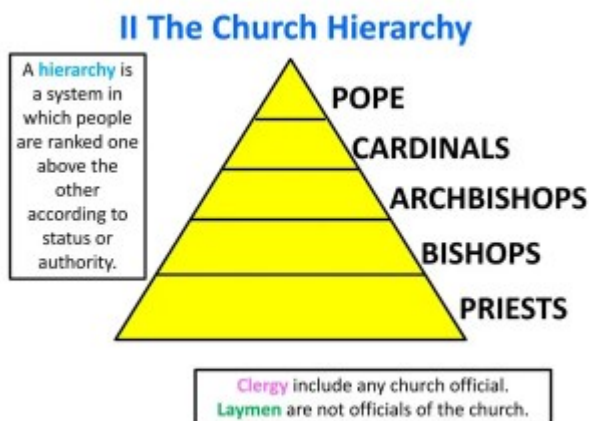


The Hierarchical Structure Of Roman Catholicism



The fundamental concept of authority in the Roman Catholic church is rooted in its hierarchical structure, which is as coherent and immutable as a pyramid. Other institutions outside it may come and go; but the table of basic values of the church of Rome never changes or evolves.