

# Electing a New Pope



# Who is the Pope?

The Pope is a central figure in World Religion. He is:

- the leader of the Roman Catholic Faith across the world
- the Bishop of Rome
- the descendant of St. Peter

# Who were the recent Popes?



John Paul II



John Paul I

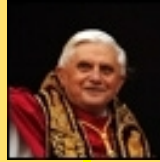


Paul VI



John XXIII

# Who is in charge of the Catholic Church?



**Pope (Supreme Pontiff)**



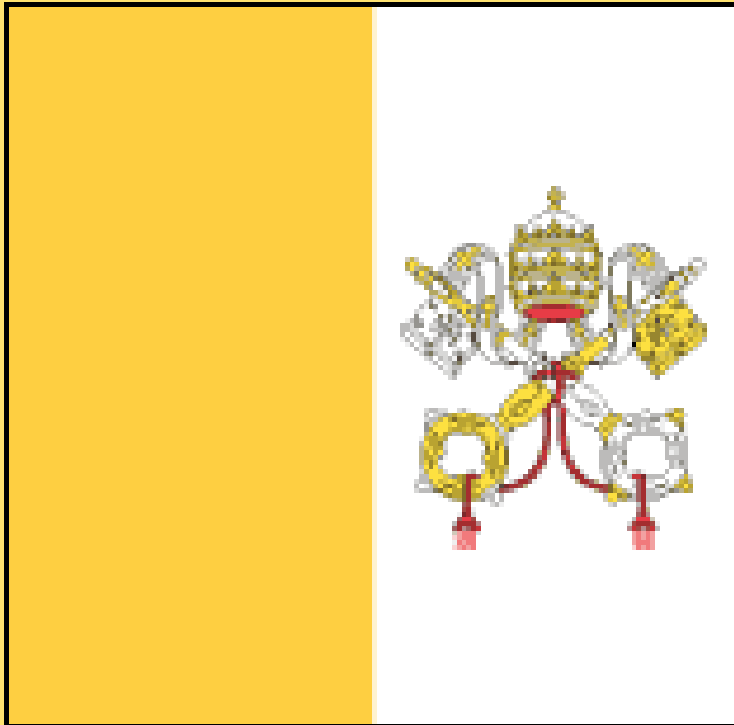
**The College of Cardinals**



**All of the Catholic priests**

# Where does the Pope live?

The Pope lives in the Vatican City in Rome. This is the smallest independent state in the World. Although it is in the Italian capital city of Rome, it is independent of Italy and the Pope has overall rule of this city.



The flag of the Vatican City

**Population: 836 approx**

**Size: 0.44 square kilometre**

**Currency: Euro**

# Vatican City

\* The wall surrounding the Vatican City also serves as an International Boundary.





**The Sistine Chapel – where Cardinals will meet to elect the new pope.**



**View of Rome from St. Peter's Basilica**



**St. Peter's Basilica**



# Cardinal Electors

There are 120 cardinals under age 80 and eligible to vote in a papal election.

## Electors by region



## Countries with more than one elector

ITALY	28	INDIA	5	CANADA	3
U.S.	11	FRANCE	4	ARGENTINA	2
GERMANY	6	MEXICO	4	NIGERIA	2
BRAZIL	6	POLAND	4	PORTUGAL	2
SPAIN	5				

# **Electing a new Pope**

**To elect a new Pope, there are several stages.**

- 1. All of the Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church meet in Rome (unless they are over 80). There can be a maximum of 120 Cardinals involved in the vote.**
- 2. The Cardinals all take part in a public mass to ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. The Senior Cardinal issues the order *Extra Omnes* and all not involved in the election process have to leave.**
- 4. The doors are then sealed shut and the CONCLAVE starts.**



Eligo in Summum Pontificem

**This is the voting slip used to elect a new Pope.**

**Each Cardinal will try to disguise their writing when they print the name of their choice.**

**They fold the card in half making it one inch wide.**

**The words on the top mean “I elect as supreme pontiff”.**



**All votes cast in the election are secret and must be destroyed immediately.**

**They are burnt in the small stove that is located in the Sistine chapel.**

**The colour of the smoke that comes from the chimney is what people watch for.**





**If the smoke from the chimney is black, another vote is needed.**



**If the smoke from the chimney is white, a new Pope has been elected. The great bells of St. Peter will also ring.**

**Once the new Pope has been elected, the chief Cardinal will come onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica and proclaim "Habemus Papam".**



**We have a pope!**