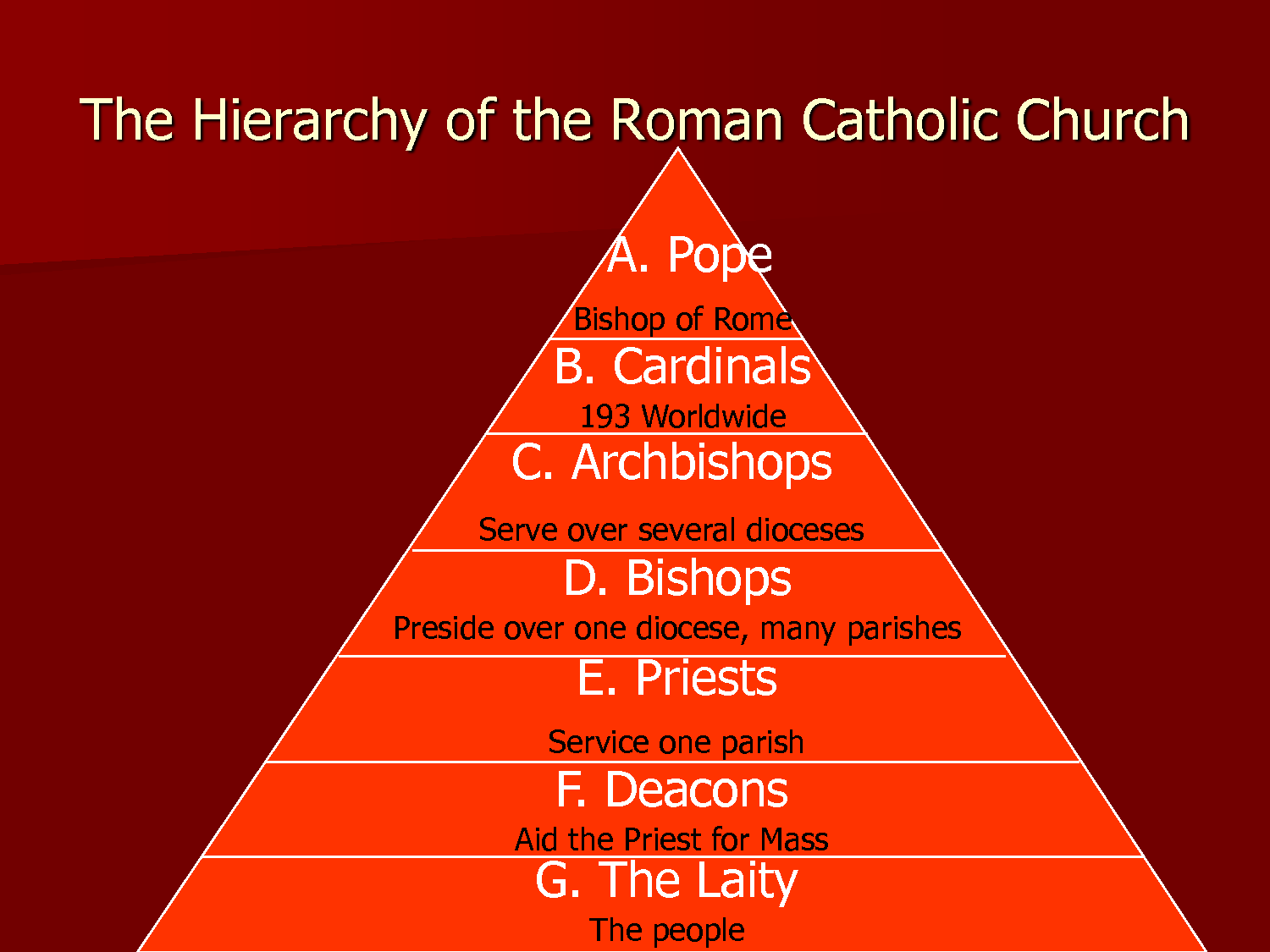
**RS Notes: Transforming the Roman World**

**New Germanic Kingdoms**

* Germanic peoples began moving into the lands of the Roman Empire around the 3rd Century
  + Visigoths occupied Spain and Italy(Ostrogoths later took control)
  + Angles and Saxons- Britain
  + Saxons- Northern Germany
  + Franks- France
* Longest lasting was the K. of the Franks
  + **Clovis** established it around 500
    - Strong military leader
    - First Germanic ruler to convert to Christianity- won support of Roman Catholic Church

**The Role of the Church**

* By the 4th C, Christianity had become the supreme religion of the Roman Empire
  + Developed a system of organization
    - Priests head local parishes
    - A group of parishes=bishopric
      * Headed by a bishop
    - A group of bishoprics=archbishopric
      * Headed by an archbishop
    - The Bishop of Rome came to claim he was the leader of the Roman Catholic Church (the Pope)
      * Based on the belief that Jesus gave Peter the keys to Heaven
        + Peter=1st Bishop of Rome (1st Pope)
* Most Western Europeans accepted the pope as leader, but his role was undecided
  + **Pope Gregory I** (590-604) extended the power of the papacy
    - Took political control over Rome and surrounding areas (**Papal States**)
      * Used Church revenues to raise armies
        + Fought off the Byzantines and the Lombards
    - Extended his power within the Church
    - Converted non-Christians through the monastic movement
* **Monks** separate themselves from worldly, everyday life to dedicate themselves to God
  + **Monasticism**=living the life of a monk
  + 6th C- St. Benedict founded an order
    - Divided the day into activities
      * Emphasize prayer and physical labor
      * All aspects of Benedictine life were communal
        + An **abbot** (“father”) ruled each Benedictine monastery
    - Took a vow of poverty
      * Became the heroes of Christian civilization due to their commitment
    - Became the social workers of society
    - Monasteries became important centers of learning
  + Monks would spread Christianity
    - **Missionaries**= people sent out to carry a religious message
* Women
  + Could become **nuns**- dedicate their lives to God
  + Lived in convents, headed by abbesses
  + Many belonged to royal houses
    - Only way for women to receive an education
    - The abbess **Hilda** founded a monastery in Whitby in 657
      * Gave learning an important role
      * Educated 5 future bishops

**Charlemagne and the Carolingians**

* 7th century- Frankish kings lost their power
  + Chief officers of the king took control
    - **Pepin** assumed the throne
* Pepin’s son was Charles the Great (**Charlemagne**)
  + He was a strong warrior and statesman, and a devout Christian
    - He expanded the Frankish Kingdom into the **Carolingian Empire** (Western and Central Europe)
  + 800- he was crowned **Roman Emperor**
    - Testifies to the enduring nature of the Roman Empire
    - Symbolized the coming together of the Christian and Germanic elements of society
      * The Pope crowned him Emperor
* Charlemagne strongly supported learning
  + Led to the **Carolingian Renaissance** (rebirth)
    - Renewed interest in Latin culture and classical works (Greeks and Romans)
    - Monasteries played an important role
      * Benedictine monks copied Christian and Latin manuscripts in writing rooms, called **scriptoria**
      * Most of the Roman works we have today exist because of these Carolingian monks

