

ABRIDGED
CATECHISM
OF
CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

BY

REV. JOS. DEHARBE, S. J.

NEW EDITION

B X

1961

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ABRIDGED CATECHISM

OF

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

BY

REV. JOS. DEHARBE, S. J.

NEW EDITION.

SPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR USE IN THE PAROCHIAL
SCHOOLS OF THE UNITED STATES.

FR. PUSTET,

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MICHAEL AUGUSTINE,

Archbishop of New York.

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ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL,

325 WEST EIGHTH STREET,
CINCINNATI, O.



March 15th, 1902.

Messrs. Fr. Pustet & Co.

Gentlemen:—Your new edition of Deharbe's Catechism in German and English, has been examined and recommended by a very competent theologian of my diocese.

Consequently I approve it ; and I allow it to be used in this diocese.

WILLIAM HENRY ELDER,

Archbp. Cincinnati.

BISHOP'S HOUSE

198 EAST BROAD STREET

Columbus, Ohio, March 9th, 1902.

Fr. Pustet & Co.

New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I take much pleasure in being able to approve and recommend your German-English edition of Deharbe's Catechism. It will be difficult to find a Catechism superior to Deharbe's. It has gone through many editions. Unfortunately in some editions changes were made, which, instead of improving rather impaired the author's work. The edition which you have chosen for circulation is one which has not been subject to these alterations. The doctrine is clearly stated and questions follow questions in logical order.

In addition to the small Catechism in use in some of our schools, it is not only advisable but necessary to introduce, at least in the higher grades, a larger one. We are living in times when our children must be well grounded in the principles of their faith and the teachings of the Church. For obtaining this fuller instruction, I recommend in a special manner your edition of Deharbe's.

Pastors who find it necessary to require the children to study the Catechism in the German and English languages, will find this work of yours very serviceable.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

HENRY MOELLER,
Bishop of Columbus.

EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE,

Cleveland, Ohio, April 16th, 1902.

Fr. Pustet & Co.

*Thanks for the new edition of Catechism of
Christian Doctrine by Deharbe, S. J. It needs no
commendation. Its use almost everywhere is its
best praise.*

IGNATIUS F. HORSTMANN,

Bishop of Cleveland.

Prayers and Instructions.

The Sign of the Cross.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name ; thy kingdom come ; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Angelical Salutation.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee ; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty. Creator of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered

under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried ; he descended into hell ; the third day he rose again from the dead ; he ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty ; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Ten Commandments of God.

1. I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before me ; thou shalt not make to thyself any graven thing to adore it.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
3. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long upon the earth.
5. Thou shalt not kill.
6. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
7. Thou shalt not steal.
8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, nor his field, nor his servant, nor his handmaid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is his.

The Commandments of the Church.

1. To observe the holy days of obligation.
2. To devoutly hear Mass on all Sundays and holy days of obligation.
3. To observe the days of fast and abstinence appointed by the Church.
4. To confess at least once a year to a duly authorized priest.
5. To worthily receive the Holy Communion at Easter or thereabout and if possible in the Parish church.

In the United States we also have the duty to contribute to the support of our pastors.

The Seven Sacraments.

- 1) Baptism ; 2) Confirmation ; 3) Holy Eucharist ; 4) Penance ; 5) Extreme Unction ; 6) Holy Orders ; 7) Matrimony.

The Six Truths which every Catholic should know and believe.

- 1) That there is but one God in three Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost ;
- 2) That God has created, preserves and governs all things ;
- 3) That the soul of man is immortal ;
- 4) That the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity became man and died on the cross for us ;

- 5) That no one can be saved without the grace of God ;
- 6) That God will judge all men.

The Three Theological Virtues.

Faith. O my God, I believe in Thee, and I firmly believe all Thou hast revealed and proposest through Thy holy Catholic Church for my belief ; because Thou, the Eternal and Infalible Truth, hast said it.

Hope. O my God, I hope in Thee, and I hope to obtain, through the merits of Jesus Christ, the remission of my sins, Thy grace and life everlasting ; because Thou, the Almighty, Merciful and Faithful God, hast promised it.

Charity. O my God, I love Thee with my whole heart and above all things ; because Thou art my loving Father, the Supreme and most Amiable Good. For Thy sake I also love my neighbor, friend or enemy, as myself.

Contrition.

O my God, I am sorry for all my sins from the bottom of my heart ; because I have offended Thee and have rightly deserved to be punished by Thee ; but more so, because I have offended Thee, my loving Father and Greatest Benefactor, the Supreme and most Amiable Good, whom I now love above all things. I detest all my sins ; and I firmly resolve to amend

my life, never more to offend Thee by sin, and to avoid carefully the occasion of sin. Grant me Thy grace to do this. Amen.

The Angelus.

- 1) The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost. Hail Mary, etc.
 - 2) Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary, etc.
 - 3) And the Word was made flesh. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary, etc.
- Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God!
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross be brought to the glory of His resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the souls of the Faithful Departed! Our Father. Hail Mary.

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon them! May they rest in peace! Amen.

The Rosary.

In the Name of the Father, etc. I believe in God, the Father, etc.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost ! As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end.

Amen. Our Father.

Hail Mary. Jesus increase our faith.

Hail Mary. Strengthen our hope.

Hail Mary. In flame our hearts with the fire of divine love.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

1. The Joyful Mysteries.

1. Whom thou didst conceive of the Holy Ghost.
2. Whom thou didst carry to St. Elizabeth.
3. Who was born of thee at Bethlehem.
4. Whom thou didst present in the temple.
5. Whom thou didst find in the temple.

2. The Sorrowful Mysteries.

1. Who sweat blood for us.
2. Who was scourged for us.
3. Who was crowned with thorns for us.
4. Who carried the heavy cross for us.
5. Who was crucified for us

3. The Glorious Mysteries.

1. Who arose from the dead.
2. Who ascended into heaven.
3. Who sent down the Holy Ghost.
4. Who assumed thee into heaven.
5. Who crowned thee in Heaven.

**Prayer to the Blessed Virgin against
Temptations.**

Hail Mary, etc.

O my Queen, O my Mother, to thee I offer myself without reserve ; and as a token of my devotion, I consecrate to thee this day my eyes, my ears, my tongue, my heart and my whole being. Since I belong to thee, O my good Mother, protect and defend me as thy own. My Mistress and my Mother, remember that I belong to thee ; defend and protect me as thy own.

The Memorare.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, and sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother ! To thee I come, before thee

I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

The Salve Regina.

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life, our Sweetness and our Hope, to thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and, after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O pious, O sweet Virgin Mary!

Prayer before Instruction in Christian Doctrine.

Come, Holy Ghost, fill the hearts of thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Thy love, Thou, who didst unite in one faith all nations and all tongues. O God, who by the light of the Holy Ghost didst instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant to us by this same Holy Spirit, a love and relish of what is right and just, and a constant enjoyment of His comforts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Instruction in Christian Doctrine.

O God, whose mercy is infinite and whose love is inexhaustible, we thank Thee for the in-

struction which we have received through Thy grace. We beseech Thee to make us be ever mindful of the truths of our religion and faithfully live up to them that we may obtain Thy eternal rewards, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Morning Prayers.

In the name of the Father, etc.
O God, I give Thee thanks for having so graciously preserved me this night from a sudden and unprovided-for death. Grant that I may never more offend Thee by sin.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, with all the Angels and Saints, and with Thy Holy Church, I offer up to Thee all my prayers, my actions, my sufferings, my thoughts and my desires of this day with that intention which Thou hast in continually praying and offering Thyself for us, especially for Thy Holy Church ; for the Pope, and for the conversion of heretics, infidels and sinners.

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, show thyself a loving mother to me this day and every day of my life, and obtain for me the grace of perseverance ! Holy Angel Guardian, assist me in all my necessities ; enlighten, govern and protect me. And thou, my Patron Saint, be my advocate with God, that I may imitate thy vir-

tues here below and be united to thee in everlasting glory. Amen.

I desire this day to gain all the indulgences which it is possible for me to gain. Our Father, etc. Hail Mary, etc. I believe in God, etc.

Evening Prayers.

In the Name of the Father, etc.

Save us, O Lord, when awake, and watch over us when asleep, that we may watch with Christ and rest in comfort.

Merciful God, I thank Thee for all the gifts of body and soul Thou hast this day bestowed upon me ; protect me this night in Thy infinite Mercy from all the snares of the devil, from all evils of body and soul, especially from a sudden and unforeseen death. Amen.

(Here make a short examination of conscience, to find out the sins you have committed during the day ; then make an Act of Contrition.

O my God, I am, etc. (Page VIII.)

In the name of my Crucified Redeemer I go to rest. May He protect me now and ever, and lead me to everlasting life. Amen.

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God. Despise not our petitions in our necessities, but

deliver us from all dangers, O ever glorious and blessed Virgin.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give you my heart, and my soul !

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist me in my last agony !

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with you !

O angel of God, whom God hath appointed to be my guardian, enlighten, protect, direct and govern me.

Our Father, etc. Hail Mary, etc. I believe in God, etc.

When taking Holy Water say :

May the almighty and merciful God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost bless me. Amen.

Grace before and after Meals.

Before Meals.

In the Name, etc.

The eyes of all hope in Thee, O Lord, and thou givest them meat in due season. Thou openest Thy hand, and fillest with blessing every living creature. (Ps. 144, 15, 16.) Glory be to the Father, etc. Lord have mercy on us ! Christ,

have mercy on us ! Lord, have mercy on us !
Our Father. Hail Mary.

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which
we are about to receive from Thy bounty,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

• **After Meals.**

In the name of the Father, etc.

We give Thee thanks, O Lord, Heavenly
Father, for all Thy benefits, which we have
received from Thy bounty, who livest and
reignest world without end. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, etc. Lord, have mercy
on us ! Christ, have mercy on us ! Lord, have
mercy on us ! Our Father. Hail Mary.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, for Thy name's sake, to
reward with eternal life all those who do us
good. Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through
the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Devotions for Confession.

Prayer to the Holy Ghost.

My God and most merciful Father, I come to Thee with the sincere desire to make a good confession, that Thou mayest receive me again as Thy beloved child. But since I am unable to do anything without Thy divine help, I earnestly beseech Thee to have pity on me, and to send the Holy Ghost with His assisting grace into my poor heart.

Come, Holy Ghost, enlighten my mind, that I may clearly know my sins ; move my heart, that I may repent of them, sincerely confess them, and amend my life. Our Father, etc. Hail Mary, etc.

Examination of Conscience.

Reflect seriously and ask yourself : When did I make my last confession ? Was this confession a worthy one ? Did I perhaps wilfully omit a mortal sin ? Did I perform the penance ?

The following are the sins which children might easily commit ; think seriously which of them you have committed, not only of mortal sins but also of venial. Should you have committed mortal sins, you must also ask yourself, how often you have committed them.

Against the First Commandment of God.

Have I often neglected to say my morning or evening prayers, or grace before and after meals ?

Have I said my prayers without devotion or have I misbehaved in church ?

Have I neglected to study my catechism, because I was too lazy ?

Have I been ashamed of my religion ?

Have I attended Protestant services ?

Against the Second Commandment of God.

Have I used the name of God or other holy names irreverently ?

Have I cursed ?

Have I sworn thoughtlessly ?

Have I mocked holy things ?

Against the Third Commandment of God.

Have I, through my own fault, missed Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation ?

Have I been late for Mass on these days through my own fault ? Was it very late ? Have I been wilfully distracted during Mass ?

Have I, without necessity, performed servile works on Sundays and holy days ?

Have I neglected to attend catechism ?

Against the Fourth Commandment of God.

Have I been disobedient to my parents ?

Have I been rude and obstinate with my parents ?

- Have I grieved or provoked my parents?
- Have I neglected to pray for my parents?
- Have I wished them evil?
- Have I raised my hand against them?
- Have I ridiculed aged persons?
- Have I been lazy or inattentive at school?
- Have I been absent from school through my own fault?
- Have I been disobedient or impudent to my teacher?
- Have I intentionally eaten meat on days of abstinence?
- Have I in any other way transgressed the commandments of the Church?

Against the Fifth Commandment of God.

- Have I quarreled with my brothers and sisters or with others?
- Have I given them nicknames or struck them or wished them evil?
- Have I envied or begrudged others?
- Have I been angry?
- Have I been unkind to others?
- Have I hated others?
- Have I been intemperate in eating or drinking?
- Have I led others into sin? Into what sin?

Against the Sixth and Ninth Commandments of God.

- Have I wilfully entertained impure thoughts?
- Have I taken pleasure in them?
- Have I desired to see or to do immodest things?

Have I wilfully looked at immodest things?
Have I listened with pleasure to immodest
language?

Have I read or spoken of immodest things or
sung immodest songs?

Have I done or permitted immodest things?
Alone or with others?

**Against the Seventh and Tenth Commandments
of God.**

Have I desired to steal?

Have I secretly taken eatables?

Have I stolen? What? Was it of great value?

Have I stolen anything from my parents?
What?

Have I accepted stolen things?

Have I failed to return found or borrowed
things?

Have I injured my neighbor's property?

Against the Eighth Commandment of God.

Have I told lies? Have I injured others by
these lies? Did I act as a hypocrite?

Have I made known the hidden faults of
others without necessity or exaggerated
them?

Have I spoken evil of others which was not
true?

Contrition and Firm Purpose of Amendment.

O Heavenly Father! Alas, how often have I
sinned! I am not worthy to be called Thy child.
The angels who sinned, Thou didst condemn

at once, but me, Thou didst still spare. Adam and Eve Thou didst banish from Paradise immediately after their fall; yet Thou didst bear with me. So many have been cast into hell, others have been condemned to everlasting and terrible sufferings in purgatory, and still I have been spared. How grateful should I have been and what ingratitude have I not shown! I have been unmindful of the benefits Thou hast bestowed upon me. Thou hast created me for Heaven, and I have cared little or nothing for it. Thy only begotten Son has redeemed me through His bitter Passion and Death, and for love of me He shed even the last drop of His blood. But by my sins I have been most ungrateful and unfaithful to Him, and I have thereby even renewed His Passion. Forgive me, O God! I acknowledge that I have done wrong; I am heartily sorry that I have not loved Thee, that I have despised and grievously offended Thee. I am now determined to earnestly amend my life.

O my God, I am sorry, etc. (Page VIII.)

If, by the help of God's grace, you have avoided mortal sins, then make an act of contrition and a firm purpose of amendment of at least some one or other venial sin. If you must wait some time until you have a chance to go to confession, then pray the Rosary or any other prayers, but do not disturb others by whispering or restlessness.

Prayer after Confession.

O my God, how great is Thy love and goodness ! By the words of the priest Thou hast pardoned my sins. I am again Thy child. Thanks and praise to Thee for Thy great mercy ! I will never forget this grace, and I will gratefully strive to avoid carefully sin and the occasions of sin. Bless, O God, this my resolution, and give me strength that I may not falter. For this I beseech Thee through the merits of Jesus Christ, Who redeemed me by His precious Blood and cleansed me from my sins. Amen.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, assist me that I may never again lose the grace of God ! Holy Angel Guardian, forsake me not. Amen.

Now say, if possible, the penance given by the priest. Never forget the great grace which God has given you, by forgiving your sins.





CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE.

INTRODUCTION.

Why are we in this world ?

We are in this world, that we might know God, love Him, serve Him and thereby gain Heaven.

Can we do this by our own power ?

No ; we need the assistance of Divine Grace.

What must we do, that we might know God, love Him, serve Him and be saved ?

We must :

- 1) Believe whatsoever God has revealed ;
- 2) Keep all the commandments we are commanded by God to observe ;
- 3) Make use of the means of grace which God has given to us for our salvation.

How shall we learn to know these three things thoroughly ?

By studying the Christian Doctrine.

PART I.

FAITH.

1. What must we believe ?

We must believe all that God has revealed.

2. Who teaches us, what God has revealed ?

The Catholic Church.

3. By what sign does a Catholic generally profess his faith ?

By the sign of the Cross.

THE APOSTLES' CREED.

4. Where do we learn the chief things which all should know and believe ?

In the twelve articles of the Apostles' Creed.

5. Why is it called Apostolic ?

Because it has come down to us from the Apostles.

6. Say the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, etc. (See Page V.)

THE FIRST ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth."

§ 1. ON GOD.

7. Who is God?

God is the Lord of Heaven and earth, the Author of all good.

***8. Can we see God?**

No; we cannot see God with our bodily eyes, because He is a Spirit.

9. What do we mean by "God is eternal"?

By "God is eternal" we mean, that He is ever existing, without beginning or end.

God is and will forever be
The same throughout eternity.

10. What does "God is omnipresent" mean?

"God is omnipresent" means, that He is everywhere—in Heaven, on earth and in all places.

11. What does "God is all-knowing" mean?

"God is all-knowing" means, that He knows all things, even our most secret thoughts.

Where'er I am, and what I do,
I'm seen by God my Father too.

12. What is meant by "God is almighty"?

"God is almighty" means, that He can do everything He wishes.

13. What does "God is Holy" mean?

"God is Holy" means, that He loves and wills only what is good and hates what is evil.

14. What is meant by “ God is just ” ?

“ God is just ” means, that He rewards the good and punishes the wicked.

15. What is meant by “ God is good ” ?

“ God is good ” means, that He loves His creatures and bestows numberless blessings upon them.

16. What does “ God is merciful ” mean ?

“ God is merciful ” means, that He willingly pardons all penitent sinners.

§ 2. THE THREE DIVINE PERSONS.

17. How many persons are there in God ?

There are three persons in God : the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

18. Is each of these three persons God ?

Yes ; the Father is true God, the Son is true God and the Holy Ghost is true God.

19. Is there only one God ?

Yes ; the three persons are but one God.

20. What do we call the mystery of one God in three persons ?

The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. (Feast of the Holy Trinity.)

Praised be now and evermore

The Triune God, Whom we adore.

§ 3. GOD, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

1. *The Creation and Government of the World.*

21. Why do we call God “ Creator of Heaven and earth ” ?

Because God created the whole world, Heaven and earth.

22. What does “ to create ” mean ?

“ To create ” means, to make something out of nothing.

23. How did God create the world ?

By His almighty will.

24. Does God always care for the world ?

Yes ; God preserves and governs the world.

25. How does God preserve the world ?

He causes the world to continue.

26. How does God govern the world ?

He takes care of everything, He regulates and conducts all things.

2. *The Angels.*

27. Did God create anything else, besides the visible world ?

God also created an invisible world, namely, numberless spirits, called Angels.

28. How were the Angels created by God ?

They were all good and happy.

29. Did all the Angels remain good and happy ?
No ; many sinned and were cast into hell.
These are called devils or evil spirits.

30. How do the good Angels act towards us ?
The good Angels love us ; therefore they protect us from harm in body and soul, pray for us and exhort us to do good.

31. What do we call the Angel who is given to us by God for our special protection ?
We call him our Guardian Angel.

32. What is our duty towards our Guardian Angel ?
We should remember and reverence his presence, devoutly pray to him and cheerfully follow his inspirations. (Feast of the holy Guardian Angel.)

3. Our First Parents.

33. Which is the chief creature on earth ?
Man is the chief creature on earth.

34. What are the names of the first human beings God created ?
The first human beings were Adam and Eve.

35. How did God make Adam ?
God formed a body from the slime of the earth and breathed an immortal soul into it.

36. How did God make Eve ?

From a rib, taken out of Adam.

37. How did God, in creating man, raise him above other creatures ?

He created him to His own image and likeness.

38. Where did the first human beings live ?

They lived happy in Paradise and were not subject to death.

39. Did our first parents remain good and happy ?

No ; they committed sin and were cast out of Paradise.

40. What sin did they commit ?

They wished to be like God and ate of the forbidden fruit.

41. Has the first man by sinning done harm only to himself ?

No ; he also plunged the whole human race into the greatest misery.

42. In what does this misery consist ?

It consists in this, that the sin with its evil consequences has passed unto all mankind.

43. What do we call the sin in which we are all born ?

We call it original sin.

44. Who alone of all mankind did not inherit this sin ?

The Blessed Virgin Mary. (Feast of the Immaculate Conception.)

45. What would have been man's destiny, if God had not shown him mercy ?

No man could have been saved.

46. How did God show mercy to man ?

He promised him a Redeemer.

47. To whom did God first promise a Redeemer ?

To our first parents, immediately after their fall.

48. How long did it last before the promised Redeemer came ?

About four thousand years. (Advent.)

THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.”

49. Who is the promised Redeemer ?

The promised Redeemer is Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, our Lord.

50. What does the name “Jesus” mean ?

The name “Jesus” means Saviour or Redeemer.

***51. What does the word “Christ” mean ?**

The word “Christ” (Messias) means the Anointed.

52. Why is Jesus Christ called our Lord ?

Because He is our God and our Saviour.

THE THIRD ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“ Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary.”

53. What does the Third Article of the Creed teach us ?

The Third Article of the Creed teaches us, that the Son of God became man—that is, He took to Himself a human body and a human soul.

54. What do we believe concerning Jesus Christ ?

We believe that Jesus Christ is both true God and true Man. (God-Man.)

55. Who was the Mother of Jesus Christ ?

Mary, the purest of Virgins.

56. Who was St. Joseph ?

St. Joseph was the foster-father of Jesus Christ.

57. Where was Jesus Christ born ?

In a stable at Bethlehem. (Feast of Christmas.)

58. Who came first to adore the Infant Jesus ?

Pious shepherds from the neighborhood came first, and then the Magi from the East. (Feast of the Epiphany or the three Holy Kings.)

59. Where did Jesus spend the greatest part of His youth ?

He lived a hidden life at Nazareth and was subject to His parents ; when twelve years of age, He went with His parents to Jerusalem for the Easter festival.

***60. What did Jesus do at the age of thirty years ?**

At the age of thirty years Jesus was baptized by St. John ; He then retired into the desert, where He fasted forty days and forty nights, and then was tempted by the devil.

***61. What did He do, after He had left the desert ?**

He began to teach in public, to work miracles, and gather around Him disciples.

THE FOURTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.”

62. What did Jesus Christ suffer ?

His sufferings during His whole life cannot be described ; at last He sweat blood in the Garden of Olives ; He was seized, mocked, spit upon, scourged, crowned with thorns and finally nailed to the cross.

63. Who condemned Christ to death ?

The Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate.

64. Where was He crucified ?

On Mount Calvary, near Jerusalem.

65. How long did Jesus suffer on the cross ?

For three hours Jesus suffered the most terrible pains of body and soul on the cross ; finally He bowed His head and died.

***66. What miracles took place at the death of Jesus ?**

The sun was darkened, the veil of the temple was rent in two, the earth trembled, rocks split asunder, graves opened and many of the dead arose.

67. Was Christ compelled to suffer death ?

No ; Christ suffered death willingly, out of infinite love for us.

68. Why did Christ wish to suffer and to die ?

Christ wished to suffer and to die, in order to redeem us from sin and eternal damnation.

69. What was done with the dead body of Jesus ?

The dead body of Jesus was laid in a tomb.

THE FIFTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“ He descended into hell, the third day He rose again from the dead.”

70. What is meant by the words : “ He descended into hell ?

These words mean, that the soul of Christ, after His death, descended into Limbo, *i. e.*, to the place where the souls of the just were, who had died before Christ.

***71. Why were the souls of the just, who had died before Christ, in Limbo ?**

Because Heaven was closed through sin and was first to be re-opened by Christ.

72. What do the words, “the third day He rose again from the dead,” teach us ?

They teach us, that the soul of Christ on the third day was reunited to His body, and that Jesus rose gloriously from the tomb. (Easter Sunday.)

73. How long did Jesus remain on earth after His resurrection ?

He remained forty days on earth.

THE SIXTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“ He ascended into Heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.”

74. What do the words : “ He ascended into Heaven,” teach us ?

They teach us, that Jesus Christ with body and soul went up into Heaven. (Ascension Day.)

***75.** Did Christ ascend alone into Heaven ?

No ; Christ took with Him into Heaven the souls of the just, whom He had set free from Limbo.

76. From what place did Christ ascend into Heaven ?

From Mount Olivet, where He began His Passion.

***77. What is meant by the words : “ Sitteth at the right hand of God ?**

They mean that Christ, even as man, shares in the power and glory of the Divine Majesty.

THE SEVENTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“ From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.”

78. What does the seventh article of the Creed teach us ?

It teaches us, that Jesus Christ at the end of the world shall come again with great power and majesty.

79. Why shall Jesus come again ?

To judge all men, both the good and the wicked.

***80. What do we call this judgment at the end of the world ?**

The last or General Judgment, because on the last day, all men shall be brought together and judged. (Judgment of the world.)

***81. What sentence will the Divine Judge pronounce ?**

- 1) He will say to the just : “ Come, ye blessed of My Father, possess the Kingdom, prepared for you from the foundation of the world ” ;
- 2) To the wicked He will say : “ Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, which was prepared for the devil and his angels.”

82. What will happen, after the sentence shall have been pronounced ?

The wicked shall be cast into hell, whilst the just will enter into Heaven.

THE EIGHTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“ I believe in the Holy Ghost.”

83. Who is the Holy Ghost ?

The Holy Ghost is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, true God, like the Father and the Son.

84. When was the Holy Ghost sent down upon the Church ?

On Whit Sunday, when He came down upon the Apostles in the form of fiery tongues. (Pentecost.)

***85. What graces does the Holy Ghost impart to the Catholic Church ?**

He teaches, sanctifies and rules the Church in an invisible manner unto the end of the world.

***86. What graces does the Holy Ghost impart to our soul ?**

He enlightens, sanctifies, strengthens and consoles our soul.

87. How long does the Holy Ghost remain with the soul ?

The Holy Ghost remains with the soul, as long as we are free from mortal sin.

THE NINTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“The Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints.”

§ 1. MEANING AND ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH.

88. What is the Church ?

The Church is the visible society of all the faithful on earth, professing the true Faith under one visible Head.

89. Who founded the Church ?

Christ Himself founded the Church.

90. Whom did Christ appoint to be the pastors of His Church ?

Christ appointed the Apostles to be the pastors of His Church.

91. Whom did Christ appoint to be the supreme Pastor of the Church ?

Christ appointed St. Peter to be the supreme Pastor or supreme Head of the Church.

92. Who is the supreme Head of the Church since the death of St. Peter ?

The supreme Head of the Church is the Holy Father, the Pope.

93. Who are the successors of the Apostles ?

The Bishops of the Catholic Church.

***94. Who are the assistants of the Bishops ?**

The Priests, subject to them.

§ 2. MARKS OF THE CHURCH.

95. Did Christ establish more than one Church ?

Christ established only one Church.

96. Is it easy to know this one Church established by Christ ?

Yes, for Christ has established a visible Church, which may be known by certain marks.

97. Which are these marks ?

The true Church of Christ is : 1) One, 2) Holy, 3) Catholic (*i. e.*, universal), 4) Apostolic.

98. Which Church has these four marks ?

Only the Roman Catholic Church, or that Church, which acknowledges the Pope of Rome as its head, has these four marks.

§ 3. MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

99. Why did Christ establish the Church ?

Christ established the Church, to bring through its ministry all men to eternal salvation.

100. What means did Christ provide, to enable the Church to bring all men to eternal salvation ?

Christ instituted in His Church the office of teacher, of priest and of shepherd.

***101.** What gift has the Church received as a teaching authority ?

The Church as a teaching authority, has received the gift of infallibility.

§ 4. “THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS.”

102. How do we commune with the Saints in Heaven ?

We venerate the Saints and pray to them. They in turn help us by their powerful intercession with God. (All Saints' Day.)

103. How are we in communion with the souls in Purgatory ?

We assist them by our prayers and other good works, especially by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. (All Souls' Day.)

104. How are we, the faithful on earth, in communion with one another ?

We participate in all the Masses, prayers and other good works of the whole Catholic Church.

THE TENTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“The Forgiveness of Sins.”

105. What does the tenth article of the Creed teach ?

It teaches, that in the Catholic Church, we can obtain forgiveness of all sins and of the punishment due to them.

106. What salutary means did Christ appoint for the forgiveness of sins ?

The holy Sacraments of Baptism and Penance.

THE ELEVENTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“The Resurrection of the Body.”

107. What happens in man at the moment of his death ?

At the moment of death, man's soul separates itself from his body, and the body is returned to the earth.

***108. How long shall the body remain in the earth ?**

The body shall remain in the earth till the day of the last judgment, when God will raise it again to life and reunite it to the soul forever.

109. Shall all men rise again ?

All men, whether good or wicked, shall rise again.

***110. Will the risen bodies be all alike ?**

The bodies of the wicked shall be wretched and hideous, while the bodies of the good shall be glorious.

THE TWELFTH ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

“And Life Everlasting. Amen.”

111. What happens to the soul, when it has separated from the body ?

It appears at once before the judgment-seat of God.

112. What do we call this judgment ?

We call it the Particular Judgment.

***113. What are the things of which the soul shall be judged ?**

The soul shall be judged of all its thoughts, words, actions and omissions.

114. Whither does the soul go immediately after the Particular Judgment ?

The soul goes either to Heaven, to Hell or to Purgatory.

***115. What souls go to Purgatory ?**

The souls of the just, who have departed this life in the state of venial sin or have yet to expiate the temporal punishment due to their sins.

***116. Will Purgatory remain in existence after the General Judgment ?**

No ; after the General Judgment only Heaven and Hell shall remain.

***117. What souls will be cast into Hell ?**

The souls of those, who die in the state of mortal sin.

***118. What souls will go to Heaven ?**

The souls of those who die in the friendship of God and are free from all sins and all punishment due to sin.

119. Which are the four last ends of man ?

The four last ends of man are : Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell.

“ In all thy works remember thy last ends, and thou shalt never sin.”

PART II.

THE COMMANDMENTS.

1. Is it sufficient, to believe what God has revealed ?

No ; we must also keep the Commandments.

THE CHIEF COMMANDMENT.

2. Which is the chief Commandment containing all the others ?

The Commandment of the love of God and the love of our neighbor.

§ 1. THE LOVE OF GOD.

3. What are we commanded by the Commandment of the love of God ?

We are thereby commanded to love God above all things.

4. How do we know, that we love God ?

If we do what is pleasing to Him ; *i. e.*, if we keep His Commandments.

5. Why should we love God ?

We should love God :

- 1) Because He is the supreme and most perfect Good.
- 2) Because He has loved us from all eternity, and has destined us for eternal salvation.
- 3) Because He has blessed us beyond measure in our body and soul, and daily continues to do so.

§ 2. THE LOVE OF OUR NEIGHBOR.

6. What are we commanded by the Commandment of the love of our neighbor ?

By this Commandment we are commanded, to love our neighbor as ourselves.

7. Who is our neighbor ?

Every one is our neighbor.

***8. Why should we love our neighbor ?**

We should love our neighbor, because all men are made to the likeness of God, have been redeemed by Christ's Precious Blood, and are called to eternal salvation.

“What e'er you'd hate, to have done to you,
Avoid to do, to others, too.”

§ 3. CHRISTIAN LOVE OF ONE'S SELF.

9. May a Christian love himself ?

Yes ; he may and even should love himself.

***10. When do we love ourselves ?**

We love ourselves when above all, we are solicitous for the salvation of our soul.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF GOD.

- 11. Where shall we find the chief Commandment more fully explained ?**

In the Ten Commandments, which God gave to the Israelites on Mount Sinai.

- 12. Say the Ten Commandments of God.**

1) I am the Lord thy God, etc. (See Prayers, page VI.)

- *13. Which of the Commandments treat of the love of God, and which of the love of our neighbor ?**

The first three Commandments treat of the love of God ; the other seven, of the love of our neighbor.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before me ; thou shalt not make to thyself any graven thing to adore it.”

- 14. What are we commanded by the First Commandment ?**

It commands to give to God the honor due to Him.

- 15. How many kinds of worship do we owe God ?**

Two kinds : internal and external worship.

***16. How do we worship God internally ?**

We worship God internally :

- 1) By believing in Him, hoping in Him and loving Him, above all things ;
- 2) By adoring Him, thanking Him, and by humbly resigning ourselves to His Holy Will.

***17. How do we worship God externally ?**

We worship God externally, by praying in common, by genuflecting, by folding our hands, etc.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT OF GOD.—Con.

The Veneration and Invocation of the Saints

***18. What does the Catholic Church teach, in regard to the veneration and invocation of the Saints ?**

The Catholic Church teaches, that it is a good and pious practice to honor the Saints and pray to them.

19. Of all Saints, whom should we especially venerate and invoke ?

Mary, the most Blessed Virgin and Mother of God.

***20. What should accompany our veneration of the Saints ?**

The imitation of their virtues.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord, thy God, in vain.”

21. What does the Second Commandment forbid ?

It forbids all profanation of God's Holy Name.

***22. How is the name of God profaned ?**

The Name of God is profaned :

- 1) By being used irreverently ;
- 2) By cursing and sinful swearing.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“ Remember, that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.”

23. What are we commanded by the Third Commandment ?

We are commanded, to sanctify the Lord's Day by performing pious works and abstaining from servile labors.

24. What day is the Lord's Day ?

In the Old Testament it was the Sabbath ; in the New Testament it is Sunday.

25. What are we expressly commanded to do on Sunday ?

- 1) To hear Mass ;
- 2) To rest from servile work.

26. What other pious works help us to sanctify Sunday ?

The hearing of Sermons and instructions in Christian Doctrine.

***27. What are servile works ?**

Servile works are bodily labors usually performed by servants, laborers, and tradesmen.

On Sunday rest and gladly pray,
For Sunday is the good Lord's Day.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“ Honor thy Father and thy Mother, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”

28. What are we commanded by the Fourth Commandment ?

We are commanded to show reverence, love and obedience to our parents and superiors.

29. Why should children show reverence, love and obedience to their parents ?

Because the parents caring for them :

- 1) Hold the place of God ;
- 2) Are next to God their greatest benefactors.

30. How do children sin against their parents ?

They sin against their parents :

- 1) By treating them harshly or insultingly ;
- 2) By grieving and provoking them ;
- 3) By obeying reluctantly or refusing to obey.

31. What reward may those children expect, who faithfully observe the Fourth Commandment ?

God's blessing and protection in this life and eternal happiness in the life to come.

The child who does its parents love
Obtains God's blessings from above.

***32.** What are the duties of young persons towards the aged?

Young persons ought to respect the aged.

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“Thou shalt not kill.”

33. What does God forbid by the Fifth Commandment?

God forbids all sins, by which we injure our neighbor or ourselves in body and soul.

34. How do we injure our neighbor bodily?

When we kill, strike or wound him unjustly.

35. Does the Fifth Commandment forbid only violent actions against the life of our neighbor?

It forbids also all sins which lead to such actions, namely, anger, hatred, envy, quarrels and insulting language.

36. How may we sin by injuring ourselves bodily?

By needlessly exposing our life or health to danger.

37. How do we injure our neighbor spiritually?

By leading him into sin.

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“Thou shalt not commit adultery.”

38. What does the Sixth Commandment forbid ?

If forbids :

- 1) All sins against purity ;
- 2) All that leads to impurity.

***39. Why ought we most carefully guard against impurity ?**

Because no sin is more shameful or followed by more dreadful results.

***40. What should we do, if we doubt whether anything is a sin against purity or not ?**

We ought to consult our confessor.

41. What are we commanded by the Sixth Commandment ?

We are commanded to be modest and chaste in all our thoughts, looks, words and actions.

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“Thou shalt not steal.”

42. What does the Seventh Commandment forbid ?

It forbids us to injure our neighbor's property, by theft, cheating or any other unjust way.

43. Who is guilty of theft ?

He who secretly appropriates to himself, what belongs to another.

With trifles; thieves begin
And end in a greater sin.

44. What sin is to be regarded the same as stealing ?

To take stolen goods or keep lost things from their owners.

***45. In what other ways, may we sin against the Seventh Commandment ?**

By injuring our neighbor's property through malice or carelessness.

***46. What must they do, who have in their possession ill-gotten goods, or who have unjustly injured their neighbor ?**

They are bound to restore the ill-gotten goods, and as well as they can to repair the injury done.

Ill-gotten gain
Brings us pain.

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT OF GOD.

“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.”

47. What sins are forbidden by the Eighth Commandment ?

- 1) Lies and hypocrisy ;
- 2) Detraction and slander.

48. What is a lie ?

A lie is an untruth, knowingly and wilfully told.

***49. How do we commit the sin of hypocrisy ?**

We commit the sin of hypocrisy, when we assume the appearance of virtue and piety, which we really do not possess.

***50. How do we commit the sin of detraction ?**

We commit the sin of detraction when, without just cause, we make known the faults of others.

***51. What is calumny ?**

Calumny consists in imputing to our neighbor defects, which he has not, or in exaggerating the faults he has committed.

*THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS
OF GOD.*

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife.”

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s goods,
etc.”

52. What does the Ninth Commandment forbid ?

It forbids all unchaste thoughts and desires.

***53. Are unchaste thoughts and desires always sinful ?**

As long as they are displeasing to us and we try to banish them from our mind, they are not sinful.

54. What does the Tenth Commandment forbid ?
It forbids us to desire the property of others unjustly.

THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

55. Are we bound to keep any other commandments besides the Commandments of God ?
We must also keep the Commandments of the Church.

56. Which are the Commandments of the Church ?

1) To observe, etc. (See Prayers, page VII.)

THE FIRST AND SECOND COMMANDMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

57. What are we commanded by the First Commandment of the Church ?

We are commanded to observe like Sunday, the holy days of obligation.

58. What are we commanded by the Second Commandment of the Church ?

We are commanded to hear Mass with due devotion on all Sundays and holy-days of obligation.

***59.** Who are bound to hear Mass on Sundays and holy-days of obligation ?

It is a strict obligation for all the faithful who have attained the age of reason, unless they are excused for some good cause.

***60. How may we sin against the Second Commandment of the Church ?**

We sin against it :

- 1) By missing Mass entirely or a part thereof, through our own neglect ;
- 3) By misbehaving during Mass.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT OF THE CHURCH.

61. What are we commanded by the Third Commandment of the Church ?

We are commanded to observe the appointed days of fast and abstinence.

***62. Who are bound to fast ?**

All the faithful, who have reached the age of twenty-one years, unless they be excused for a just cause.

63. Who are bound to abstain from flesh meat ?

All the faithful, who have completed their seventh year, unless they be excused for a just cause, such as sickness, poverty, etc.

THE FOURTH AND FIFTH COMMANDMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

***64. What are we commanded by the Fourth and Fifth Commandments of the Church ?**

We are commanded :

- 1) To confess our sins at least once a year to a duly authorized priest ;

- 2) To worthily receive Holy Communion at Easter-time in one's own parish church.

65. At what age must we go to Confession and Communion ?

As soon as we are capable, and sufficiently instructed to receive these Sacraments profitably.

THE VIOLATION OF THE COMMANDMENTS.

SIN.

66. What is sin ?

Sin is a wilful transgression of the law of God.

67. In how many ways can we sin ?

We can sin :

- 1) By bad thoughts, desires, words and actions ;
- 2) By the omission of the good, we are bound to do.

68. Are all sins equally great ?

No ; there are grievous sins which are called mortal, and there are lesser sins, which are called venial.

***69. When do we commit a mortal sin ?**

We commit a mortal sin, when we wilfully transgress the law of God in an important matter.

***70. When do we commit venial sin ?**

We commit venial sin, when we transgress the law of God in a small matter, or when the transgression is not quite wilful.

71. Should we avoid only grievous sins ?

No ; we should fear and avoid every sin as the greatest evil on earth.

72. What should deter us from sin ?

The thought of its malice and of its evil effects.

73. Should we be contented with avoiding sins and vices ?

No ; we should endeavor to become virtuous and perfect.

PART III.

ON THE MEANS OF GRACE.

GRACE IN GENERAL.

***1. What do we understand by divine grace ?**

By divine grace we understand the interior, supernatural gift of God, which He bestows upon us for our eternal salvation.

2. How many kinds of supernatural grace are there ?

There are two kinds of grace :

- 1) Actual grace ;
- 2) Sanctifying grace.

§ 1. ACTUAL GRACE.

3. In what does actual grace consist ?

Actual grace consists in this, that God enlightens our mind and moves our will, to do good and shun evil.

4. Does God give grace to all men ?

Yes ; God gives to all men sufficient grace to obtain salvation.

5. What must we do, in order that the grace of God may lead us to salvation ?

We ought not to resist the grace of God, but faithfully co-operate with it.

§ 2. SANCTIFYING GRACE.

6. What is sanctifying grace ?

Sanctifying grace is that supernatural gift which makes us just and holy.

7. How do we lose sanctifying grace ?

We lose sanctifying grace by committing mortal sin.

§ 3. GOOD WORKS.

8. What works will the just man bring forth, with the help of grace ?

The just man, with the help of grace, will bring forth good works.

9. What does God chiefly consider in our good works ?

Our good intention.

10. What is a good intention ?

A good intention is the purpose of serving and honoring God.

11. How may we form a good intention ?

By saying “O my God, I offer to Thee all my thoughts, words and actions,” or “O my God, all for Thy honor.”

***12. When should we make a good intention ?**

It is most praiseworthy to make a good intention often during the day and especially each morning.

13. What means are particularly useful to obtain grace ?

The holy Sacraments and prayer.

THE SACRAMENTS.

14. What is a Sacrament ?

A Sacrament is an outward sign, instituted by Jesus Christ, by which inward grace is given to us.

15. How many things are necessary to make a Sacrament ?

Three things are necessary to make a Sacrament :

- 1) An outward sign ;
- 2) An inward grace ;
- 3) The institution by Jesus Christ.

16. How many Sacraments has Christ instituted ?

Seven, namely : 1) Baptism, 2) Confirmation, 3) Holy Eucharist, 4) Penance, 5) Extreme Unction, 6) Holy Orders, 7) Matrimony.

17. How must we receive the Sacraments ?

Worthily—that is, with the necessary preparation.

BAPTISM.

18. Which is the first and most necessary Sacrament ?

Baptism is the first and most necessary Sacrament.

***19. How is Baptism given ?**

Baptism is given by pouring water on the head of the person to be baptized and saying at the same time the words : “ I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

***20. What are the effects of Baptism ?**

- 1) Baptism cleanses from original sin and all other sins ;
- 2) Makes us children of God and heirs of Heaven.

* *CONFIRMATION.*

21. What is Confirmation ?

Confirmation is that Sacrament in which a baptized person is strengthened by the Holy Ghost, to profess his faith manfully and practice it faithfully.

22. How is confirmation administered ?

By the imposition of the hand, anointing with holy chrism and the prayer of the Bishop.

HOLY EUCHARIST.

23. What is the Holy Eucharist ?

The Holy Eucharist is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the appearances of bread and wine.

§ 1. THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT.

***24. How did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist ?**

At the Last Supper Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying :
“ Take ye and eat ; This is My Body ; ” then He

took the chalice with wine, blessed it, and gave it to His disciples, saying : “ Drink ye all of this ; This is My Blood. Do this for a commemoration of Me.”

25. Did Christ give to His Apostles the power, to change bread and wine into His sacred Body and Blood ?

Yes ; Christ gave to His Apostles this power, when He said to them : “ Do this for a commemoration of Me.”

26. To whom has this power passed from the Apostles ?

This power has passed to the bishops and priests.

27. When do bishops and priests exercise this power ?

They exercise this power in Holy Mass, at the consecration.

***28. What is therefore present on the altar after the consecration ?**

After the consecration the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ is present on the altar, under the appearances of bread and wine.

***29. What does the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament require of us ?**

The real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament requires of us that we adore Him, thank Him and ask Him for His grace. (Feast of Corpus Christi. Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Forty Hours' Devotion.)

§ 2. THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS.

30. When has Christ instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass ?

Christ instituted the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, when He said to His disciples :
“ Do this for a commemoration of Me.”

***31. What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass ?**

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the perpetual sacrifice of the New Law, in which Christ Our Lord offers Himself in an unbloody manner.

32. What are the principal parts of the Mass ?

The principal parts of the Mass are : 1) The Offertory, 2) The Consecration, 3) Holy Communion.

***33. For whom can Mass be offered ?**

For the whole Church, for the living and for the dead.

* § 3. HOLY COMMUNION.

34. What is Holy Communion ?

Holy Communion is the receiving of the real Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, for the nourishment of the soul.

35. What benefits does a worthy Holy Communion impart to us ?

- 1) It unites us most intimately with Christ ;
- 2) It increases sanctifying grace in us ;
- 3) It weakens our evil inclinations and gives us both the desire and the power to do good.

PENANCE.

36. What is the Sacrament of Penance ?

Penance is that Sacrament in which the priest, as the representative of God, forgives sins, when the sinner is heartily sorry, sincerely confesses them and is willing to do penance.

***37. When did Christ institute the Sacrament of Penance ?**

Christ instituted the Sacrament of Penance after His resurrection when He breathed upon His Apostles, saying: “Receive ye the Holy Ghost; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them, and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.”

***38. To whom did the power of forgiving sins pass from the Apostles ?**

To their successors in the priesthood, namely, the bishops and priests.

***39. Can all sins be forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance ?**

All sins committed after Baptism, can be forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance.

***40. Why must we confess our sins, in order to obtain pardon ?**

We must confess our sins because Christ has so ordained it.

***41. What ought we do, if we cannot confess immediately after having committed a mortal sin ?**

We should make an act of perfect contrition and firmly purpose to confess the sin.

42. How many things are required for the worthy reception of the Sacrament of Penance ?

These five : 1) Examination of conscience ; 2) Contrition ; 3) Resolution of amendment ; 4) Confession ; 5) Satisfaction.

43. Wherewith should we begin the preparation for confession ?

With a prayer to the Holy Ghost.

§ 1. EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE.

44. What does it mean to examine our conscience ?

To examine our conscience means, to seriously think over our sins, that we may know them well.

***45. How may we best examine our conscience ?**

We should recall to our mind the Commandments of God and of the Church, asking ourselves how we have sinned against them by thoughts, words, deeds and omissions.

46. Must we inquire into the number and circumstances of our sins ?

Yes ; at least when our sins are mortal.

§ 2. CONTRITION.

47. What is contrition ?

Contrition is a heartfelt sorrow and hatred for our sins.

48. What qualities must our contrition have ?

Our contrition must be :

1) Interior, 2) universal, 3) supernatural.

***49. When is our contrition interior ?**

Contrition is interior, when our sorrow for sins does not merely consist in words, but comes from our heart, because we detest them as the greatest evil.

***50. When is contrition universal ?**

Contrition is universal, when we are sorry for all our sins, at least all mortal sins.

***51. When is contrition supernatural ?**

Contrition is supernatural, when we are sorry for our sins, because we have offended God, have lost heaven and deserved hell.

***52. What should we do to obtain the required contrition ?**

We should pray earnestly for the grace of a true contrition and consider :

- 1) That we deserve to be punished by God ;
- 2) That we are the cause of Christ's suffering and death ;
- 3) That we have offended God, our greatest benefactor and best of fathers, the greatest, most amiable Good.

53. When must we make the act of contrition ?

We must make the act of contrition, before confession or at least before receiving absolution.

§ 3. PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT.

54. What is meant by the purpose of amendment ?

The purpose of amendment is a firm resolve to change our life and sin no more.

55. How may we make an act of contrition ?

Oh, my God, etc. (See page VIII.)

§ 4. CONFESSION.

56. What is confession ?

Confession is a sorrowful telling of our sins to a priest, in order to obtain absolution.

57. What are the necessary qualities for a good confession ?

It must be : 1) complete, 2) sincere, 3) clear.

***58. When is the confession complete ?**

The confession is complete, when we confess at least all mortal sins we remember, telling at the same time their number and the necessary circumstances.

***59. What must we do, if we cannot recall the exact number ?**

We must tell the number as near as we can, saying, for instance, about how many times in a day, a week or a month we have committed the sin.

***60. Are we bound to confess venial sins ?**

We are not bound to confess venial sins, but it is well and advisable to do so.

***61. When is a confession sincere ?**

The confession is sincere, when we accuse ourselves just as we see ourselves guilty before God, neither concealing nor exousing anything.

***62. What are the consequences if we knowingly conceal a mortal sin in confession ?**

In this case the confession is invalid and is a new sin—a sacrilege.

***63. What should the penitent consider, if ashamed to make a sincere confession ?**

He should consider, that it is far better to confess his sins to a priest, who is bound to perpetual silence, than to lose forever the peace of conscience, to die unhappily, and to be put to shame before the whole world on the last day.

***64. What must we do, if we omitted something in confession, which we should have told ?**

- 1) If we unintentionally omit anything, nothing more is required than to tell it in the next confession ;
- 2) If, however, we omitted it through our own grievous fault, then we must state in how many confessions we have done the same thing and repeat all these confessions.

***65. When is a confession clear ?**

A confession is clear, when we accuse ourselves in plain language, so that the priest may easily understand everything.

66. How do you begin your confession ?

In this manner : I confess to the Almighty God, and to you, Father, that I have sinned. My last confession was....Here say, how long it has been since the last confession, or whether this is the first confession, and then tell your sins.

67. What do you say immediately after telling your sins ?

These words : For these and all the sins of my whole life I am most heartily sorry ; I firmly resolve to amend my life, and I humbly beg penance and absolution.

***68. What must we do then ?**

We must listen attentively to the words of advice and the penance the priest gives us, and if he should ask anything, answer him candidly. We should not leave the confessional until the priest gives the sign to do so.

§ 5. SATISFACTION.

69. What do you understand by the satisfaction required in the Sacrament of Penance ?

By satisfaction I understand the complying with the penance, which the priest has imposed.

***70. For what purpose is a penance imposed by the confessor ?**

It is imposed :

- 1) To atone for the temporal punishments due to sin ;
- 2) To amend our life.

***71. What is an indulgence ?**

An indulgence is the remission of the temporal punishments of our sins, outside of the Sacrament of Penance.

EXTREME UNCTION.

***72. What is Extreme Unction ?**

Extreme Unction is that Sacrament, in which the sick person receives the grace of God profitable to his soul and often also to his body.

***73. How is Extreme Unction administered ?**

Through the anointing with holy oil and the prayer of the priest.

***74. Which are the effects of Extreme Unction in the soul ?**

- 1) It remits venial sins and also those mortal sins which the sick person is unable to confess ;
- 2) It comforts in sufferings and strengthens against temptations, especially in the hour of death.

***75. Who may and should receive Extreme Unction ?**

Every Catholic who has reached the age of reason, and is in danger of death from sickness.

** HOLY ORDERS.*

76. What is the Sacrament of Holy Orders ?

Holy Orders is that Sacrament through which the ministers of the Church, receive the power and the grace to perform the priestly functions in a valid and proper manner.

77. Which are the chief powers conferred by the priesthood ?

The following :

- 1) The power to offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass ;
- 2) The power to administer the Sacraments.

** MATRIMONY.*

78. Who has instituted Matrimony ?

God Himself instituted Matrimony in the Garden of Paradise.

79. What has Christ done to sanctify the marriage state ?

Christ has raised Matrimony to the dignity of a Sacrament.

PRAYER.

***80. What is prayer ?**

Prayer is the lifting up of our hearts to God in order to praise Him, to thank Him or to beg His grace.

81. Is prayer necessary for salvation ?

Prayer is necessary for salvation to all those, who have come to the use of reason.

82. With what dispositions should we pray ?

We should above all pray with devotion and confidence.

***83. When do we pray with devotion ?**

We pray with devotion, when we pray from the heart and avoid, as much as possible, all distracting thoughts.

***84. When do we pray with confidence ?**

We pray with confidence, when we firmly hope that God will hear our prayers.

85. When should we pray ?

Christ says, we ought to pray always and not faint.

86. How is it possible, to pray always ?

We pray always, when we offer all our labors, sufferings and joys to God.

87. When should we especially pray ?

In the morning and in the evening, before and after meals, and at the ringing of the Angelus bell.

“ With God begin and end the day,”
Be this your rule on life's rough way.

88. Which place is best suited of all to pray ?

The church, for it is the house of God and the house of prayer.

***89. For whom should we pray ?**

We should pray for all men, for the living and the dead, friends and enemies, especially for our parents, brothers and sisters, our benefactors, for our spiritual and temporal superiors.

§ 1. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

90. Which is the most excellent of all prayers ?

The most excellent of all prayers is the Our Father or the Lord's Prayer.

91. Why is the Our Father called the Lord's Prayer ?

Because Christ, the Lord, has taught it and commanded us to say it.

92. Of what does the Our Father consist ?

The Our Father consists of an invocation and seven petitions.

93. What are the words of the invocation ?

“ Our Father, who art in Heaven.”

***94. Of what does the word “ Father ” remind us ?**

The word “ Father ” reminds us that we are children of God and therefore pray to Him with child-like love.

***95. What do we ask for in the first petition :
“ Hallowed be Thy name ” ?**

In the first petition we ask, that God may be better loved and honored by all men.

- *96.** What do we ask for in the second petition:
“ Thy Kingdom come ” ?

In the second petition we ask especially, that God may finally admit us into heaven.

- *97.** What do we ask for, in the third petition:
“ Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven ” ?

In the third petition we ask, that the will of God be done on earth as cheerfully as the Angels and Saints do it in Heaven.

- *98.** What do we ask for in the fourth petition:
“ Give us this day our daily bread ” ?

In the fourth petition we ask, that God may give us what we need every day for soul and body.

- *99.** What do we ask for in the fifth petition:
“ Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us ” ?

In the fifth petition we ask, that God may pardon us our sins, as we forgive those, who have offended us.

- *100.** What do we ask for in the sixth petition:
“ Lead us not into temptation ” ?

In the sixth petition we ask, that God may avert from us all temptations to evil, or at least give us sufficient grace to resist them.

***101.** What do we ask for in the seventh petition : “ But deliver us from evil ” ?

In the seventh petition we ask, that God may preserve us from all ills of body and soul, especially from sin and eternal damnation.

***102.** Why do we add the word : “ Amen ” or “ so be it ” ?

To express our desire and confidence, that we will be heard.

§ 2. THE ANGELICAL SALUTATION.

103. What prayer do we usually say after the “ Our Father ” ?

The Angelical Salutation, or the “ Hail Mary.”

104. Of how many parts does the “ Hail Mary ” consist ?

Two parts : a prayer of praise and a prayer of petition.

105. Of what is the prayer of praise composed ?

- 1) Of the words of the Archangel Gabriel : “ Hail (Mary), full of grace, the Lord is with thee ; blessed art thou among women.”
- 2) Of the words of St. Elizabeth : “ And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,” to which we add the name of “ Jesus.”

106. Of what does the prayer of petition consist ?

Of the words which the Church has added : “ Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.”

***107.** Why has the Church added these words ?
To implore the assistance of the Mother of God
in all necessities, but particularly to obtain in
the end a happy death.

108. What prayer do we say in the morning,
at noon and in the evening at the ringing
of the “ Angelus bell ” ?

We say the Angelus : “ The Angel of the Lord
declared unto Mary,” etc. (See Prayers, page
IX.)



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