

GOD AND THE TRINITY

1. Who is God?
God is the Supreme Being, infinitely perfect, all loving, who made all things and keeps everything in existence.
2. Is there only one God?
Yes, there is only one God.
3. What do we mean by the Holy Trinity?
By the Holy Trinity we mean that the one and only God is composed of three Divine Persons.
4. Who are the three Divine Persons in God?
The three Divine Persons in God are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

BIBLE

1. What is Revelation?
Revelation is all that God has taught us about Himself and His Will for His people. Scripture and tradition are the sources of revelation.
 2. What does revelation tell us about creation?
The first 11 chapters of Genesis teach us that:
 - a) God created, and continues to create the world and human beings.
 - b) All that God creates is good.
 - c) Evil entered the world because human beings disobeyed God.
 3. Did God create the world in six days?
The six days of creation in Genesis does not have to be taken literally. The six days is a literary device to help us understand that there is only One God and that He created everything out of nothing.
 4. What is original sin?
Original sin is our first parents deliberate breaking of their friendship with God through sin. This first or original sin caused them to lose the gift of God's divine life within them.
 5. What is God's divine life within us called?
When we have God's divine life within us it is called Sanctifying Grace.
 6. What is Sanctifying Grace?
Sanctifying Grace is a supernatural gift, a share in the Divine Life of the Trinity.
 7. What is Actual Grace?
Actual grace or helping grace refers to the help that God gives us so that we can perform good works.
 8. What is the Old Testament/Hebrew Scripture?
The Old Testament/Hebrew Scripture is the collection of the Sacred books of the Jewish People which tells the story of their covenant (relationship) with God.
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9. Who was Abraham?
Abraham was the first person to believe in one and only one God. He is the father of the Jewish People. He is our spiritual father since through him we believe in only one true God.
 10. Who is Moses?
Moses was the great leader of the Jewish people. He led them out of the slavery of Egypt in the Exodus. It was to Moses that God gave the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai when God entered into a covenant with the Jewish People.
 11. What is a covenant?
A covenant is a sacred agreement between God and individual persons or groups. It is also called a "Testament".
 12. Why is the first section of the Bible called the "Old Testament"?
The Old Testament deals with God's agreement with the Jewish People. It is called the "Old Testament" to distinguish it from the "New Testament" which God entered into with all human beings through Christ's birth, death, and resurrection.
 13. What is a gospel?
A gospel is a book written about Jesus, his life, and his teachings.
 14. Who wrote the four gospels?
The four gospels were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

15. What is an epistle?
An epistle is a letter written by one of the Apostles.
16. What is the Acts of the Apostles?
The Acts of the Apostles is one of the books of the New Testament that describes the beginnings of the Church and the early missionary work of the Church.
17. What are the Beatitudes?
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
18. Be able to find a Scripture quote and copy it. Example: Ps 23:5-6, Ps = Psalm (look at page XI in the front of the Bible for abbreviations). The next number is the Chapter in the Book. The last number(s) are the verses in the chapter.

JESUS CHRIST

1. Who is Jesus?
Jesus, who became man, is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.
2. Is Jesus truly God?
Yes, Jesus is truly God since He is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.
3. Is Jesus truly a human being?
Yes, Jesus is truly a human being since He received His human body from Mary, His Mother.
4. What is meant by the Incarnation?
By the Incarnation is meant that the Son of God, retaining His Divine nature took to Himself a human nature; that is he became a man.
5. Is St. Joseph the father of Jesus?
Jesus Christ had no human father, but St. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the guardian or foster father of Christ.
6. What is meant by the Redemption?
By the Redemption is meant that Jesus Christ offered His sufferings, death, and resurrection to God in satisfaction for the sins of our human race so that everyone could become children of God and share in God's life.
7. What is the Paschal Mystery?
The Paschal Mystery is the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
8. When and where did Jesus die?
Jesus died on Good Friday on Golgotha, also called Mt. Calvary, outside the city of Jerusalem.
9. When did Jesus rise from the dead?
Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.

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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. Who founded the Catholic Church?
Jesus Christ founded the Catholic Church.
2. Why did Jesus establish the church?
The Church helps us understand the teachings of Christ and through the Sacraments prepares us for eternal life.
3. Did Jesus give any special power to Peter, the Apostle?
Christ did give a special power to Saint Peter by making him the head of the Apostles and the first Pope, who is the chief teacher and ruler of the church.
4. What are the marks of the Church?
The marks of the Church are one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic.

5. What is meant by the infallibility of the Catholic Church?
By infallibility is meant that the Church, by the special assistance of the Holy Spirit, cannot be wrong when it teaches or believes a doctrine of faith and morals.
6. Why is the Catholic Church called the Mystical Body of Christ?
The Catholic Church is called the Mystical Body of Christ because its members are united by supernatural bonds with one another and with Christ, their Head, thus resembling the members/parts and head of a living human body.
7. Who is the Pope?
Our present Pope is Pope Benedict XVI, the successor to St. Peter.
8. Who is the head of the Archdiocese of New York?
Archbishop Timothy Dolan is its head.
9. Who is the Pastor of St. Columba Parish?
Fr. Michael McLoughlin is the Pastor.

SACRAMENTS

1. What is a Sacrament?
A Sacrament is a visible sign given to us by Christ in order for us to share Christ's life of grace.
2. What are the seven Sacraments?
The Seven Sacraments are Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and the Anointing of the Sick.
3. What are the Sacraments of Initiation?
Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation are the Sacraments of Initiation.
4. What are the Sacraments of Healing?
Penance and the Anointing of the Sick are the Sacraments of Healing.
5. What are the Sacraments of Service?
Holy Orders and Matrimony are the Sacraments of Service.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1. What is Baptism?
Baptism is the Sacrament of rebirth through which Jesus, through his death and resurrection, frees us from Original sin and gives us His new life of sanctifying grace by which we become children of God and members of the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church.
2. Who can baptize?
A Bishop, Priest or Deacon are the usual ministers of the Sacrament of Baptism. If there is a danger that some one will die without Baptism, then anyone may baptize.
3. How would you baptize someone?
I would baptize someone by pouring ordinary water on the forehead of the person to be baptized, saying while pouring it: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

1. What is Penance?
Penance is the Sacrament by which sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.
2. What is Absolution?
Absolution is the name given to the Prayer which the priests says in the Sacrament of Penance which forgives our sins.
3. What is an Examination of Conscience?
An examination of conscience is a sincere effort to call to mind all the sins we have committed since our last Confession.
4. What do we do when we go to receive the Sacrament of Penance?
 1. We examine our conscience.
 2. We go into the Confessional/Reconciliation Room and:
 - Greet the priest.
 - Make the Sign of the Cross.
 - Confess your sins. (Mention how long it has been since your last confession. For mortal sin, tell how often it has occurred.)
 - Speak about anything that is troubling you. Listen to the priest's advice.

Accept your penance.

Pray an act of contrition. (you may use your own words.)

Receive absolution, silently making the Sign of the Cross. Respond, "Amen."

Proclamation of praise and dismissal:

Priest: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

Response: His mercy endures forever.

Say, "Thank you, Father."

3. Spend some time in prayer and thanksgiving.

4. DO YOUR PENANCE!

5. Is it necessary to confess every sin?

It is necessary to confess every mortal sin that we have committed since our last confession while it is not necessary to confess our venial sins, by doing so we grow in grace and integrity.

6. What are we to do if we honestly forget to confess a mortal sin in Confession?

If we honestly forget to tell a mortal sin in Confession, the sin is forgiven. However, if in the future we remember the mortal sin we must confess it at our next confession.

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

1. What is the Eucharist?

In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus is actually present under the appearance of bread and wine.

2. What is the Mass?

The Mass is the sacrifice of the New Testament in which Christ offers Himself to God. It is also the Sacred Meal at which we receive Christ under the appearance of bread and wine.

3. What are the two Main parts of the Mass?

The main parts of the Mass are the Liturgy of the Word in which we hear God speak to us through Sacred Scripture; and the Liturgy of the Eucharist in which Jesus offers Himself to the Father as a sacrifice and shares His life with us as He becomes present under the appearance of bread and wine.

4. What do we mean by Transubstantiation?

By Transubstantiation we mean that during the Eucharistic Prayer the substance of the bread and wine change to Jesus' body and blood; what remains of the bread and wine is only the appearance – the color, taste and shape.

5. What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is receiving Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

6. What is necessary to receive Holy Communion worthily?

To receive Holy Communion worthily a person must be free from mortal sin, have fasted for an hour, and seek to live in charity and love with their neighbors.

7. What is the Eucharistic Fast?

A person who is to receive Holy Communion is to abstain from all food and drink for at least one hour before receiving, water and medicine may be taken at any time. This is called the Eucharistic Fast. The elderly and the sick are not bound by the Eucharistic Fast.

8. What is Easter Duty?

The laws of the Church require that we receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season. This is called the Easter Duty.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

1. What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the sacrament through which the Holy Spirit comes to us with grace. In this sacrament, we affirm our Baptismal faith, and are strengthened by the Spirit so that we can lead fuller lives in Christ's Church.

2. Who usually administers the Sacrament of Confirmation?

A bishop usually administers the Sacrament of Confirmation.

3. May a priest celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Yes, under special circumstances a priest may confirm a person. Usually this happens when the priest instructs a non-Catholic person about the Catholic Faith. When he receives the person into the Catholic Faith, He may also confirm the person. A priest can also confirm if a person is in danger of death.

4. What does the bishop do when he Confirms?

The Bishop extends his hands over those who are to be confirmed, prays that they receive the Holy Spirit. Then, while placing his hand on the head of each person, anoints the forehead with holy chrism in the form of the cross, saying "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

1. What is Holy Orders?
Holy Orders is the Sacrament through which a person receives the power of the Holy Spirit so that he can perform the duties of a Bishop, Priest, or Deacon.
2. What can a Bishop do?
A Bishop can celebrate Mass, grant absolution in Confession, administer the Sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick, preach homilies, baptize and witness marriages.
3. What can a Priest do?
A Priest can celebrate Mass, grant absolution in Confession, anoint the sick, baptize, preach homilies and witness marriages.
4. What can a Deacon do?
A deacon performs works of charity and assists the bishop and priests. He may baptize and witness marriages.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

1. What is Matrimony?
Matrimony is the sacrament in which Christ unites a Christian man and woman in a life-long union. In entering marriage, the man and woman and God enter into a covenant in which they pledge their mutual and total commitment to each other. This union cannot be broken except through the death of one of the parties.
2. Does the Catholic Church recognize a divorce?
The Catholic Church does not recognize any divorce granted by a civil government. That means that a divorced Catholic cannot remarry in the Catholic Church. Under certain circumstances, the Church may grant an annulment which would then permit the Catholic Party to remarry in the Church.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

1. What is the Anointing of the Sick?
The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the Sacrament in which Jesus, through the anointing and prayers of the priest, gives spiritual health and strength to a person who is seriously ill. The Sacrament can, at times, give also physical healing and strength.

COMMANDMENTS

1. What are the two Great Commandments?
Christ said that the two great commandments are: First, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. Second, you shall love your neighbor as yourself.
2. What are the Ten Commandments of God?
The Ten Commandments are:
 1. I am the Lord Your God, You shall not have strange gods before me.
 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord Your God in vain.
 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
 4. Honor your father and your mother.
 5. You shall not kill
 6. You shall not commit adultery.
 7. You shall not steal.
 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.
3. What are the precepts (Laws) of the Church?
The Precepts (Laws) of the Church are:
 1. To actively participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
 2. To receive Holy Communion at least annually between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. The Sacrament of Penance should be celebrated at least once a year, if in the state of serious or mortal sin.
 3. To study Catholic teaching in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, to be confirmed, and to continue to study and advance the cause of Christ.
 4. To observe the marriage laws of the Church.
 5. To do penance on Fridays and to fast and abstain on the days appointed.
 6. To contribute to the support of the Church.
 7. To join in the missionary spirit and apostolate of the Church.
4. What are the Holy Days of Obligation in the United States?
 1. Christmas Day - December 25th.
 2. The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God – January 1st.
 3. Ascension Thursday – 40 days after Easter.

4. The Assumption of Mary – August 15th.
 5. All Saint's Day – November 1st.
 6. The Immaculate Conception – December 8th.
5. What do we celebrate on the Feast of Christmas?
On Christmas, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus.
 6. What do we celebrate on the Solemnity of Mary?
One week after the Birth of Jesus, we celebrate a Feast in honor of Mary, the Mother of God.
 7. What do we celebrate on Ascension Thursday?
On Ascension Thursday, we celebrate that forty days after his resurrection, Christ went up to heaven to take his place at the right hand of the Father.
 8. What do we celebrate on the Assumption of Mary?
On the feast of the Assumption, we celebrate Mary's body and soul being taken into heaven.
 9. What do we celebrate on All Saints' Day?
All Saints Day is a feast that honors all the men and women who have been faithful to God and now share His glory in heaven.
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10. What do we celebrate on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception?
We celebrate the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother. Her Immaculate Conception means that from the moment she was conceived Mary was free of all sin, including Original sin.
 11. Why does the Church urge us to do Penance on Fridays?
Since Friday is the day that Christ died to free us from our sins, it is only fitting that on Friday we do some form of penance to express our sorrow for our sins.
 12. What is a fast day?
A fast day is a day on which only one full meal is allowed. Some food may be taken at two other times during the day but they can not equal a regular meal. The fast days are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
 13. Who is obliged to fast?
A person is obliged to fast from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday.
 14. What is a day of abstinence?
A day of abstinence is a day on which we are not allowed to eat meat.
 15. Who is obliged to abstinence?
A person who reaches his 14th birthday is obliged to abstain which means not to eat meat. Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.
 16. What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?
The Corporal works of Mercy are:
 1. To feed the hungry.
 2. To give drink to the thirsty.
 3. To clothe the naked.
 4. To visit the sick.
 5. To visit those in prison.
 6. To shelter the homeless.
 7. To bury the dead.
 17. What are the Spiritual Works of Mercy?
The Spiritual Works of Mercy are:
 1. To admonish the sinner.
 2. To instruct the ignorant.
 3. To counsel the doubtful.
 4. To comfort the sorrowful.
 5. To bear wrongs patiently.
 6. To forgive all injuries.
 7. To pray for the living and the dead.

PRAYER

1. What is Prayer?
Prayer is communicating with God, speaking to Him, and listening as He speaks to us.

2. Why do we pray?

We pray:

- First, to adore God; (Adoration)
- Second, to seek forgiveness; (Contrition)
- Third, to thank God; (Thanksgiving)
- Fourth, to seek His help. (Supplication or Intercession)

BE SURE YOU KNOW EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PRAYERS AND THE MEANING OF EACH PRAYER

SIGN OF THE CROSS

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

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who are 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 those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God have mercy.

ACT OF FAITH

O My God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because you revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

ACT OF HOPE

O my God, relying on your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

The Joyful Mysteries

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation
5. The Finding in the Temple

The Sorrowful Mysteries

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

The Luminous Mysteries

1. The Baptism of Our Lord
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Last Supper

The Glorious Mysteries

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption
5. The Crowning of Mary