

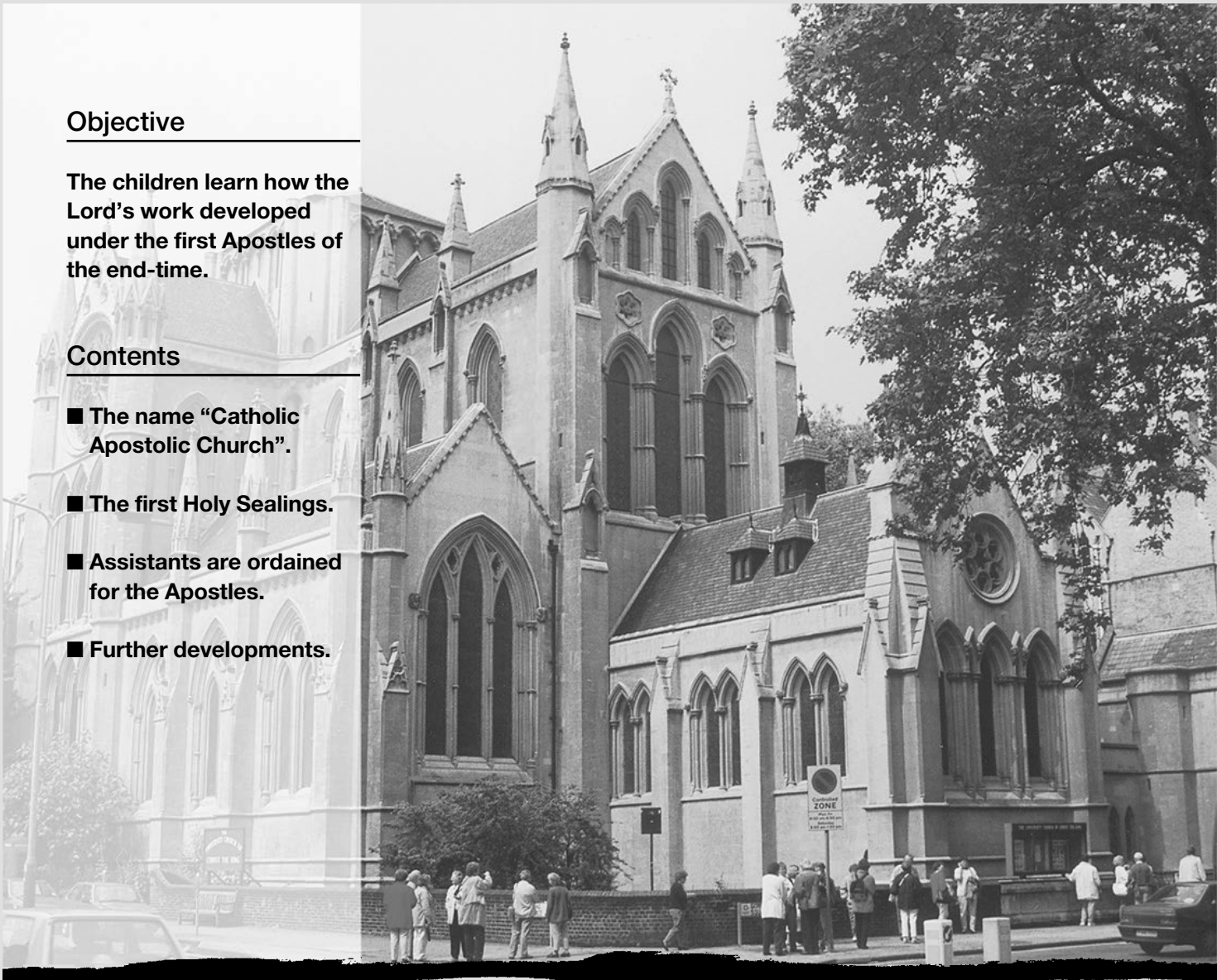
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Objective

The children learn how the Lord's work developed under the first Apostles of the end-time.

Contents

- The name "Catholic Apostolic Church".
- The first Holy Sealings.
- Assistants are ordained for the Apostles.
- Further developments.



Introductory
Remarks**1 The name “Catholic Apostolic Church”**

The churches had rejected the Apostles’ appeal to accept the Apostle ministry. Although this rejection had already been predicted through prophecies, the Apostles viewed this somewhat as a failure of their commission to

- place the one and only church, which—from their perspective—was formed by all the baptized, under Apostolic leadership, and

- preach about Christ’s imminent return to all of Christendom.

It had not been their intention to establish a new church from the beginning. What remained now was for the Apostles to concentrate their efforts on the congregations in which they had been accepted. On 10 January 1849 Apostle Cardale named the English congregations Catholic Apostolic Church.

2 The first Holy Sealings

The first Holy Sealings were performed by Apostle Cardale on 31 May 1847 in London, England, and Apostle Carlyle in Frankfurt on the Main, Germany, on 17 October 1847. The Apostles had established that only those who were baptized and at least 20 years old could receive the Holy Spirit. The Apostles performed this official act by praying, laying their hands upon the faithful, and anointing them with consecrated oil.

3 Coadjutors

With the spread of God’s work it became more and more difficult for the Apostles to cope with their work, because they assumed that the number of Apostles was limited to twelve.

In 1852 they decided that each Apostle may ordain a helper, a so-called coadjutor (from the Latin word *adiutor*, meaning assistant or helper). With the authority of their Apostle, the coadjutors were able to carry out all apostolic ministrations such as ordinations and sealings. The coadjutor’s commission ceased with the death of the Apostle, unless he was assigned to another Apostle, which happened regularly.

At the death of Apostle Woodhouse on 3 February 1901 there were still two coadjutors. They immediately stopped sealing souls and ordaining ministers following the Apostle’s death.

4 Further developments

When Apostles Mackenzie and Carlyle died in 1855, a question arose for the remaining Apostles about the consequence of these deaths on the twelve-fold apostolate: Should the vacant positions created by the death of the Apostles be filled again?

After discussing this in detail, the Apostles decided to do nothing. The reason they gave for their decision was that they did not consider themselves authorized to fill the vacancies left by Apostles who had passed away. In their opinion, the Scriptures did not give them authority for this.

R. F. Edel writes about the consequences of this fateful decision: "With respect to their continued existence the congregations—to the extent this was in their hands—had thus sentenced themselves. The prophetic calling of additional Apostles, however, from within or outside of the congregations was certainly considered possible." There indeed were such prophetic callings; however, these were rejected by the Apostles.

When the Evangelists Böhm and Caird were called as Apostles through H. Geyer's prophecy during a May 1860 council meeting in Albury, the Apostles' college rejected this calling.

C. Böhm and W. Caird were, however, active just like Apostles because they had been ordained as coadjutors in 1859 and 1865 respectively, and authorized to perform all Apostolic acts, including Holy Sealing.

In October 1862 the Prophet Heinrich Geyer called Priest Rosochacki as an Apostle in Königsberg, Prussia.

In an 1863 circular letter to all rectors of the Catholic Apostolic congregations, Apostle Woodhouse denied prophets the right to call new Apostles.

In 1901 F. V. Woodhouse, the last of the first twelve Apostles of the end time, died at the age of 96. From then on neither sealings nor ordinations could be performed in the Catholic Apostolic Church, except for ordinations of Subdeacons, which were performed by Angels. In the course of time more and more congregations were dissolved. In 1971 the last Priest of the Catholic Apostolic Church ordained by Apostle Woodhouse died.

Lesson Plan**Lead-In**

Workbook, Exercise 1

The children read the conversations with parts given out.

Implementation

Teacher's Presentation

The name "Catholic Apostolic Church" was used as of mid January 1849 by those congregations which acknowledged the activity of the Apostles. The Apostles' original intention had not been to establish a new church. They were still convinced that they had been sent as Apostles to the one and only church of Christ, which according to them was to be formed by all who had been baptized.

Solemnly worshipping God as well as celebrating the Eucharist (Holy Communion) were of great significance in the Catholic Apostolic congregations.

Workbook, Exercise 2

The children read the conversation aloud.

Teacher's Presentation

Explain to the children that Catholic Apostolic Church rules corresponded closely to the Holy Bible. The original order required for the completion of God's plan of salvation was to be restored. At the time of the first Christians there were apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4: 11), but also deacons, elders, and bishops. The Lord Jesus had ordained twelve of His disciples as Apostles. With the exception of Matthias, there are no precise reports about how the Apostles referred to later on received their ministry.

Since Jesus Himself had only ordained twelve Apostles, the Catholic Apostolic Apostles initially thought that, also in the end-time, there could only be twelve Apostles at the same time. In 1860 they even came to the conclusion that there should only be a total of twelve Apostles in the end-time, up to the time of Christ's return.

The Apostles had helpers to support them in their work. These were above all the so-called coadjutors (assistants of the Apostles) who were active just like Apostles and able to perform all acts assigned to the Apostles on the basis of their ministry.

Over the course of time there were a total of twelve coadjutors in the Catholic Apostolic Church. When an Apostle died the authority of his coadjutor ceased. In this case, however, the coadjutor was assigned to another Apostle, enabling him to continue in his commission.

Question Prompt	<p>What problem came about as a result of the decision not to permit any more callings of Apostles?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ When an Apostle died there was a gap. ■ The remaining Apostles had to assume the responsibilities of the one who had passed away. ■ There would be no more Apostles eventually.
Workbook, Exercise 3	<p>The children read the first part of the text up to the question prompt, and express their opinions.</p> <p>Those present were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ surprised, ■ pleased, ■ happy, ■ relieved, ■ shaken, ■ etc.
Discussion	<p>Read the remaining text and once again summarize the decision reached by the Apostles after extensive consultation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ They expected Jesus to return during their lifetime. ■ In the Holy Bible they found no indication that they could fill the vacancy left by an Apostle who had passed away. <p>A child reads to the class.</p>
Bible	<p>Acts 1: 15–16, 20, 23, 26:</p> <p><i>“And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), and said, ‘Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For it is written in the Book of Psalms: ‘Let his dwelling place be desolate, and let no one live in it’; and, ‘Let another take his office.’ And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they</i></p>

	<i>cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.”</i>
Discussion	Emphasize that the Apostles of the first church filled a gap at the very beginning of their activity.
Teacher’s Presentation	<p>When the Prophet Geyer called Priest Rosochacki as an Apostle in 1862, this calling was rejected.</p> <p>Finally, in an 1863 circular to all rectors of the Catholic Apostolic congregations, Apostle Woodhouse denied Prophets the right to call new Apostles.</p> <p>Several Apostles passed away in the years that followed. In 1901 Apostle Woodhouse, the last of the first twelve Apostles of the end-time still living, died at the age of 96.</p>
Question Prompt	<p>What were the consequences of the Apostle’s death for the Catholic Apostolic Church?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Holy Spirit could no longer be dispensed. ■ With the exception of Subdeacons, no more ministers could be ordained.
Teacher’s Presentation	<p>With time more and more congregations were dissolved. In 1971 the last Priest of the Catholic Apostolic Church died. Holy Communion could therefore no longer be administered.</p> <p>The faithful were advised to be baptized and receive Communion in the national church. Where possible, the members of the Catholic Apostolic Church continued to meet for divine services, which were celebrated by Sub-deacons or laymen.</p>
Discussion	<p>Summarize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Catholic Apostolic believers had accepted the Apostle ministry, which had been reoccupied in 1832. ■ It is unfortunate that the Apostles of the Catholic Apostolic Church were of the opinion that only twelve Apostles should be active in the time up to Christ’s return. Consequently they did not accept the calling of additional Apostles. ■ In Acts it is mentioned that the gap—in the circle of the twelve Apostles ordained by Jesus—created by Judas Iscariot’s death was

Conclusion

Workbook, Exercise 4

Notes

filled through the calling of Matthias. Barnabas and Saul (Paul) were additional Apostles.

The children work on the exercise.