



That Christ abides with the teaching body of the Church, taken in its complexity, that is, Peter together with the other Apostles, Peter's successor and theirs, and thus assures the inerrancy and completeness of their teaching, be it in the remotest nation of the earth, and to the end of time, is manifest from the promise he gave and the commission they received on the mountain of Galilee after his resurrection: "And Jesus coming spoke to them, saying: All power is given to me in heaven and in earth. Going therefore teach ye all nations: baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." (St. Matth. xxviii, 18-20.)

Here was a commission which far exceeded the strength of eleven poor fishermen. The memory even of the most gifted of mortals, humanly speaking, could never have been equal to the task of recalling all that Jesus had done for the instruction of the Apostles, nor all his lessons and admonitions; for St. John tells us in the closing words of his gospel: "there are also many other things which Jesus did: which if they were written every one, the world itself, I think, would not be able to contain the books that should be written." But the Master had already fully provided for this, and made sure of their recalling all He had taught them; witness the promise in His last memorable discourse before His passion. This promise bore not only on the past, but on what was to come, to aid them in their teaching: "These things have I spoken to you, abiding with you. But the Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring all things to your mind, whatsoever I have said to you." (St. John xiv, 25, 26.) . . . "I have yet many things to say to you; but you cannot bear them now. But when the Spirit of truth is come, he will teach you all truth. For he