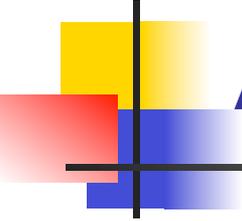


Renewing Faith in the Future

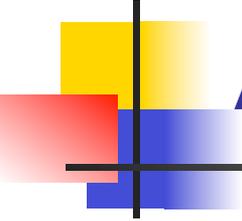
Building on the
Legacy of Vatican II





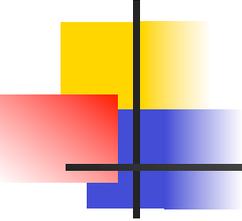
As we begin

- Called over a lifetime
- Vocation: A view looking back...
- Called by God's working through persons



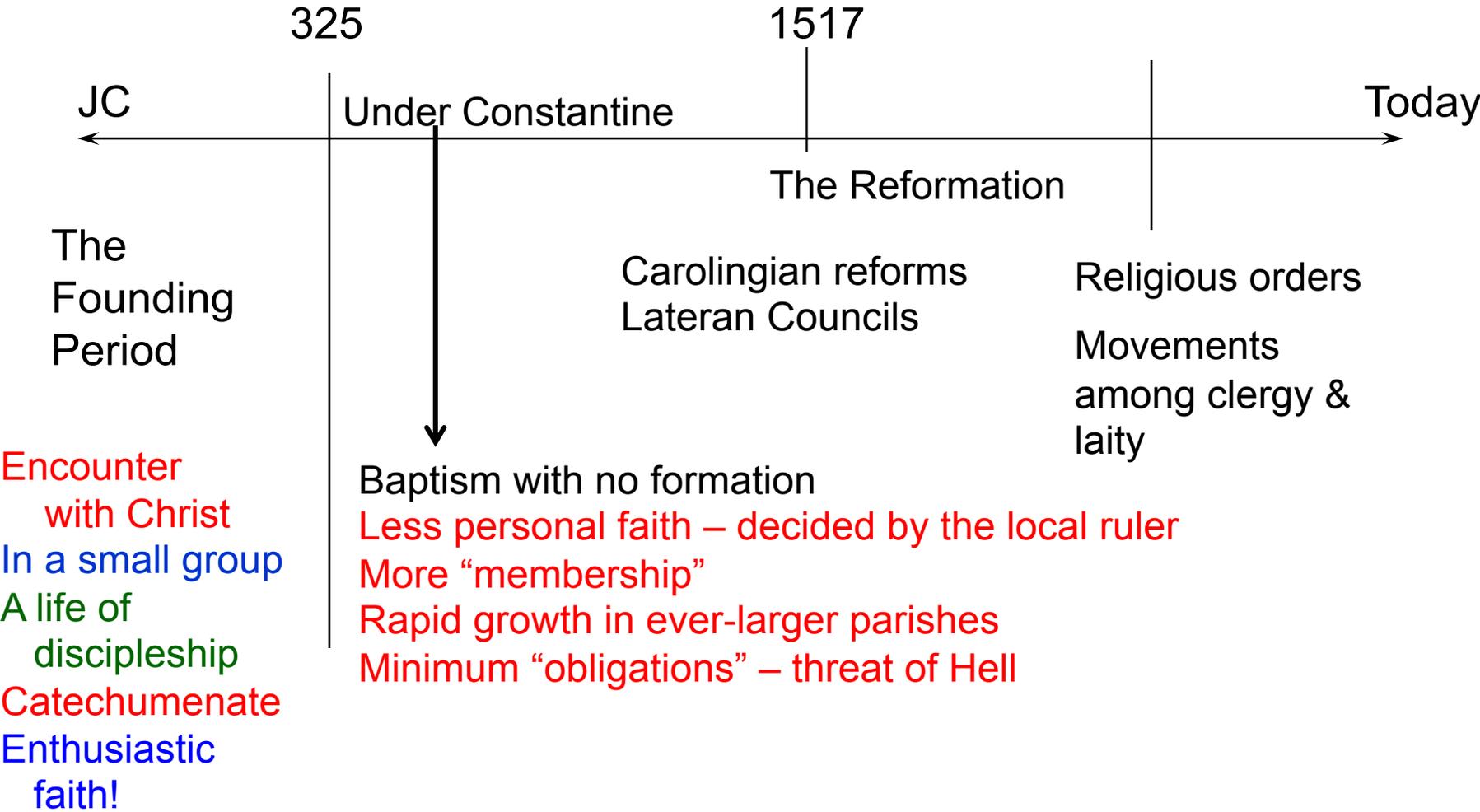
As we begin

- That person asked us to imagine ourselves **DOING** the gospel in some form of service.
- Can you recall a time and a person such as this? Who was that person? When did this happen?
- What did (s)he see in you that you may not have seen in yourself?



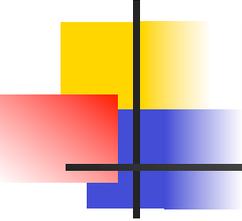
Let's revisit Vatican II

Church history



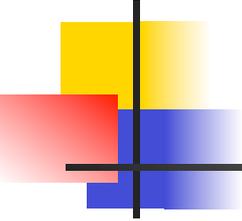
Church history





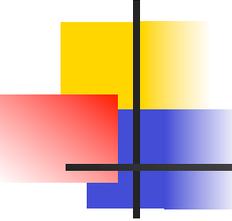
Pope John's question:

- How could a church
- so completely entrenched in the model which emerged in the 4th Century,
- a model retained by both **Trent** and the **First Vatican Council**
- **renew itself for these times?**

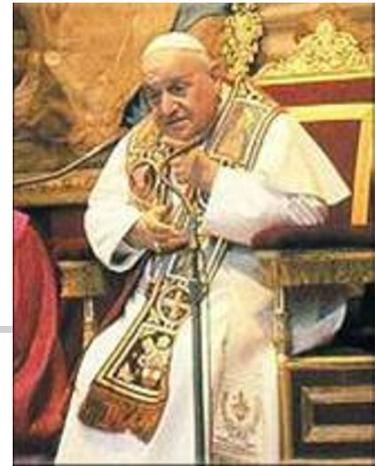


In the words of John XXIII

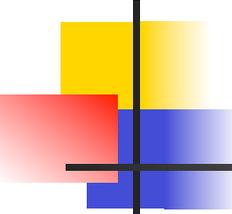
- “Our soul was illumined
- by a great idea
- which we felt in that instant
- and received with indescribable trust
- in the Divine Master.
- A word solemn and binding rose to our lips:
- **‘A Council!’”**



Blessed John XXIII



We must shake off the imperial dust that has accumulated on the throne of St. Peter since Constantine.

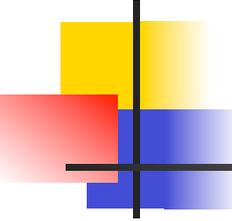


Jan 25, 1959

- At St Paul Outside the Walls
- Pope John & 17 Cardinals
- After Evening Prayer...
3 little announcements:
 - A Pastoral Synod for the Diocese of Rome
 - A Commission to revise the Code of Canon Law
 - An Ecumenical Council of the Universal Church,
 - with all Christians invited as observers



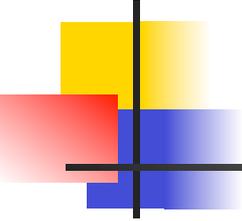
Basilica San Paolo
Fuori le Mura



Jan 25, 1959



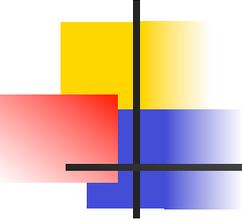
- “Humanly we could have expected
- that the cardinals
- after hearing our allocution
- might have crowded around to express approval and good wishes...
- Instead there was **a devout and impressive silence...**”



Despite their silence

- And even downright opposition
- And even a little undermining...

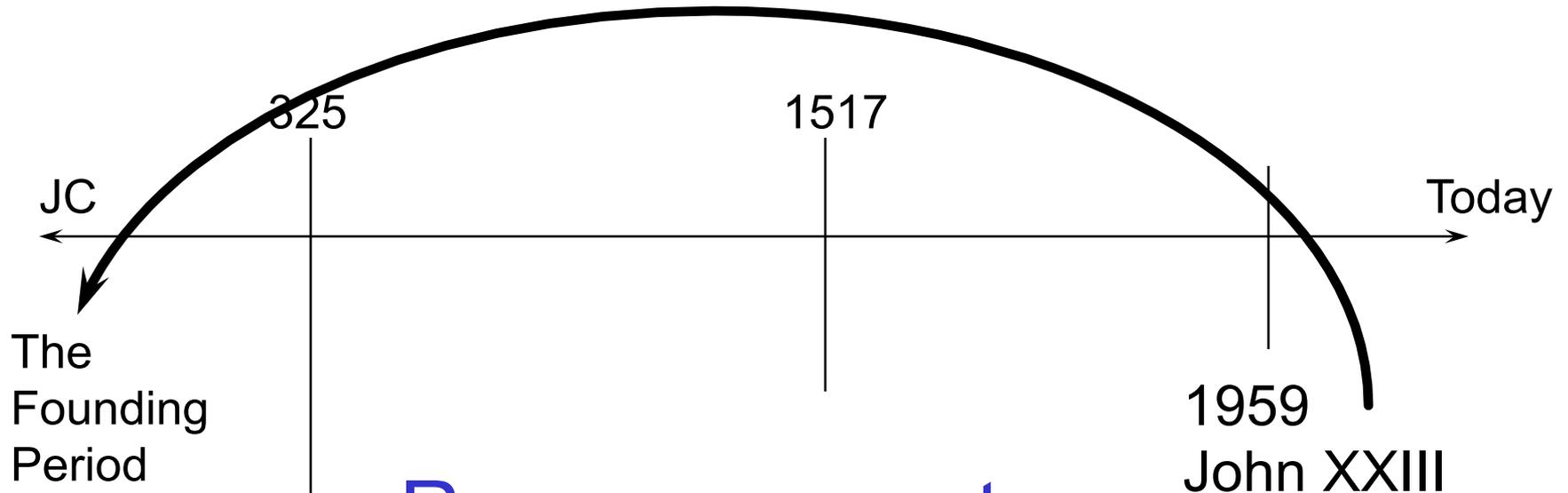
- The Council went forward
- With vigor and hope



How they did it

- There were many key questions before them
- How could they know what God wanted for the Church?
 - The Bishops themselves were “re-converted” to Christ
 - They followed a method that led them to decisions with great unity

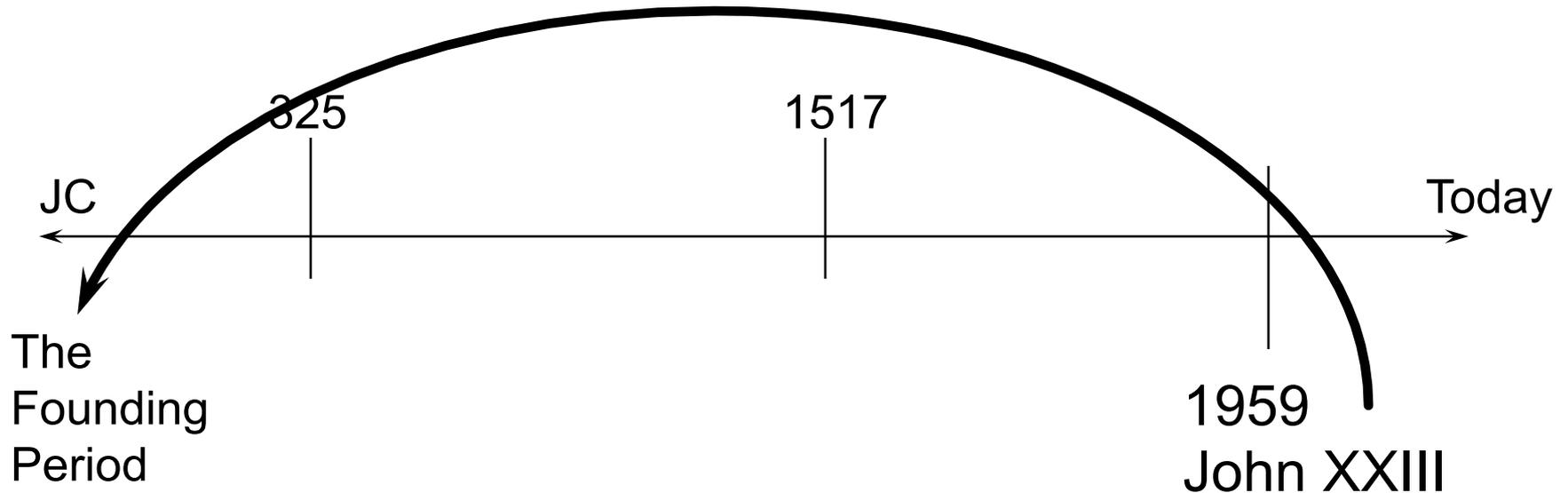
How Vatican II did its work:



Ressourcement:
Return to the *sources*
and let them teach you.

“Restoration”

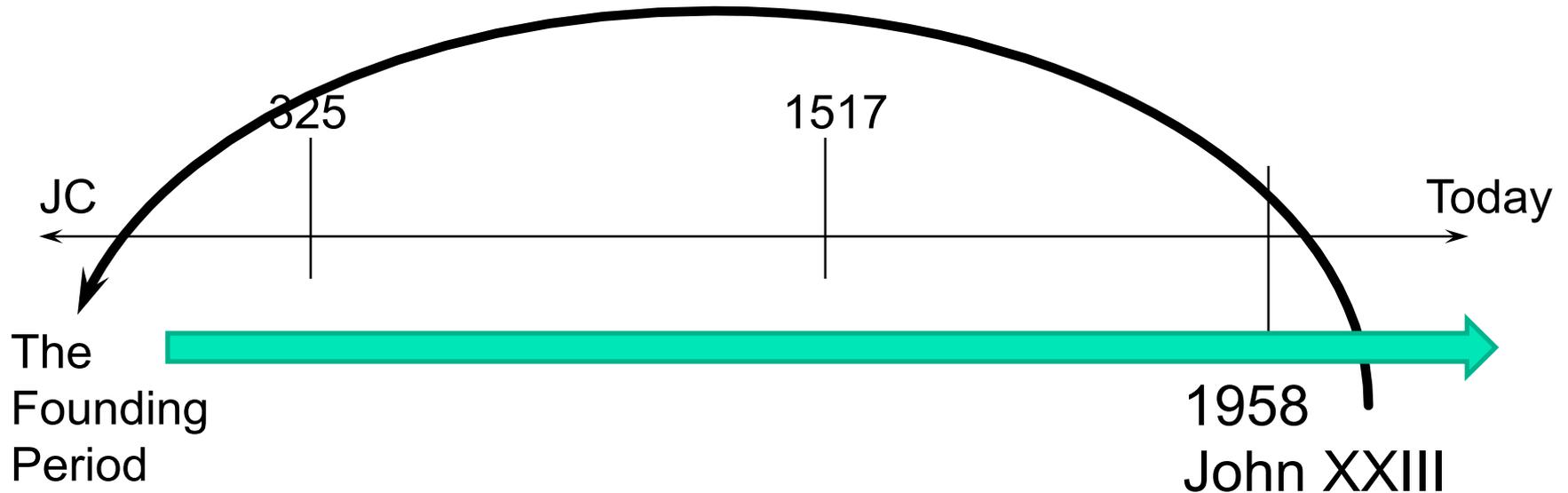
How Vatican II did its work:



Aggiornamento:

Read the *signs of the times*
and bring yourself up to date!

How Vatican II did its work:

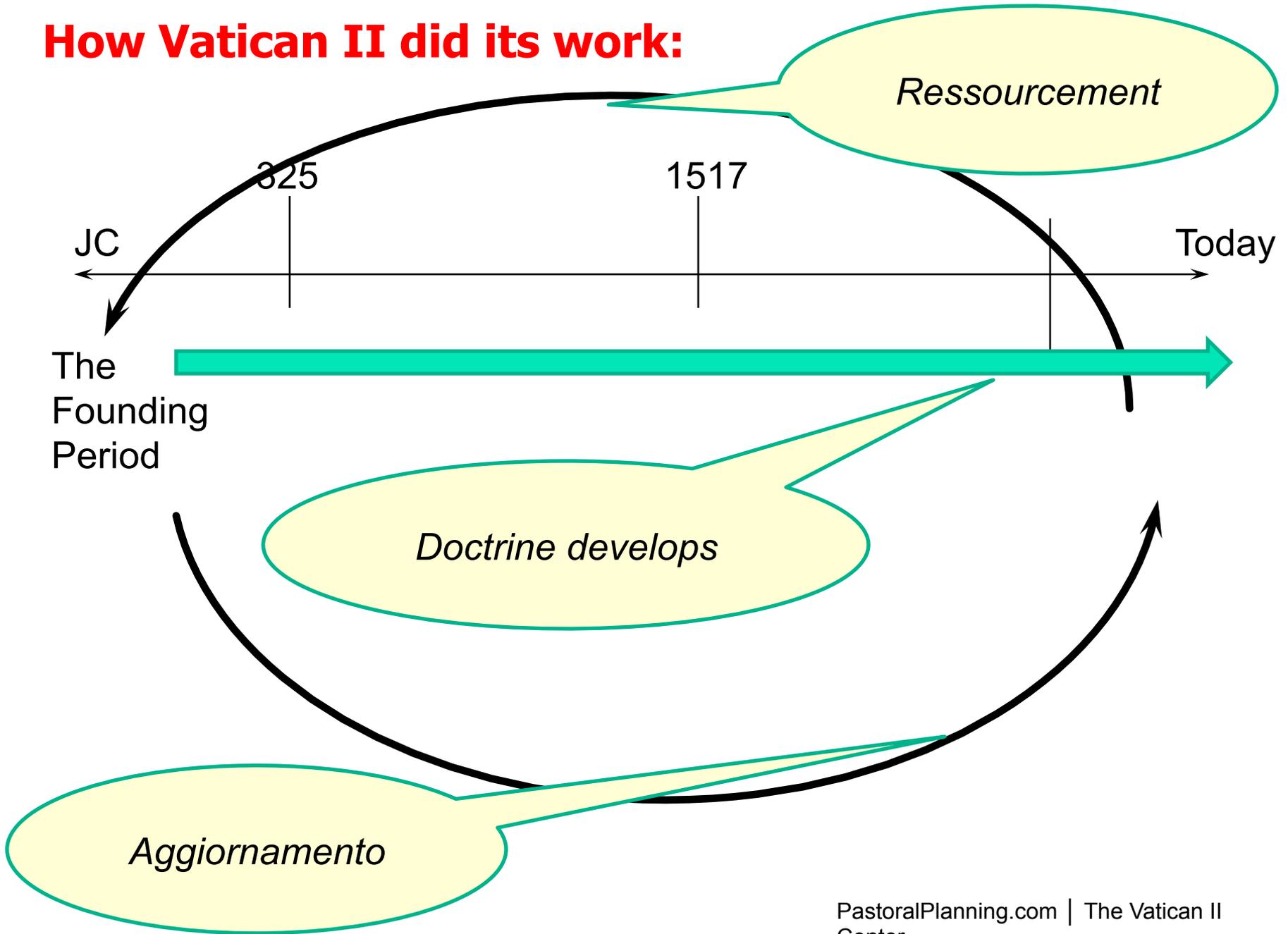


Doctrine develops:

Allow the *development* or *evolution* of church teaching

Dei Verbum #8

How Vatican II did its work:



The Universal Call to Holiness

The Call to an Encounter with Christ

36

From the early centuries

The Mass

Baptism – the Common Priesthood

Scripture - People of the Word

Church - People of God

Service as the MO of clergy

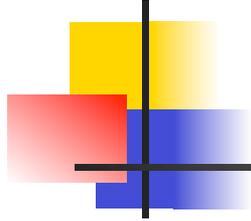
The Catechumenate (RCIA)

Work for Justice

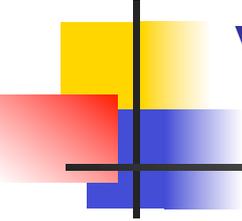
And, the most important thing restored

This is a call for all the Baptized.

It's a call to Discipleship.

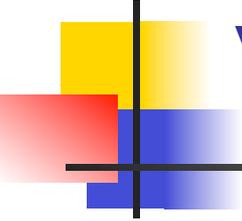


How did the Council
do its work?



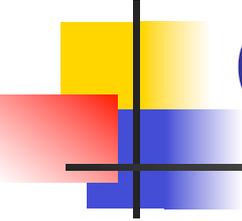
Vatican II

- 1962-1965
- All the bishops in the world + the Pope
 - They lived in small communities
 - All over the City of Rome
- 450 Theologians
- Thousands of religious men and women
- Thousands more lay people



Vatican II

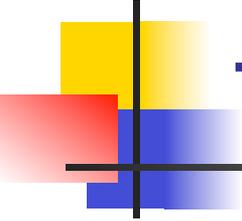
- Representatives from all the Christian churches in the world
 - The first time in 1000 years we all sat down together
- 1000 reporters
- Jews and many from other world religions
- **The world was watching**



Council procedures

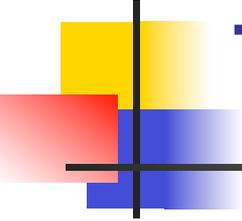
- Latin would be the language
- Voting was by punch card
- Speakers were given 10 minutes
 - But had to submit ahead in writing
 - In Latin
- The Pope was not in the Hall
- Very few lay people & no women were present in the beginning





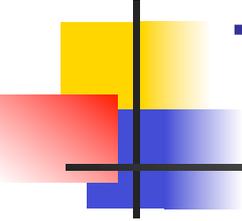
Turning Points of the Council

- Pope John's Opening Speech
- Expressed optimism about how God is leading the Church
- Rejected the idea of condemnations
 - “We demonstrate the validity of our teaching rather than condemning others.”
 - “We prefer to use the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity”



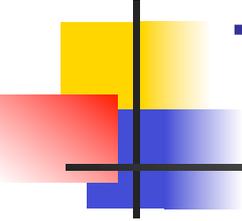
Turning Points

- The Cardinal Lienart intervention
 - Oct 13 1962, the first full day
 - Cardinal Frings seconded the motion
 - Immediate and full applause!
- Daily liturgy in various rites of the Church
 - Not all of them use Latin!



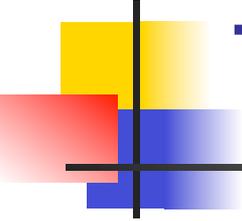
Turning Points

- Nov 14, 1962
 - Test vote on Liturgy
 - Passed with only 46 “no” votes
 - A clear message that the majority was large and intent on recovering elements of the faith which had been lost to the centuries.



Turning Points

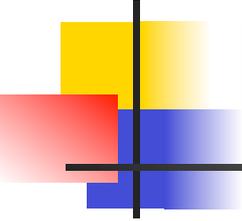
- The bishops interacting with each other
 - Since they were in Rome already...
 - They met the theologians in person
 - It was the world-church
 - “Illegal” rooftop parties
 - Which followed evening lectures
 - Including lay folks, women & men religious, seminarians, the press, & non-Catholics



The Crowds in the Piazza

- Aware of the proceedings
- Prayer and singing
 - Veni Creator Spiritus
- The whole church mingled together
- The world was watching
- The bishops knew this
 - It brought them together



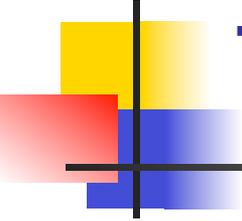


Pause

What do you hear
in this story about Vatican II?

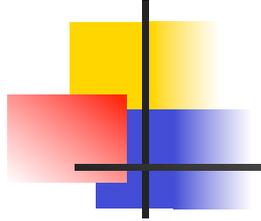
What strikes you as consoling?

What strikes you as challenging?



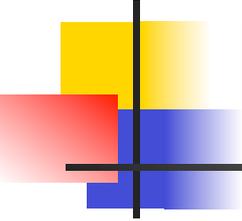
Today: 2 of those outcomes

- We meet the person of Christ DV 2
 - Our response is faith
 - And faith leads us to become disciples
- We are plunged into the paschal mystery SC 6
 - Self-giving love becomes our lifestyle
 - This is the life of a disciple



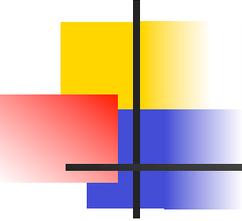
First...

The person of
Jesus Christ



Dei Verbum 2

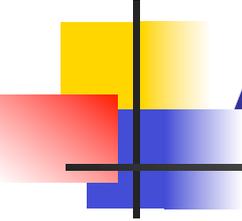
- Constitution on Divine Revelation
- Article 2:
 - God reveals God's own self to us
 - Calling us to draw near to God
 - Addressing us as his FRIENDS
 - Living among us
 - Revealing an intimate truth: Jesus Christ



Faith Formation Responds

- Saber y conocer

- General Directory for Catechesis 61ff



A shift in focus

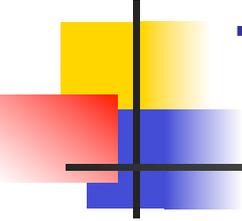
- Knowing the self through story -
Conocer

- Human stories reveal God's
Story

The Catechumenate

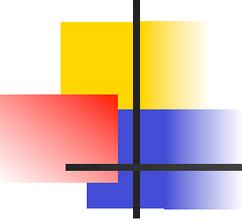
as an Inspiration...

- The story told from “over our shoulder”
- The unique and the shared “journey”
- Adults are free, responsible, flawed



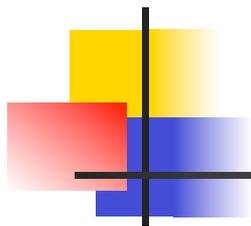
The power of story

- Hearing the Story of God's grace by telling it
- Christ in the text...before we know it
- The Other-ness and the Same-ness



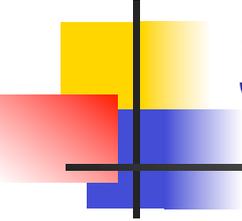
In parish life

- What is your own experience of telling your story and seeing God's hand in your life?
- OR
- What are the patterns from ministry that tell us faith is intimate?



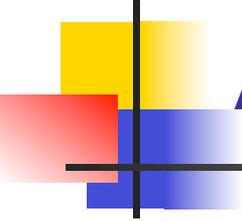
Second...

Being plunged Into the Paschal Mystery



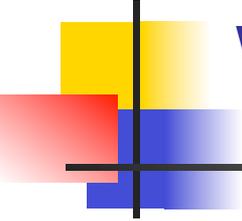
Sacrosanctum Concilium 6

- Constitution on Sacred Liturgy
- Article 6:
 - Christ sent his followers to preach the Gospel
 - Which is that we are set free by the dying of Jesus
 - Christ willed that the work of salvation would continue through sacrifice & sacrament
 - Hence, by baptism, we are immersed in the dying and rising of Christ



A story... (for example)

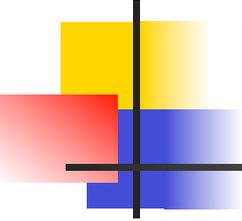
- Herman
- Catholic his whole life
- Mass every Sunday
 - \$2 in the collection
 - Paid for a new window in the parish church
- His wife – Alzheimer's



Who wants to die?

- Avoiding dying
- And yet... nothing else makes us happy.
- Very strange... One might even say **mysterious**

- Resurrection vs. Immortality



Psalm 63: 1, 3a

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you;

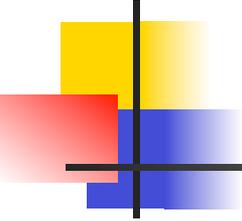
My flesh faints for you

as in a dry and weary land

where there is no water...

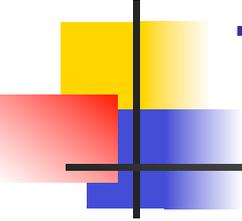
Because your steadfast love

is better than life...



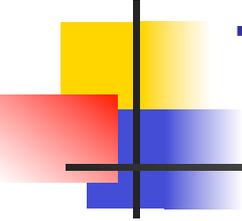
Better than life?

- The one thing more important than life is giving your life away in love
 - Sacrifice
 - Shedding one's own self (John XXIII)
- Paschal Mystery
 - Paschal = sacrifice of the lamb
 - Mystery = how Jesus taught us this would happen



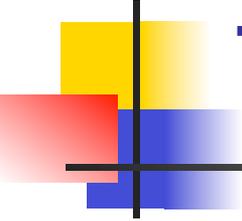
This is “healthy” dying

- Personal sacrifice on behalf of another
- Aware that human suffering is part of the picture
- But letting that lead us to really DONATE ourselves
- God acts in **our** sacrifice
- As God acted in **Jesus'** sacrifice



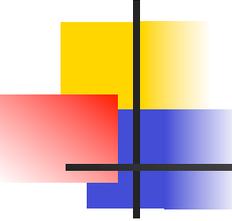
This is “healthy” dying

- Sometimes we see the chance to serve
 - We choose it freely
 - We offer ourselves in sacrifice & love
 - Marriage
 - Ordination
 - Friendship
 - Religious life
 - The poor & vulnerable
 - The unfortunate, the ill, & the lonely



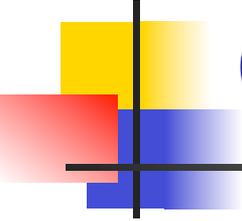
This is “healthy” dying

- Sometimes life thrusts upon us situations to which we must respond
 - Someone near us gets sick
 - We get sick
 - An accident happens
- We respond
 - Either with grace (healthy dying to self)
 - Or without it (anger, fear, or aggression)



Back to Herman

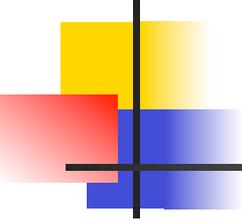
- When he finally told his story
- A miracle happened
 - It happened to Herman
 - But it also happened to you today
- To implement Vatican II
 - We help people tell their stories
 - In a setting which leads to meaning



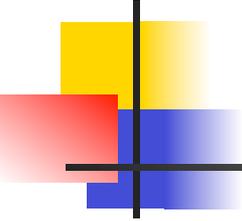
Conversation

What miracles have you witnessed?

(Name something
from the very recent weeks.)

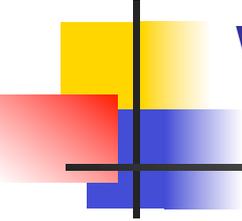


Getting down to brass tacks in the parish



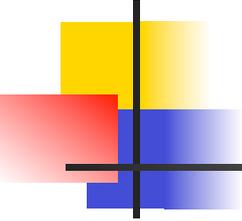
In the parish

- How can we help people
 - understand this?
 - grow in their ability to practice vulnerable self-giving & love?
- Especially for households
 - for the sake of marriage | friends | families?
 - and just for the sake of being happy?



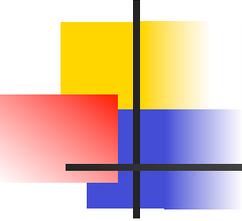
We might ask

- What are the demands of authentic Christian discipleship?
 - Not limited to parish activity
 - The real task is to animate the world with the spirit of Christ
 - Which begins at home
 - Always involves sacrificing oneself out of love for others



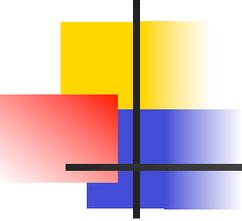
How does this affect parish?

- Time & Talent sign up Sundays
 - Tend to focus people on the parish
 - And catechize them to think that volunteering there is their “calling”
- Maybe instead
 - A covenant which reaches beyond parish needs to family, neighborhood, and even global needs



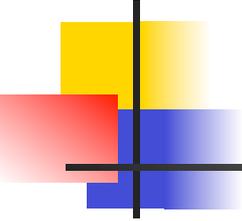
Discipleship flows from this

- The priestly life of ordinary Christians
- Is empowered by the self-giving love of Christ
- In the parish
 - Opportunities for faith sharing
 - Retreats
 - Focus on the domestic church
 - Reach out ecumenically



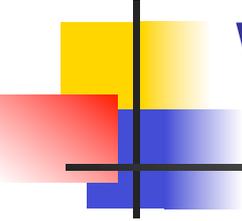
How does this affect parish?

- We must be less parish-centered
 - Ministry at the parish is important
 - But it is only a small part of the whole
 - It's easy to become lay-clerics
 - Ministry at the parish can become “the easy way out”
- We want to animate the world!
 - The parish is only a tool to help do that



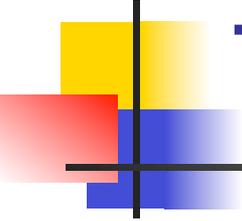
How does this affect parish?

- The parish can become a “resource center” for the church
- The church here understood as the people of God
 - Loving their spouses selflessly
 - Living in their homes
 - Working at their jobs
 - Raising their families



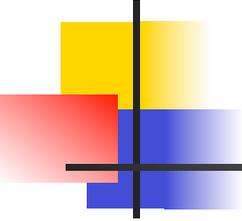
What did you hear?

- What key ideas struck you today?
- What do you take home with you by way of
 - Inspiration and hope?
 - Challenge



Thank you

- Thanks for being here with us
- But thanks even more for all the personal dying you give to your parish,
 - The personal sacrifices no one sees
 - The ways in which you donate your own very self to the parish
- What a wonderful, hopeful time we live in today!



For more resources

**Visit PastoralPlanning.com
and follow the links to the
Vatican II Center.**