



## Catholic Tree Trim (from Thailand)

There are more Roman Catholics in the world than there are believers of any other religious tradition--not merely more Roman Catholics than all other Christians combined, but more Roman Catholics than all Muslims or Buddhists or Hindus. The papacy is the oldest continuing absolute monarchy in the world. To millions the pope is the infallible interpreter of divine revelation and the Vicar of Christ.

During the Age of Discovery, the Catholic Church inaugurated a major effort to spread Christianity in the New World and to convert the Native Americans and other indigenous people. The missionary effort was a major part of and a partial justification for the colonial efforts of European powers such as Spain, France and Portugal.

The Catholic Church has designated the four weeks preceding Christmas as Advent, a time to “prepare the way of the Lord” for His coming as our King and Savior.

Showing the wide reach of Catholicism and Christianity across the world this deep navy blue hand embroidered cross (with bronzed thread and bead work) tree decoration was hand stitched by a women's collective in Thailand.

