher of men the reverse is true." Photo by Grzegorz Galazka.

Until the conclave to elect the new pope opens, the College of Cardinals meets daily in a "general congregation" presided over by the dean of the college, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, a former Vatican secretary of state under John Paul II. Attendance is optional for cardinals age 80 and over, and they do not vote in the conclave.

The Conclave Opens

The word conclave is derived from the Latin phrase for “with a key.”

It was first used by Pope Gregory X in 1274 in a proclamation outlining the procedure for electing a pope in a meeting place that can be securely locked.

The conclave should open 15 days after the pope resigns but could be postponed to 20 days. All cardinals under the age of 80 are eligible to vote for the new pope. Pope Paul VI limited the number of cardinal-electors to 120; currently 118 are eligible.

The cardinals live in seclusion in the Casa Santa Marta, a luxury residence inside the Vatican walls. They meet to vote under Michelangelo’s famous ceiling in the Sistine Chapel, adjacent to St. Peter’s Basilica.



To ensure electors in the papal conclave are sequestered from any outside influence, all voting cardinals will be housed in the Domus Sancta Marthae (St. Martha’s House), a plain but capable \$20 million hotel built just for this purpose by Pope John Paul II in 1996. The conclave’s task is to choose a successor to John Paul II. Photo by Rene Shaw.

Once the conclave begins, a cardinal-elector may leave only because of illness or other serious reason accepted by a majority of his fellow cardinals. Everyone associated with the conclave — doctors, nurses, confessors, masters of liturgical ceremonies, sacristans and various priest assistants and housekeeping and catering staff — must swear never to tell anything they learn about the election.

The conclave opens in the morning with a Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica. In the afternoon, the cardinals, vested in scarlet robes, walk in procession in order of seniority from the Pauline Chapel in the Apostolic Palace to the Sistine Chapel to the chant of the ninth-century Latin hymn, “Veni, Creator Spiritus.”

The cardinals take an oath of secrecy. They swear to accept no interference in the election and to observe the rules set down in the Apostolic Constitution on the election of a pope.

The master of pontifical liturgical celebrations then orders everyone who’s not taking part or assisting in the conclave to leave — the doctors, nurses, caterers and others — the room, using

the Latin phrase “extra omnes” (all out). Assisted by the undersecretary of state, he closes off the cardinals’ hotel and the Sistine Chapel.

Following a meditation by a priest, whom the cardinals have chosen earlier, voting can begin immediately or the next morning.

Voting

The members of the College of Cardinals are divided into the ranks of cardinals-deacon, cardinals-priest and cardinals-bishop. Each day of balloting starts with the selection of three scrutineers who count the votes; three infirmarians who collect the ballots of any cardinals too ill to go to the chapel; and three revisers who review the ballot count. They are chosen by lot with the cardinal-deacon lowest in seniority drawing the lots.

Elaborate precautions are taken to ensure that there is no fraud. Each cardinal, disguising his handwriting, enters the name of his choice on a two-inch-wide card on which is printed at the top the Latin phrase “Eligo in Summum Pontificem” (I elect as Supreme Pontiff). He folds the ballot lengthwise to conceal the name.

The cardinals walk to the altar, one by one in order of precedence, holding the ballot aloft. Each prelate kneels briefly to pray and on rising declares, “I call as my witness Christ the Lord, who will be my judge, that my vote is given to the one whom, before God, I think should be elected.” He then places the ballot on a plate, which covers a receptacle, usually a chalice. Lifting the paten, he allows the ballot to drop into the receptacle. The cardinal infirmarians leave the chapel carrying a locked box with a slit top to collect the ballots of sick cardinals.

Counting the Ballots

Once all the cardinals have voted, the first scrutineer mixes the ballots by shaking the receptacle. The third scrutineer counts the still-folded ballots. If the number of ballots is not the same as the number of electors, the ballots are burned and the cardinals immediately vote again.

If the number of ballots is correct, the scrutineers begin the count seated at a table in front of the altar. The first scrutineer unfolds each ballot, silently notes the name written on it and hands it to the second scrutineer, who does the same and hands it on to the third, who reads the name aloud and records it. The cardinals may also keep a tally.

At the end of the count, the scrutineers announce the total number of votes each candidate has received. Any candidate who has received two-thirds of the votes of those present is elected pope. If the total is not divisible by three, the required number of votes for election is two-thirds plus one.

After the results are announced, the third scrutineer threads the ballots together with a needle, which he inserts through the word “eligo” (or “elect”) printed on each voting card. He ties a knot at each end and turns the bundle of ballots and the scrutineers’ records over to the three revisers to be checked.

If all is in order, the scrutineers, secretary of the conclave and masters of ceremonies burn the ballots and all notes taken by the scrutineers and cardinals in a special stove. Since 1903, the masters of ceremonies have added chemicals to color the smoke. If the tens of thousands of

people waiting in St. Peter's Square see white smoke, they know that the pope has been elected; if they see black smoke, he has not.

The only remaining record of the voting is a document that the camerlengo prepares at the end of the election giving the results of each session. The document is approved by the assisting cardinals, given to the new pope and then placed in a sealed envelope in the archives to be opened only with papal permission.

Breaking an Impasse

If the voting is inconclusive, the cardinals may continue to cast up to four ballots each day — twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon. If they still have not elected a pope after three days, voting is suspended for a day of prayer, informal discussion and a brief spiritual exhortation by the senior cardinal-deacon.

If the impasse continues, there are seven more votes, a suspension and exhortation by the senior cardinal-priest, followed by another seven votes, a suspension and exhortation by the senior cardinal-bishop and a final seven votes.

Pope John Paul II introduced rules in 1996 that the requirement for a two-thirds majority could be waived after 12 days, and the pope may be chosen by an absolute majority. But Benedict canceled this provision in 2007.

Under the new rules, after 12 days, the choice of candidates is limited to the two men who received the most votes in the last round. The two candidates do not vote in this round and, to be elected pope, one needs to achieve a two-thirds majority.



Pope Benedict XVI greets a roaring crowd upon his introduction as the Roman Catholic Church's new pontiff on April 19, 2005. RNS file photo by Grzegorz Galazka.

The New Pope

Once the election is decided, the dean of the College of Cardinals asks the winner, "Do you accept your canonical election as supreme pontiff?"

It has been many centuries since the answer was no.

St. Philip Benizi, for one, fled a conclave in 1271 and hid until another candidate was chosen. St. Charles Borromeo declined in the 16th century, and Cardinal Robert Bellarmine declined in 1621.

The new pope is asked by what name he wants to be called. For the past 1,000 years, it has been the custom for the pope to change his name upon being elected. The last to keep his own name was Marcellus II, elected in 1555.

The cardinals make an act of homage and obedience to the new pope and join in a prayer of thanksgiving.

The senior cardinal-deacon then steps out onto the central balcony of St. Peter's Square. He pronounces a Latin formula including the phrase, "Habemus papam (We have a pope)" and announces the name the new pontiff has taken.

The pope appears and gives his first "urbi et orbi" blessing to the city of Rome and the world.

www.religionnews.com



Alessandro Speciale

Alessandro Speciale has been covering the Vatican since 2007 and started writing for Religion News Service in 2011. Born in Rome, he studied literature at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Italy, and journalism at City University, London. He has appeared as an expert on Vatican affairs on CNN, BBC World and Al Jazeera English.

Contenders in Line to Be Pope

By [LIAM MOLONEY](#) And [GIADA ZAMPANO](#)

ROME—The cardinals who will elect the next pope are likely to favor a compromise figure similar to the current pontiff: a traditionalist in doctrine who is open to building bridges between the Vatican and the modern world, Vatican experts said.

The cardinals will look for "someone who has a combination of theological stances, but who also best addresses where we are seeing the church going today," said Francesco Cesareo, president of Assumption College in Worcester, Mass.

The papal conclave—the secretive meeting of Roman Catholic cardinals to elect a new pope—is expected to start shortly after the end of February, when Pope Benedict XVI, at 85 years old, said Monday he would step down.

The more than 120 voting cardinals will likely debate whether to select a low-key gradualist or someone who is going to govern with grand gestures, such as Pope Benedict's predecessor John Paul II. In recent conclaves, cardinals have been split between those who take a more conservative approach to the church's teaching and those open to changing some of the age-old tenets of Catholicism.

Vatican's Sistine Chapel. Under highly detailed procedures, only cardinals under the age of 80 can vote in the conclave, and secret ballots can be cast once on the first day, then twice during each subsequent morning and evening session.

Cardinals must have a two-thirds majority to elect a new pope; a runoff may be held between the top two candidates if the voting goes as far as 34 rounds. Except for periodic pauses, the voting continues until a new pontiff is elected.

When a successor is elected, the ballots are burned dry to produce the white smoke that signals the church has a new pope.

Write to Liam Moloney at liam.moloney@dowjones.com and Giada Zampano at atgiada.zampano@dowjones.com

The Wall Street Journal: www.wsjonline.com

Scavenger Hunt - http://www.quia.com/sh/183802.html?AP_rand=447066476

<http://www.quia.com/sh/183802.html>

Scavenger Hunt List

1. Pending the election of a new pope, most of the cardinals who lead the Vatican's bureaucracy — the _____ — leave office.
2. The word _____ is derived from the Latin phrase for "with a key."
3. All cardinals under the age of _____ are eligible to vote for the new pope.
4. The cardinals take an oath of _____. They swear to accept no interference in the election and to observe the rules set down in the Apostolic Constitution on the election of a pope.
5. Any candidate who has received _____ of the votes of those present is elected pope.
6. Breaking an Impasse: If the voting is inconclusive, the cardinals may continue to cast up to four _____ each day — twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon.
7. If the cardinals have not elected a pope after _____ days, voting is suspended for a day of prayer, informal discussion and a brief spiritual exhortation by the senior cardinal-deacon.
8. Under the new rules, after _____ days, the choice of candidates is limited to the two men who received the most votes in the last round. The two candidates do not vote in this round and, to be elected pope, one needs to achieve a two-thirds majority.

- 9.** Once the election is decided, the _____ of the College of Cardinals asks the winner, "Do you accept your canonical election as supreme pontiff?"

- 10.** The cardinals make an act of _____ _____ to the new pope and join in a prayer of thanksgiving.

- 11.** 11. The senior cardinal-deacon then steps out onto the central balcony of St. Peter's Square. He pronounces a _____ _____ including the phrase, "Habemus papam (We have a pope)" and announces the name the new pontiff has taken.

- 12.** When a successor is elected, the _____ are burned dry to produce the white smoke that signals the church has a new pope.

Scavenger Hunt – Answers

1. Pending the election of a new pope, most of the cardinals who lead the Vatican's bureaucracy — the _____ — leave office.
The following answers are acceptable:
roman curia
Roman Curia
Roman curia
roman Curia
2. The word _____ is derived from the Latin phrase for "with a key."
The following answers are acceptable:
conclave
Conclave
3. All cardinals under the age of ___ are eligible to vote for the new pope.
The following answers are acceptable:
80
eighty
4. The cardinals take an oath of _____. They swear to accept no interference in the election and to observe the rules set down in the Apostolic Constitution on the election of a pope.
Answer(s):
secrecy
5. Any candidate who has received _____ of the votes of those present is elected pope.
The following answers are acceptable:
two-thirds
2/3
2/3 rds
6. Breaking an Impasse: If the voting is inconclusive, the cardinals may continue to cast up to four _____ each day — twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon.
The following answers are acceptable:
ballots
ballot
7. If the cardinals have not elected a pope after _____ days, voting is suspended for a day of prayer, informal discussion and a brief spiritual exhortation by the senior cardinal-deacon.
The following answers are acceptable:
three
3
8. Under the new rules, after _____ days, the choice of candidates is limited to the two men who received the most votes in the last round. The two candidates do not vote in this round and, to be elected pope, one needs to achieve a two-thirds majority.
The following answers are acceptable:
twelve
12
9. Once the election is decided, the _____ of the College of Cardinals asks the winner, "Do you accept your canonical election as supreme pontiff?"
The following answers are acceptable:
dean
Dean

10. The cardinals make an act of _____ to the new pope and join in a prayer of thanksgiving.

The following answers are acceptable:

homage and obedience

homage

obedience

11. The senior cardinal-deacon then steps out onto the central balcony of St. Peter's Square. He pronounces a _____ including the phrase, "Habemus papam (We have a pope)" and announces the name the new pontiff has taken.

The following answers are acceptable:

Latin formula

formula

12. When a successor is elected, the _____ are burned dry to produce the white smoke that signals the church has a new pope.

Answer(s):

ballots