

[Archbishops are not a separate Order from the Bishops; nor Deans, Archdeacons, &c. a separate Order from Priests.]

Q. How long have these Orders existed?

A. From the days of the Apostles.

Q. Who have authority to ordain Priests and Deacons?

A. Bishops only.

Q. Were there any more than these three Orders of the Clergy in the first ages of the Church?

A. These three, and these only were every where established.

Q. Did Christ set St. Peter above the rest of the Apostles, and ordain any succession of Popes after him to be over all the Bishops through the whole world?

A. No. Christ plainly declares the twelve Apostles to be equal, and the Apostles, St. Peter himself as well as others, plainly hold the same language in their writings.

Q. When did the pretensions of the Popes of Rome to rule the whole Christian Church first begin?

A. About 600 years after Christ.

Q. Did the power of the Popes then rise at once to its full height?

A. No. It rose by degrees.

Q. Are we to think that God never blesses the Ministry of those who are not ordained by Bishops?

A. No. We know that they are often faithful and profitable; but we must carefully keep the old