

The Catholic Reformation

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. The influence of the church created a Catholic culture in Spain.
2. Catholic reforms emerged in response to the Reformation.
3. Missionaries worked to spread Catholic teachings.

The Big Idea

Catholic leaders worked to reform the Catholic Church and spread Catholic teachings.

Key Terms and People

Catholic Reformation, p. 334

Ignatius of Loyola, p. 336

Jesuits, p. 336

Francis Xavier, p. 338



HSS 7.9.5 Analyze how the Counter-Reformation revitalized the Catholic church and the forces that fostered the movement (e.g., St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Jesuits, the Council of Trent).

7.9.6 Understand the institution and impact of missionaries on Christianity and the diffusion of Christianity from Europe to other parts of the world in the medieval and early modern periods; locate missions on a world map.

7.9.7 Describe the Golden Age of cooperation between Jews and Muslims in medieval Spain that promoted creativity in art, literature, and science, including how that cooperation was terminated by the religious persecution of individuals and groups (e.g., the Spanish Inquisition and the expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Spain in 1492).

If YOU were there...

You live in a small port city in Portugal in the 1500s. Your parents are fishers, but you have always dreamed of seeing more of the world. One day you learn that several missionaries are planning to set sail for India and Japan. Every sailor knows that the voyage will be long and dangerous. The people in those countries may welcome the missionaries—or attack them. As a result, the ship's captain is paying well for new crew members.

Will you join the crew of the missionaries' ship?

BUILDING BACKGROUND As Protestant ideas swept through northern Europe, Catholic leaders realized that people were unhappy with the clergy and with church policies. They looked for ways to restore people's faith in the church.

Catholic Culture in Spain

The effort to reform the Catholic Church from within is called the **Catholic Reformation**, or the Counter-Reformation. Through the late 1500s and 1600s Catholic Reformation leaders worked to strengthen the Catholic Church and to stop the spread of Protestantism in Europe.

Many of the leaders of the Catholic Reformation came from southern Europe, especially from Spain. Spain's rulers, nobles, and clergy were used to defending the Catholic Church. They had been fighting to make Catholicism the only religion in their kingdoms for hundreds of years.

The Growth of Roman Catholic Spain

For centuries the region we now call Spain had been home to three religions. In many areas Christians, Muslims, and Jews all lived and worked together. Because they cooperated and didn't fight against each other, people of all three religions prospered.

They made some important advancements in art, literature, philosophy, mathematics, and science; this was referred to as the Golden Age.

Eventually, the Roman Catholic rulers decided to force the Muslims and Jews out of Spain. For hundreds of years religious wars tore up the Spanish countryside. Finally, in 1492 the king and queen of Spain defeated the last of the Spanish Muslims. They ordered all Muslims and Jews to convert to Catholicism or leave their kingdom.

The Spanish Inquisition

To enforce their decision, the Spanish monarchs ordered the Spanish Inquisition to find and punish any Muslims or Jews left in Spain. The Inquisition was ruthless in carrying out this duty. Its members hunted down and punished converted Muslims and Jews who were suspected of keeping their old beliefs.

After a time the Inquisition began to turn its attention to Christians as well as to Muslims and Jews. Catholic officials wanted to be sure that everyone in Spain belonged to the Catholic Church. They ordered the Inquisition to seek out Christians, such as Protestants, whose ideas differed from the church's.

Once the Inquisition had punished all Muslims, Jews, and Protestants, the Catholic Church in Spain had no opposition. By the late 1400s and 1500s the Spanish church was very strong. As a result, the ideas of the Reformation did not become as popular in Spain as they did elsewhere. In fact, the Spanish clergy were among the first to fight back against the Protestant Reformation.

READING CHECK Summarizing How did the Roman Catholic Church in Spain gain power?

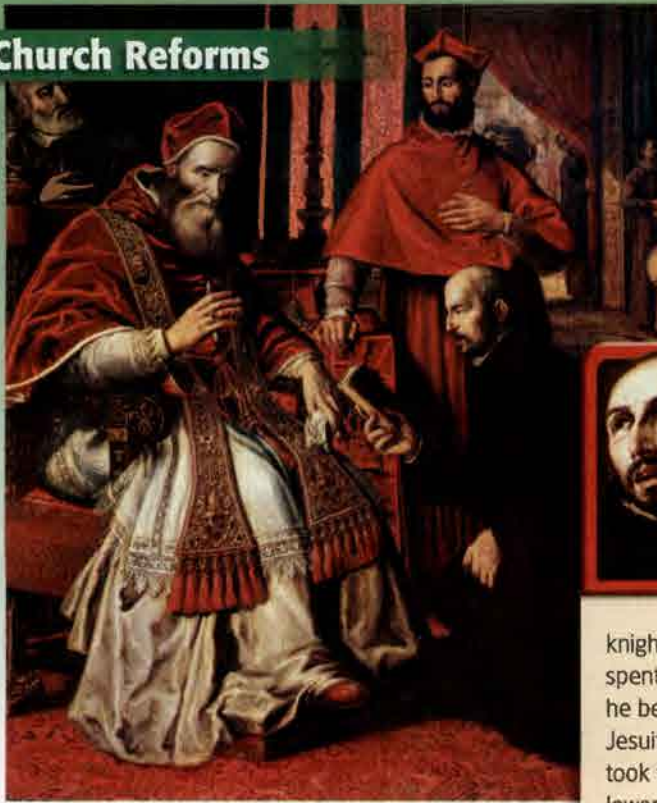
The Surrender of Granada

In 1492 the last Muslim stronghold in Spain, Granada, fell. This painting from the 1800s shows Granada's Muslim ruler surrendering to Spain's Catholic leaders.



The Catholic Church Reforms

Many Catholic leaders responded to Protestant criticisms by working to reform the Catholic Church. Church leaders founded new religious orders and tried to clarify official church teachings.



1534

Ignatius founded the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits. His goal was to teach young men about Catholic ideas in the hope that they would reject Protestant ones.



BIOGRAPHY

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

1491–1556

Ignatius of Loyola came from a noble Spanish family. As a young man he became a knight. In 1521 he was wounded in battle and spent several months in bed. During that time he became very religious. When he founded the Jesuits, Ignatius used his military experience. He took the title of general and insisted that his followers were well trained, like soldiers. He thought this would make them better able to fight against the spread of Protestantism.

Catholic Reforms

By the mid-1500s Catholic leaders in Europe were responding to the criticisms of Protestants. They responded in many ways. Some reformers created new religious orders. Others tried to change church policy. Still others tried to stop the spread of Protestant teachings in Catholic areas.

THE IMPACT TODAY

The Jesuit Order runs Catholic schools and universities all around the world.

New Religious Orders

Catholic reformers created many new religious orders in southern Europe in the 1500s. These orders had different rules and customs. But they all shared one important goal—they wanted to win back support for the Catholic Church from people who had turned away.

The first new order was founded in 1534 by a Spanish noble, **Ignatius** (ig-NAY-shuhs) of **Loyola**. This new order was the Society

of Jesus, or the Jesuits. **The Jesuits were a religious order created to serve the pope and the church.** Ignatius had been a soldier, and the organization of the Jesuits reflects this background. Jesuits tried to be as disciplined as soldiers in their religious duties. As the Jesuits' leader, Ignatius took the title of general, and he referred to the Jesuits as soldiers.

One of the Jesuits' goals was to teach people about Catholic ideas. They hoped that a strong Catholic education would turn people against Protestant ideas.

Another order was created in 1535 in Italy by Angela Merici (may-REE-chee). Called the Ursuline Order, it was created to teach girls rather than boys. Like the Jesuits, the Ursulines thought Catholic education was the key to strengthening the Catholic Church and limiting the impact of Protestant teachings.



1535

Angela Merici founded the Ursuline Order. Her goal was to teach young women about official Catholic teachings and to give aid and help to people in need.



1545

The Council of Trent met between 1545 and 1563 to clarify church teachings that had been criticized by Protestants. The council played a key role in revitalizing the Catholic Church in Europe.

Results of the Council of Trent

QUICK FACTS

- The selling of indulgences is banned.
- Bishops must live in the areas they oversee.
- The ideas of Luther, Calvin, and other Reformation leaders are rejected.

The Council of Trent

The new religious orders were one response to reform, but many Catholic leaders felt that more change was needed. They decided to call together a council of church leaders. Held in Trent, Italy, this council was called the Council of Trent. At this meeting, clergy from across Europe came together to discuss, debate, and eventually reform Catholic teachings.

The Council of Trent actually met three times between 1545 and 1563. The decisions made in these meetings led to major reforms in the Roman Catholic Church. The council restated the importance of the clergy in interpreting the Bible, but it created new rules that clergy had to follow. For example, the council ordered bishops to actually live in the areas they oversaw. Before this decision some bishops had lived far from the churches they ran.

The Council of Trent endorsed Catholic teaching and instituted reform of Catholic practice. From this point on, there was a clear distinction between Catholic and Protestant beliefs and practices.

The Fight against Protestants

Some Catholic Reformation leaders wanted to be more direct in their fight against Protestants. They thought Protestants were heretics who should be punished.

To lead the fight against Protestants, the pope created religious courts to punish any Protestants found in Italy. He also issued a list of books considered dangerous for people to read, including many by Protestant leaders. People reading books on this list could be excommunicated.

READING CHECK **Finding Main Ideas** What were the goals of Catholic Reformation leaders?

Spread of Catholicism, 1400s–1700s



Catholic priests from Europe set up missions in the Americas like this one in California.

Missionaries Spread Catholic Teachings

Rather than change the church, many Catholics decided to dedicate their lives to helping it grow. They became missionaries. Their goal was to take Catholic teachings to people around the world. Many also hoped to win Protestants back to the Catholic Church.

Missionary work was not a new idea. Christians had been sending missionaries into non-Christian areas for hundreds of years. As early as the mid-1200s a group of Catholic missionaries had traveled as far as China. During the Catholic Reformation, however, Catholic missionary activity increased greatly. Some Protestant groups also sent out missionaries during this time, but they were generally outnumbered by Catholic missionaries.

Many of the new Catholic missionaries were Jesuits. Jesuit priests went to Africa and Asia to teach people about the Catholic Church. In addition, some Jesuits traveled with explorers to America to convert the native peoples there.

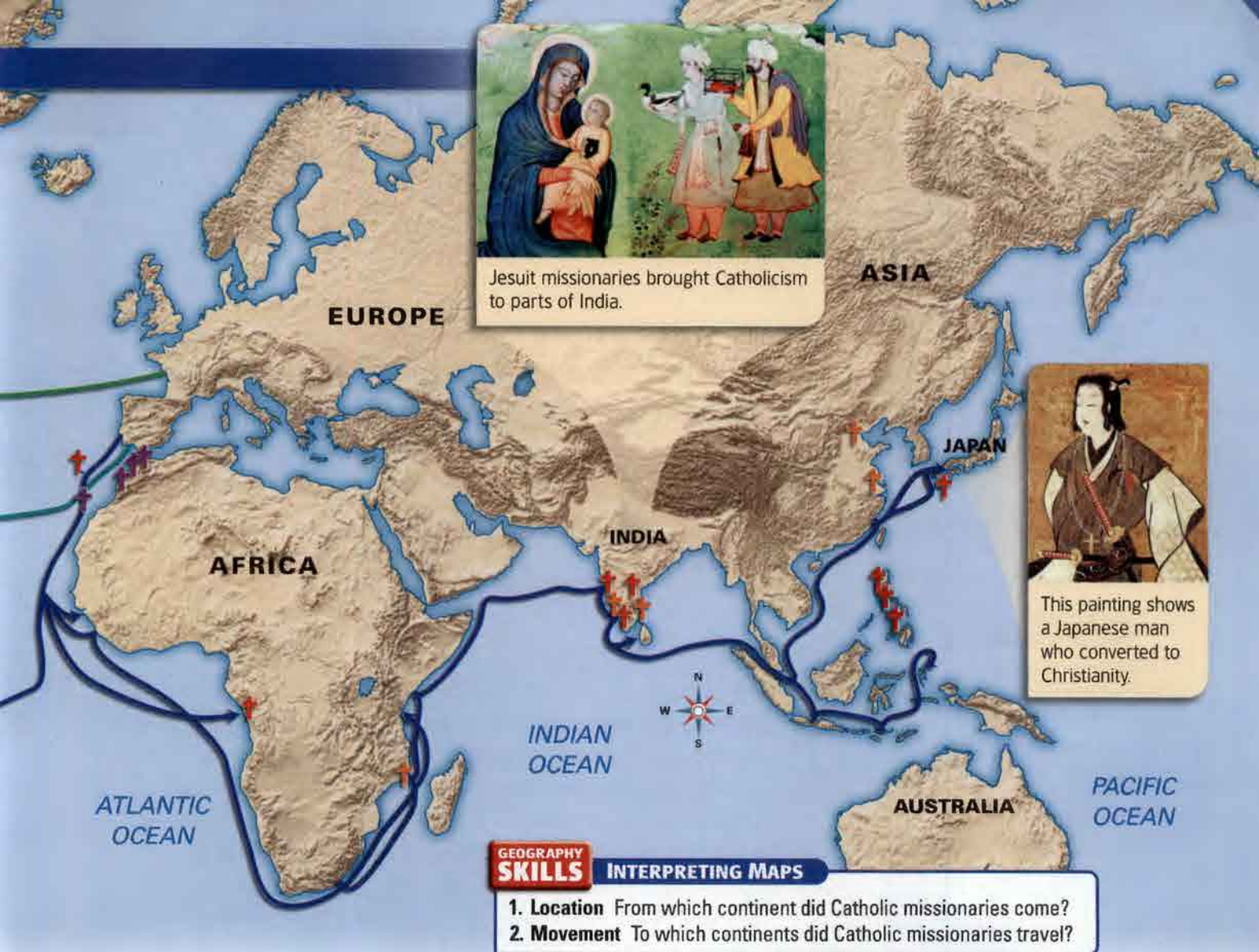
Probably the most important missionary of the period was the Jesuit priest **Francis Xavier** (ZAYV-yuhr). He traveled throughout Asia in the mid-1500s, bringing Catholicism to parts of India and Japan. As a result of his efforts, some people in those regions became Catholics.



Around the world Catholic missionaries baptized millions of people. Through their efforts the effects of the Catholic Reformation reached far beyond Europe.

READING CHECK Finding Main Ideas What were the goals of Catholic missionaries?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW Catholic leaders responded to the Reformation in Europe. In the next section you will see what happened when Catholics and Protestants began to interact.



Section 2 Assessment

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Online Quiz

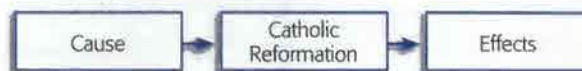
KEYWORD: SQ7 HP12

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People **HSS** 7.9.5, 7.9.6, 7.9.7

- Define** What was the **Catholic Reformation**?
 - Explain** Why was the Catholic Church stronger in Spain than in many other parts of Europe?
- Identify** What religious order did **Ignatius of Loyola** create?
 - Summarize** How did the Catholic Church try to fight the spread of Protestant ideas?
 - Evaluate** Which do you think was a better way to reform the Catholic Church, new religious orders or the Council of Trent? Why?
- Recall** Where did Catholic missionaries travel?

Critical Thinking

- Identifying Cause and Effect** Draw a graphic organizer like the one below. In the first box, write the main cause of the Catholic Reformation. In the third box, list three effects of church reform.



FOCUS ON WRITING

- Finding the Main Idea** You already wrote a list of important details to support a main idea. Now find the main idea of this section. Write a sentence that states the main idea. Then write the details that support it.