Contents

	Introduction	9
1	Initiation into a Community: The Body of Christ as a Model of the Church	11
	A Rite of Passage Rev. Aidan Kavanagh, OSB	
2	The Ship of Salvation: The Church as an Institution	17
	The Dream of Saint John Bosco Saint John Bosco	
3	The Descent of the Holy Spirit: The Church Is Revealed	21
	Acts of the Apostles 2:1–42 Saint Luke the Evangelist	
4	Expanding the Church: The Gentiles and the Mosaic Law	27
	Acts of the Apostles 15:1–31 Saint Luke the Evangelist Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:1–21 Saint Paul	
5	From Movement to Institution: Practices and Guidelines for the Early Church The Didache Unknown	33
6	Executions and Torture: Treatment of Christians During Roman Persecution Pliny's Questions to Emperor Trajan Concerning	38
	Policy Toward Christians Pliny the Younger, Governor of Bithynia Emperor Trajan's Reply to Pliny's Questions Emperor Trajan	
7	The Blood of the Martyrs: A Witness to Love for Jesus The Martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas Saint Perpetua	43