

# Hierarchy of the Catholic Church

Title	Description	Flock
<b>Pope</b>	<p>Head of the church. The pope oversees the Catholic Church and its faithful from his home in the Vatican City, and independent nation situated in Rome.</p> <p><i>Pope Leo XIV</i> vatican.va</p>	<b>The Catholic Church</b>
<b>Cardinal</b>	<p>Appointed by the pope. As a body, the College of Cardinals advises the pope and, on his death, elects a new pope. Most have additional duties, such as leading a diocese or archdiocese or managing a department of the Roman Curia.</p>	
<b>Archbishop</b>	<p>An archbishop is a bishop of a main or metropolitan diocese, also called an archdiocese. A cardinal can concurrently hold the title.</p> <p><i>Cardinal Blasé J. Cupich</i> archchicago.org</p>	<b>Archdiocese</b> <i>Chicago</i>
<b>Bishop</b>	<p>A bishop, like a priest, is ordained to this station. He is a teacher of church doctrine, a priest of sacred worship, and a minister of church government. Our diocese, Springfield in Illinois, has 129 parishes.</p> <p><i>Bishop Thomas John Paprocki</i> dio.org</p>	<b>Diocese</b> <i>Springfield in Illinois</i>
<b>Dean</b>	<p>A priest appointed by the bishop to lead a deanery (regional group of parishes). He is called a Vicar Forane, Our diocese has 5 deaneries.</p> <p><i>Very Rev. Jeffrey Goeckner</i></p>	<b>Deanery</b> <i>Alton</i>
<b>Priest</b>	<p>An ordained minister authorized to celebrate the Sacraments, preach the Gospel, and shepherd a parish. He can be with a particular religious order or committed to serving a diocese.</p> <p><i>Rev. Donald Patrick Gibbons</i> stcparish.org</p>	<b>Parish</b> <i>St. Cecilia</i>
<b>Deacon</b>	<p>A transitional deacon is a seminarian studying for the priesthood. A permanent deacon can be married and assists a priest by performing some of the sacraments.</p> <p><i>Deacon Joseph Zagorski</i></p>	<i>St. Cecilia</i>

