

Lyon, France  
December 23, 1967

Dear Sister,

It is impossible for me to answer you at length, but the gist of the answer is simple.

- 1) The greatest problem is rather to know more fully if the faithful of the Catholic Church will in this time of change and confusion be able to maintain and deepen their faith, such as the Magisterium, the teaching Church proposes it to them, in the spirit of the Gospel. Whether they will be the faithful and so fulfill their role, or whether they will let themselves be drawn into a more or less hidden apostasy.
- 2) My feeling that the Catholic faith is the right faith for me is from the testimony which has come down to us through the generations of Christians, especially the witness of the saints of the Church, to the effect that I ought to believe in Jesus Christ and through him in God---Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Meditation on the Gospel, and comparing it with everything else that the religious history of the human race offers us, can only strengthen and illuminate that faith.

It would be very stupid, and very ungrateful too, indeed it would show how little one has lived by faith, to desert the Church of Christ, and especially at the very time when she is asking us, more insistently than ever, to renew ourselves in the spirit of Christ.

Devotedly yours,  
Henri de Lubac, SJ

*{In handwritten postscript written along the side of the letter he had added the following:}*

P.S. If there be any among you who hesitate to make the endeavor listen to my experience: to live generously the Christian or religious life in the way the Church proposes, to accept courageously the sacrifice involved – in that will be their joy and they will be a strong rallying support for others.