

**Lecture 26: *The Catholic Response: The Counter-Reformation and the Jesuit Order***

***I. The Council of Trent, 1545-1563***

- A. Calling the Council
- B. The Council's Reforms
  - Reaffirms the basis of the Catholic faith
  - Doctrinal matters
  - Institutional hierarchy, organization and the office of the bishop

***II. Implementing Catholic Renewal***

- A. Missions and re-education
- B. The Papal Inquisition, 1478 (Rome and Spain)
- C. Censorship and The Index of Forbidden Books, 1557

***III. The Society of Jesus – a new Catholic Order***

- A. Foundation of the Order
  - Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)
  - *The Spiritual Exercises*, ca. 1520s-1530s
- B. Education, Missions and Structure of the Order

***New Catholicism for a New Europe***

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***The Catholic Response***

**Catholic Reformation** = a flowering of Catholic ideas and spirituality (begun with humanists in the 15th century)

**Counter-Reformation** = a response to the Protestant critiques of the Church and the re-education and indoctrination in the Catholic faith – much more systematically imposed

The Council of Trent, 1545-1563

- Trent was a compromise location (between Italy and German lands)
- Convened under Pope Paul III and Pope Pius IV
- Initially harbored the hope of reconciliation between Protestants and Catholics; a Protestant contingent attended the second session of the council.

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**The Council's Reforms:**

First Session (1545-1547): Reaffirms the basis of the Catholic faith and beliefs

- Justification of the faith based on Scripture AND **Tradition**

-- **Latin** Vulgate translation of the Bible was the authentic text

-- Men were saved by faith AND **good works**

Second Session (1551-1552): Doctrinal Matters (teachings of the church)

-- Doctrine of transubstantiation of bread and wine at the mass was reaffirmed by the Catholic Church = Real break with Protestants

-- Reaffirmed beliefs and practices of tradition: making vows, purgatory, veneration of relics, granting indulgences, power of the saints

-- Reaffirmed taking of communion in ONE form by laity = bread only

-- Doctrine of Marriage – engagements needed 3 witnesses, men over 20 and women over 18 without parental consent.

-- Importance of Confession and Penance = private confession

Third Session (1562-1563): Reforming Institutional Hierarchy = duties of bishops

-- Bishops should be present spiritual leaders in their communities

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*Implementing Reforms within Europe*

(1) Missions and re-education in Catholic beliefs and teachings both within Europe and in the New World colonies.

(2) The Papal Inquisition, begun in 1478 (Rome and Spain) – to find wrong belief and correct it; public punishments for unrepentant heretics or *conversos* (Jewish converts to Christianity in Spain) to convey the necessity of right belief.

(3) Censorship and *The Index of Forbidden Books*, 1557 – created to regulate and control consumption of ideas and beliefs.

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*The Society of Jesus – a new Catholic Order*

Jesuit Order founded in 1540 by Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) = a soldier and mystic

-- they spread and enforced a new Catholic piety and Catholic Reform following out of the Council of Trent

Rigorous Training and Education:

-- *The Spiritual Exercises* = meditations, a sort of forced mystical experience, laid out by Ignatius ca. 1520s-1530s.

-- Highly centralized order based in Rome, but members spread out across the world.

-- Most Jesuits were highly educated in philosophy, humanism, and languages – particularly languages of the New World and of Spanish colonies (China, Mexico, Canada).

*New Catholicism for a New Europe*