

LESSON FIRST

ON THE END OF MAN

1. Q. Who made the world?

God made the world.

2. Q. Who is God?

God is the Creator of
heaven and earth, and of all
things.

3. Q. What is man?

Man is a creature composed
of body and soul, and made
to the image and likeness of
God.

6. Q. Why did God make you?

God made me to know Him,
to love Him, and to serve
Him in this world, and to
be happy with Him forever
in the next.

9. Q. What must we do to save our souls?

To save our souls, we must
worship God by faith, hope,
and charity, that is, we
must believe in Him, hope in
Him, and love Him with all
our heart.

10. Q. How shall we know the things which we are to believe?

We shall know the things
which we are to believe
from the Catholic Church,
through which God speaks to
us.

11. Q. Where shall we find the chief truths which the Church teaches?

We shall find the chief
truths which the Church
teaches in the Apostles
Creed.

12. Q. Say 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 arose again from

the dead. He ascended into
heaven, and 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 the life
everlasting. Amen.

LESSON SECOND

ON GOD AND HIS PERFECTIONS

13. Q. What is God?

God is a spirit infinitely
perfect.

14. Q. Had God a beginning?

God had no beginning; He
always was and He always
will be.

15. Q. Where is God?

God is everywhere.

16. Q. If God is everywhere, why do we not see Him?

We do not see God, because
He is a pure spirit and

cannot be seen with bodily
eyes.

17. Q. Does God see us?

God sees us and watches
over us.

18. Q. Does God know all things?

God knows all things, even
our most secret thoughts,
words, and actions.

19. Q. Can God do all things?

God can do all things, and
nothing is hard or impossible
to Him.

20. Q. Is God just, holy, and merciful?

God is all just, all holy, all
merciful, as He is infinitely
perfect.

LESSON THIRD

ON THE UNITY AND TRINITY OF GOD

21. Q. Is there but one God?

Yes, there is but one God.

22. Q. Why can there be but one God?

*There can be but one God,
because God, being supreme
and infinite, cannot have an
equal.*

23. Q. How many Persons are there in God?

*In God there are three
Divine Persons, really
distinct, and equal in all.*

things — the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Ghost.

24. Q. Is the Father God?

The Father is God and the
first Person of the Blessed
Trinity.

25. Q. Is the Son God?

The Son is God and the
second Person of the Blessed
Trinity.

26. Q. Is the Holy Ghost God?

The Holy Ghost is God and
the third Person of the
Blessed Trinity.

27. Q. What is the Blessed Trinity?

The Blessed Trinity is one
God in three Divine Persons.

29. Q. Are the three Divine Persons one and the same God?

The three Divine Persons are
one and the same God,
having one and the same
Divine nature.

LESSON FOURTH

ON THE ANGELS AND OUR FIRST PARENTS

34. Q. Which are the chief creatures of God?

*The chief creatures of God
are men and angels.*

35. Q. What are angels?

*Angels are bodiless spirits
created to adore and enjoy
God in heaven.*

39. Q. Who were the first man and woman?

*The first man and woman
were Adam and Eve.*

40. Q. Were Adam and Eve innocent and holy when they came from the hand of God?

Adam and Eve were
innocent and holy when
they came from the hand of
God.

43. Q. Did Adam and Eve remain faithful to God?

Adam and Eve did not
remain faithful to God, but
broke His command by
eating the forbidden fruit.

44. Q. What befell Adam and Eve on account of their sin?

Adam and Eve, on account
of their sin, lost innocence

and holiness, and were
doomed to misery and death.

45. Q. What evil befell us through the disobedience of our first parents?

Through the disobedience of
our first parents we all
inherit their sin and
punishment, as we should
have shared in their
happiness if they had
remained faithful.

47. Q. What is the sin called which we inherit from our first parents?

The sin which we inherit from our first parents is called original sin.

50. Q. Was any one ever preserved from original sin?

The Blessed Virgin Mary, through the merits of her Divine Son, was preserved free from the guilt of original sin, and this privilege is called her Immaculate Conception.

LESSON FIFTH

ON SIN AND ITS KINDS

51. Q. Is original sin the only kind of sin?

Original sin is not the only kind of sin; there is another kind of sin, which we commit ourselves, called actual sin.

52. Q. What is actual sin?

Actual sin is any wilful thought, word, deed or omission contrary to the law of God.

53. Q. How many kinds of actual sin are there?

There are two kinds of
actual sin—mortal and
venial.

54. Q. What is mortal sin?

Mortal sin is a grievous
offense against the law of
God.

57. Q. What is venial sin?

Venial sin is a slight offense
against the law of God in
matters of less importance
or in matters of great

importance it is an offense
committed without
sufficient reflection or full
consent of the will.

59. Q. Which are the chief sources of sin?

The chief sources of sin are
seven: Pride, Covetousness,
Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy,
and Sloth; and they are
commonly called capital sins.

LESSON SIXTH

ON THE INCARNATION AND REDEMPTION

60. Q. Did God abandon man after he fell into sin?

God did not abandon man
after he fell into sin, but
promised him a Redeemer,
who was to satisfy for
man's sin and reopen to him
the gates of heaven.

61. Q. Who is the Redeemer?

Our Blessed Lord and
Saviour Jesus Christ is the
Redeemer of mankind.

62. Q. What do you believe of Jesus Christ?

I believe that Jesus Christ is
the Son of God, the second
Person of the Blessed
Trinity, true God and true
MAN.

69. Q. What do you mean by the Incarnation?

By the Incarnation I mean
that the Son of God was
made man.

70. Q. How was the Son of God made man?

The Son of God was
conceived and made man by

the power of the Holy
Ghost, in the womb of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.

74. Q. On what day was the Son of God conceived and made man?

The Son of God was
conceived and made man on
Annunciation day—the day
on which the Angel Gabriel
announced to the Blessed
Virgin Mary that she was to
be the Mother of God.

75. Q. On what day was Christ born?

Christ was born on

Christmas day in a stable at

Bethlehem, over nineteen

hundred years ago.

LESSON SEVENTH

ON OUR LORD'S PASSION, DEATH, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION

78. Q. What did Jesus Christ suffer?

Jesus Christ suffered a
bloody sweat, a cruel
scourging, was crowned
with thorns, and was
crucified.

79. Q. On what day did Christ die?

Christ died on Good Friday.

83. Q. Why did Christ suffer and die?

Christ suffered and died for
our sins.

89. Q. On what day did Christ rise from the dead?

Christ rose from the dead,
glorious and immortal, on
Easter Sunday, the third
day after His death.

91. Q. After Christ had remained forty days on earth, whither did He go?

After forty days Christ
ascended into heaven, and
the day on which He
ascended into heaven is
called Ascension day.

LESSON EIGHTH

ON THE HOLY GHOST AND HIS DESCENT UPON THE APOSTLES

94. Q. Who is the Holy Ghost?

The Holy Ghost is the third
Person of the Blessed
Trinity.

97. Q. On what day did the Holy Ghost come down upon the Apostles?

The Holy Ghost came down
upon the Apostles ten days
after the Ascension of our
Lord, and the day on which
He came down upon the

Apostles is called
Whitsunday or Pentecost.

99. Q. Who sent the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles?

Our Lord Jesus Christ sent
the Holy Ghost upon the
Apostles.

100. Q. Why did Christ send the Holy Ghost?

Christ sent the Holy Ghost
to sanctify His Church, to
enlighten and strengthen the
Apostles, and to enable them
to preach the Gospel.

LESSON NINTH

ON THE EFFECTS OF THE REDEMPTION

102. Q. Which are the chief effects of the Redemption?

The chief effects of the Redemption are two: The satisfaction of God's justice by Christ's sufferings and death, and the gaining of grace for men.

103. Q. What do you mean by grace?

By grace I mean a supernatural gift of God bestowed on us through the

merits of Jesus Christ, for
our salvation.

104. Q. How many kinds of grace are there?

There are two kinds of
grace, sanctifying grace and
actual grace.

105. Q. What is sanctifying grace?

Sanctifying grace is that
grace which makes the soul
holy and pleasing to God.

110. Q. What is actual grace?

Actual grace is that help of
God which enlightens our

mind and moves our will to
shun evil and do good.

{T.N.: The above question is out of numerical order in the printed source of Baltimore Catechism No. 1.}

107. Q. What is Faith?

Faith is a Divine virtue by
which we firmly believe the
truths which God has
revealed.

108. Q. What is Hope?

Hope is a Divine virtue by
which we firmly trust that
God will give us eternal life
and the means to obtain it.

109. Q. What is Charity?

Charity is a Divine virtue by
which we love God above all
things for His own sake,
and our neighbor as
ourselves for the love of
God.

LESSON TENTH

ON THE CHURCH

114. Q. Which are the means instituted by our Lord to enable men at all times to share in the fruits of the Redemption?

The means instituted by our Lord to enable men at all times to share in the fruits of His Redemption are the Church and the Sacraments.

115. Q. What is the Church?

The Church is the congregation of all those who profess the faith of Christ, partake of the same

Sacraments, and are
governed by their lawful
pastors under one visible
Head.

116. Q. Who is the invisible Head of the Church?

Jesus Christ is the invisible
Head of the Church.

117. Q. Who is the visible Head of the Church?

Our Holy Father the Pope,
the Bishop of Rome, is the
Vicar of Christ on earth,
and the visible Head of the
Church.

128. Q. Has the Church any marks by which it may be known?

The Church has four marks
by which it may be known.
it is One, it is Holy, it is
Catholic, it is Apostolic.

133. Q. In which Church are these marks found?

These marks are found in
the Holy Roman Catholic
Church alone.

LESSON ELEVENTH

ON THE SACRAMENTS IN GENERAL

136. Q. What is a Sacrament?

*A Sacrament is an outward
sign instituted by Christ to
give grace.*

137. Q. How many Sacraments are there?

*There are seven Sacraments:
Baptism, Confirmation, Holy
Eucharist, Penance, Extreme
Unction, Holy Orders, and
Matrimony.*

138. Q. Whence have the Sacraments the power of giving grace?

The Sacraments have the power of giving grace from the merits of Jesus Christ.

147. Q. Do the Sacraments always give grace?

The Sacraments always give grace if we receive them with the right dispositions.

148. Q. Can we receive the Sacraments more than once?

We can receive the Sacraments more than once except Baptism.

Confirmation and Holy
Orders

LESSON TWELFTH

ON BAPTISM

152. Q. What is Baptism?

Baptism is a Sacrament
which cleanses us from
original sin, makes us
Christians, children of God,
and heirs of heaven.

153. Q. Are actual sins ever remitted by Baptism?

Actual sins and all the
punishment due to them are
remitted by Baptism, if the

PERSON baptized be guilty of
any and is rightly disposed.

154. Q. Is Baptism necessary to salvation?

Baptism is necessary to
salvation, because without it
we cannot enter into the
kingdom of heaven.

155. Q. Who can administer Baptism?

The priest is the ordinary
minister of Baptism, but in
case of necessity any one
who has the use of reason
may baptize.

156. Q. How is Baptism given?

Whoever baptizes should
pour water on the head of
the person to be baptized,
and say, while pouring the
water: I baptize thee in the
name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy
Ghost.

LESSON THIRTEENTH

ON CONFIRMATION

166. Q. What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a
Sacrament through which
we receive the Holy Ghost
to make us strong and
perfect Christians and
soldiers of Jesus Christ.

167. Q. Who administers Confirmation?

The bishop is the ordinary
minister of Confirmation.

168. Q. How does the bishop give Confirmation?

The bishop extends his hands
over those who are to be
confirmed, prays that they
may receive the Holy Ghost,
and anoints the forehead of
each with holy chrism in the
form of a cross.

170. Q. What does the bishop say in anointing the person he confirms?

In anointing the person he
confirms the bishop says: I
sign thee with the sign of
the cross, and I confirm

thee with the chrism of
salvation, in the name of
the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost.

173. Q. To receive Confirmation worthily is it necessary to be in the state of grace?

To receive Confirmation
worthily it is necessary to
be in the state of grace.

173. Q. What is a state of grace?

A state of grace is freedom
from mortal sin.

{T.N.: The above question is numbered 174 in the printed source, but a different question is given in its place in Baltimore Catechism Nos. 2 and 4, where the topic is covered in Q. 55 and elsewhere.}

175. Q. Is it a sin to neglect Confirmation?

*It is a sin to neglect
Confirmation, especially in
these evil days when faith
and morals are exposed to
so many and such violent
temptations.*

LESSON FOURTEENTH

ON THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

187. Q. What is the Sacrament of Penance?

Penance is a Sacrament in which the sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.

191. Q. What must we do to receive the Sacrament of Penance worthily?

To receive the Sacrament of Penance worthily we must do five things:

1. We must examine our conscience.

2. We must have sorrow
for our sins.

3. We must make a firm
resolution never more to
offend God.

4. We must confess our
sins to the priest.

5. We must accept the
penance which the priest
gives us.

192. Q. What is the examination of conscience?

The examination of
conscience is an earnest
effort to recall to mind all
the sins we have committed
since our last worthy
confession.

LESSON FIFTEENTH

ON CONTRITION

195. Q. What is contrition, or sorrow for sin?

Contrition, or sorrow for
sin, is a hatred of sin and a
true grief of the soul for
having offended God, with a
firm purpose of sinning no
more.

201. Q. Why should we be sorry for our sins?

We should be sorry for our
sins, because sin is the
greatest of evils and an

offense against God our
Creator, Preserver, and
Redeemer, and because
mortal sin shuts us out of
heaven and condemns us to
the eternal pains of hell.

206. Q. What do you mean by a firm purpose of sinning no more?

By a firm purpose of
sinning no more I mean a
fixed resolve not only to
avoid all mortal sin, but
also its near occasions.

207. Q. What do you mean by the near occasions of sin?

By the near occasions of sin
I mean all the persons,
places, and things that may
easily lead us into sin.

LESSON SIXTEENTH

ON CONFESSION

208. Q. What is Confession?

Confession is the telling of
our sins to a duly
authorized priest, for the
purpose of obtaining
forgiveness.

209. Q. What sins are we bound to confess?

We are bound to confess all
our mortal sins, but it is
well also to confess our
venial sins.

214. Q. What should we do if we cannot remember the number of our sins?

If we cannot remember the number of our sins, we should tell the number as nearly as possible.

216. Q. Is it a grievous offense wilfully to conceal a mortal sin in Confession?

It is a grievous offense wilfully to conceal a mortal sin in Confession, because we thereby tell a lie to the Holy Ghost, and make our Confession worthless.

217. Q. What must he do who has wilfully concealed a mortal sin in Confession?

He who has wilfully
concealed a mortal sin in
Confession must not only
confess it, but must also
repeat all the sins he has
committed since his last
worthy Confession.

218. Q. Why does the priest give us a penance after Confession?

The priest gives us a penance
after Confession that we
may satisfy God for the

temporal punishment due to
our sins.

LESSON SEVENTEENTH

ON INDULGENCES

231. Q. What is an Indulgence?

An Indulgence is the remission in whole or in part of the temporal punishment due to sin.

233. Q. How many kinds of Indulgences are there?

There are two kinds of Indulgences—Plenary and Partial.

234. Q. What is a Plenary Indulgence?

A Plenary Indulgence is the full remission of the

temporal punishment due to
sin.

235. Q. What is a Partial Indulgence?

A Partial Indulgence is the
remission of a part of the
temporal punishment due to
sin.

237. Q. What must we do to gain an Indulgence?

To gain an Indulgence we
must be in the state of
grace and perform the
works enjoined.

LESSON EIGHTEENTH

ON THE HOLY EUCHARIST

238. Q. What is the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is the
Sacrament which contains
the body and blood, soul and
divinity of our Lord Jesus
Christ under the appearances
of bread and wine.

245. Q. What do you mean by the appearances of bread and wine?

By the appearances of bread
and wine I mean the figure,
the colour, the taste and

whatever appears to the
senses.

249. Q. When did Christ give His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood?

Christ gave His priests the
power to change bread and
wine into His body and
blood when He said to the
Apostles, Do this for a
commemoration of Me.

250. Q. How do the priests exercise this power of changing bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ?

The priests exercise this
power of changing bread

and wine into the body and
blood of Christ through the
words of consecration in the
Mass, which are the words
of Christ: This is My body,
this is My blood.

LESSON NINETEENTH

ON THE ENDS FOR WHICH THE HOLY EUCHARIST WAS INSTITUTED

251. Q. Why did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist?

*Christ instituted the Holy
Eucharist.*

*1. To unite us to Himself
and to nourish our soul
with His body and blood.*

*2. To increase sanctifying
grace and all virtues in
our soul.*

*3. To lessen our evil
inclinations.*

4. To be a pledge of everlasting life.

5. To fit our bodies for a glorious resurrection.

6. To continue the sacrifice of the cross in His Church.

253. Q. What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is the receiving of the body and blood of Christ.

254. Q. What is necessary to make a good Communion?

To make a good Communion
it is necessary to be in the
state of grace and to be
fasting for one hour from
food and all drinks, except
water.

[This answer has been changed in the 1977 edition to bring it up to date with the current rules.]

255. Q. Does he who receives Communion in mortal sin receive the body and blood of Christ?

He who receives Communion
in mortal sin receives the
body and blood of Christ,
but does not receive His

grace and he commits a
great sacrilege.

LESSON TWENTIETH

ON THE SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

262. Q. When are the bread and wine changed into the body and blood of Christ?

*The bread and wine are
changed into the body and
blood of Christ at the
consecration in the Mass.*

263. Q. What is the Mass?

*The Mass is the unbloody
sacrifice of the body and
blood of Christ.*

265. Q. Is the Mass the same sacrifice as that of the cross?

The Mass is the same
sacrifice as that of the
cross.

269. Q. How should we assist at Mass?

We should assist at Mass
with great interior
recollection and piety, and
with every outward mark
of respect and devotion.

LESSON TWENTY-FIRST

ON EXTREME UNCTION AND HOLY ORDERS

271. Q. What is the Sacrament of Extreme Unction?

*Extreme Unction is the
Sacrament which, through
the anointing and prayer of
the priest, gives health and
strength to the soul, and
sometimes to the body, when
we are in danger of death
from sickness.*

274. Q. Which are the effects of the Sacrament of Extreme Unction?

The effects of Extreme Unction are: 1st to comfort us in the pains of sickness and to strengthen us against temptation; 2^d to remit venial sins and to cleanse our soul from the remains of sin; 3^d to restore us to health when God sees fit.

278. Q. What is the Sacrament of Holy Orders?

*Holy Orders is a Sacrament
by which bishops, priests, and
other ministers of the
Church are ordained and
receive the power and grace
to perform their sacred
duties.*

LESSON TWENTY-SECOND

ON MATRIMONY

282. Q. What is the Sacrament of Matrimony?

The Sacrament of Matrimony is the Sacrament which unites a Christian man and woman in lawful marriage.

285. Q. Which are the effects of the Sacrament of Matrimony?

The effects of the Sacrament of Matrimony are: 1st to sanctify the love of husband and wife.

2d. to give them grace to
bear with each other's
weaknesses. 3d. to enable
them to bring up their
children in the fear and love
of God.

286. Q. To receive the Sacrament of matrimony worthily is it necessary to be in the state of grace?

To receive the Sacrament of
Matrimony worthily it is
necessary to be in the state
of grace and it is necessary

also to comply with the
laws of the Church.

LESSON TWENTY-THIRD

ON THE SACRAMENTALS

292. Q. What is a sacramental?

A sacramental is anything set apart or blessed by the Church to excite good thoughts and to increase devotion, and through these movements of the heart to remit venial sin.

294. Q. Which is the chief sacramental used in the Church?

The chief sacramental used
in the Church is the sign of
the cross.

295. Q. How do we make the sign of the cross?

We make the sign of the
cross by putting the right
hand to the forehead, then
on the breast, and then to
the left and right shoulders,
saying, In the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and
of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

296. Q. Why do we make the sign of the cross?

We make the sign of the cross to show that we are Christians and to profess our belief in the chief mysteries of our religion.

300. Q. What other sacramental is in very frequent use?

Another sacramental in very frequent use is holy water.

301. Q. What is holy water?

Holy water is water blessed by the priest with solemn prayer to beg God's blessing

on those who use it, and
protection from the powers
of darkness.

302. Q. Are there other sacramentals besides the sign of the cross and holy water?

Besides the sign of the cross
and holy water there are
many other sacramentals,
such as blessed candles, ashes,
palms, crucifixes, images of
the Blessed Virgin and of
the saints, rosaries and
scapulars.

LESSON TWENTY-FOURTH

ON PRAYER

303. Q. Is there any other means of obtaining God's grace than the Sacraments?

*There is another means of
obtaining God's grace and it
is prayer.*

304. Q. What is prayer?

*Prayer is the lifting up of
our minds and hearts to
God to adore Him, to thank
Him for His benefits, to ask
His forgiveness, and to beg
of Him all the graces we*

need, whether for soul or
body.

305. Q. Is prayer necessary to salvation?

Prayer is necessary to
salvation, and without it no
one having the use of reason
can be saved.

306. Q. At what particular times should we pray?

We should pray particularly
on Sundays and holidays,
every morning and night, in
all dangers, temptations,
and afflictions.

308. Q. Which are the prayers most recommended to us?

The prayers most
recommended to us are the
Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary,
the Apostles' Creed, the
Confiteor, and the Acts of
Faith, Hope, Love, and
Contrition.

309. Q. Are prayers said with distractions of any avail?

Prayers said with wilful
distractions are of no avail.

LESSON TWENTY-FIFTH

ON THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

310. Q. Is it enough to belong to God's Church in order to be saved?

*It is not enough to belong
to the Church in order to be
saved, but we must also keep
the Commandments of God
and of the Church.*

313. Q. Which are the Commandments of God?

*The Commandments of God
are these ten.*

1. I am the Lord thy God.

Thou shalt not have strange
gods before Me.

2. Thou shalt not take the
name of the Lord thy God
in vain.

3. Remember thou keep
holy the Sabbath day.

4. Honor thy father and
thy mother.

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 goods.

LESSON TWENTY-SIXTH

ON THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

315. Q. What is the first Commandment?

The first Commandment is:
I am the Lord thy God:
thou shalt not have strange
gods before Me.

317. Q. How do we adore God?

We adore God by faith, hope
and love, by prayer and
sacrifice.

318. Q. How may the first Commandment be broken?

The first Commandment
may be broken by giving to

a creature the honour which belongs to God alone; by false worship; and by attributing to a creature a perfection which belongs to God alone.

320. Q. Are sins against faith, hope, and charity also sins against the first Commandment?

Sins against faith, hope, and charity are also sins against the first Commandment.

321. Q. How does a person sin against faith?

A person sins against faith: 1st, by not trying to know

what God has taught. 2d.
by refusing to believe all
that God has taught. 3d. by
neglecting to profess his
belief in what God has
taught.

326. Q. Are we obliged to make open profession of our faith?

We are obliged to make open
profession of our faith as
often as God's honor, our
neighbor's spiritual good, or
our own requires it.

327. Q. Which are the sins against hope?

The sins against hope are
presumption and despair.

328. Q. What is presumption?

Presumption is a rash
expectation of salvation
without making proper use
of the necessary means to
obtain it.

329. Q. What is despair?

Despair is the loss of hope in
God's mercy.

LESSON TWENTY-SEVENTH

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT--ON THE HONOR AND INVOCATION OF SAINTS

331. Q. Does the first Commandment forbid the honoring of the saints?

*The first Commandment
does not forbid the honoring
of the saints, but rather
approves of it, because by
honoring the saints, who are
the chosen friends of God,
we honor God Himself.*

332. Q. Does the first Commandment forbid us to pray to the saints?

The first Commandment
does not forbid us to pray
to the saints.

333. Q. What do we mean by praying to the saints?

By praying to the saints we
mean the asking of their
help and prayers.

340. Q. Does the first Commandment forbid us to honor relics?

The first Commandment
does not forbid us to honor
relics, because relics are the
bodies of the saints or

objects directly connected
with them or with our Lord.

341. Q. Does the first Commandment forbid the making of images?

The first Commandment
does forbid the making of
images if they are made to
be adored as gods, but it
does not forbid the making
of them to put us in mind
of Jesus Christ, His Blessed
Mother, and the saints.

342. Q. Is it right to show respect to the pictures and images of Christ and His saints?

*It is right to show respect
to the pictures and images
of Christ and His saints,
because they are the
representations and
memorials of them.*

343. Q. Is it allowed to pray to the crucifix or to the images and relics of the saints?

*It is not allowed to pray to
the crucifix or images and
relics of the saints, for they
have no life, nor power to
help us, nor sense to hear us.*

344. Q. Why do we pray before the crucifix and the images and relics of the saints?

We pray before the crucifix
and images and relics of the
saints because they enliven
our devotion by exciting
pious affections and desires,
and by reminding us of
Christ and of the saints
that we may imitate their
virtues.

LESSON TWENTY-EIGHTH

FROM THE SECOND TO THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

345. Q. What is the second Commandment?

The second Commandment
is: Thou shalt not take the
name of the Lord thy God
in vain.

346. Q. What are we commanded by the second Commandment?

We are commanded by the
second Commandment to
speak with reverence of God
and of the saints, and of all

holy things, and to keep our
lawful oaths and vows.

347. Q. What is an oath?

An oath is the calling upon
God to witness the truth of
what we say.

350. Q. What is a vow?

A vow is a deliberate
promise made to God to do
something that is pleasing
to Him.

351. Q. Is it a sin not to fulfill our vows?

Not to fulfill our vows is a
sin, mortal or venial,
according to the nature of
the vow and the intention
we had in making it.

352. Q. What is forbidden by the second Commandment?

The second Commandment
forbids all false, rash,
unjust, and unnecessary
oaths, blasphemy, cursing,
and profane words.

353. Q. What is the third Commandment?

The third Commandment is:
Remember thou keep holy
the Sabbath day.

355. Q. How are we to worship God on Sundays and holydays of obligation?

We are to worship God on
Sundays and holydays of
obligation by hearing Mass,
by prayer, and by other
good works.

358. Q. What is forbidden by the third Commandment?

The third Commandment
forbids all unnecessary

servile work and whatever
else may hinder the due
observance of the Lord's day.

359. Q. What are servile works?

Servile works are those
which require labor rather
of body than of mind.

360. Q. Are servile works on Sunday ever lawful?

Servile works are lawful on
Sunday when the honor of
God, the good of our
neighbor, or necessity
requires them.

LESSON TWENTY-NINTH

FROM THE FOURTH TO THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

361. Q. What is the fourth Commandment?

The fourth Commandment
is: Honor thy father and
thy mother.

362. Q. What are we commanded by the fourth Commandment?

We are commanded by the
fourth Commandment to
honor love and obey our
parents in all that is not
sin.

363. Q. Are we bound to honor and obey others than our parents?

We are also bound to honor
and obey our bishops,
pastors, magistrates,
teachers, and other lawful
superiors.

365. Q. What is forbidden by the fourth Commandment?

The fourth Commandment
forbids all disobedience,
contempt, and stubbornness
towards our parents or
lawful superiors.

366. Q. What is the fifth Commandment?

The fifth Commandment is:
Thou shalt not kill.

367. Q. What are we commanded by the fifth Commandment?

We are commanded by the fifth Commandment to live in peace and union with our neighbor, to respect his rights, to seek his spiritual and bodily welfare, and to take proper care of our own life and health.

368. Q. What is forbidden by the fifth Commandment?

The fifth Commandment
forbids all wilful murder,
fighting, anger, hatred,
revenge, and bad example.

369. Q. What is the sixth Commandment?

The sixth Commandment is:
Thou shalt not commit
adultery.

370. Q. What are we commanded by the sixth Commandment?

We are commanded by the
sixth Commandment to be
pure in thought and modest

*in all our looks, words, and
actions.*

371. Q. What is forbidden by the sixth Commandment?

*The sixth commandment
forbids all unchaste freedom
with another's wife or
husband; also all immodesty
with ourselves or others in
looks, dress, words, or
actions.*

372. Q. Does the sixth Commandment forbid the reading of bad and immodest books and newspapers?

*The sixth Commandment
does forbid the reading of*

*bad and immodest books and
newspapers.*

LESSON THIRTIETH

FROM THE SEVENTH TO THE END OF THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

373. Q. What is the seventh Commandment?

*The seventh Commandment
is: Thou shalt not steal.*

374. Q. What are we commanded by the seventh Commandment?

*By the seventh
Commandment we are
commanded to give to all
men what belongs to them
and to respect their
property.*

375. Q. What is forbidden by the seventh Commandment?

The seventh Commandment
forbids all unjust taking or
keeping what belongs to
another.

376. Q. Are we bound to restore ill-gotten goods?

We are bound to restore ill-
gotten goods, or the value
of them, as far as we are
able, otherwise we cannot be
forgiven.

377. Q. Are we obliged to repair the damage we have unjustly caused?

We are bound to repair the
damage we have unjustly
caused.

378. Q. What is the eighth Commandment?

The eighth Commandment is:
Thou shalt not bear false
witness against thy
neighbor.

379. Q. What are we commanded by the eighth Commandment?

We are commanded by the
eighth Commandment to
speak the truth in all things.

and to be careful of the
honour and reputation of
every one.

380. Q. What is forbidden by the eighth Commandment?

The eighth Commandment
forbids all rash judgments,
backbiting, slanders, and lies.

382. Q. What is the ninth Commandment?

The ninth Commandment is:
Thou shalt not covet thy
neighbor's wife.

383. Q. What are we commanded by the ninth Commandment?

We are commanded by the
ninth Commandment to
keep ourselves pure in
thought and desire.

384. Q. What is forbidden by the ninth Commandment?

The ninth Commandment
forbids unchaste thoughts,
desires of another's wife or
husband, and all other
unlawful impure thoughts
and desires.

386. Q. What is the tenth Commandment?

The tenth Commandment is:
Thou shalt not covet thy
neighbor's goods.

387. Q. What are we commanded by the tenth Commandment?

By the tenth Commandment
we are commanded to be
content with what we have,
and to rejoice in our
neighbor's welfare.

388. Q. What is forbidden by the tenth Commandment?

The tenth Commandment
forbids all desires to take or

keep wrongfully what
belongs to another.

LESSON THIRTY-FIRST

ON THE FIRST AND SECOND COMMANDMENTS OF THE CHURCH

389. Q. Which are the chief commandments of the Church?

*The chief commandments of
the Church are six:*

1. To hear Mass on

*Sundays and holydays of
obligation.*

*2. To fast and abstain on
the days appointed.*

*3. To confess at least
ONCE a YEAR.*

4. To receive the Holy Eucharist during the Easter time.

5. To contribute to the support of our pastors.

6. Not to marry persons who are not Catholics, or who are related to us within the third degree of kindred, nor privately without witnesses, nor to

solemnize marriage at
forbidden times.

390. Q. Is it a mortal sin not to hear Mass on a Sunday or a holyday of obligation?

It is a mortal sin not to
hear Mass on a Sunday or a
holyday of obligation unless
we are excused for a serious
reason. They also commit a
mortal sin who, having
others under their charge,
hinder them from hearing

Mass, without a sufficient
reason.

393. Q. What do you mean by fast-days?

By fast-days I mean days
on which we are allowed
but one full meal.

394. Q. What do you mean by days of abstinence?

By days of abstinence, I
mean days on which we are
forbidden to eat flesh-meat,
but are allowed the usual
number of meals.

395. Q. Why does the Church command us to fast and abstain?

The Church commands us to
fast and abstain in order
that we may mortify our
passions and satisfy for our
sins.

LESSON THIRTY-SECOND

ON THE THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH COMMANDMENTS OF THE CHURCH

397. Q. What is meant by the command of confessing at least once a year?

*By the command of
confessing at least once a
year is meant that we are
obliged, under pain of
mortal sin, to go to
Confession within the year.*

400. Q. What sin does he commit who neglects to receive Communion during the Easter time?

*He who neglects to receive
Communion during the*

Easter time commits a
mortal sin.

401. Q. What is the Easter time?

The Easter time is, in this
country, the time between
the first Sunday of Lent
and Trinity Sunday.

402. Q. Are we obliged to contribute to the support of our pastors?

We are obliged to contribute
to the support of our
pastors, and to bear our
share in the expenses of the
Church and school.

LESSON THIRTY-THIRD

ON THE LAST JUDGMENT AND THE RESURRECTION, HELL, PURGATORY, AND HEAVEN

408. Q. When will Christ judge us?

*Christ will judge us
immediately after our death,
and on the last day.*

409. Q. What is the judgment called which we have to undergo immediately after death?

*The judgment we have to
undergo immediately after
death is called the Particular
Judgment.*

410. Q. What is the judgment called which all men have to undergo on the last day?

*The judgment which all men
have to undergo on the last*

day is called the General
Judgment.

412. Q. What are the rewards or punishments appointed for men's souls after the Particular Judgment?

The rewards or punishments
appointed for men's souls
after the Particular
Judgment are Heaven,
Purgatory, and Hell.

413. Q. What is Hell?

Hell is a state to which the
wicked are condemned, and
in which they are deprived
of the sight of God for all

eternity, and are in dreadful
torments.

414. Q. What is Purgatory?

Purgatory is a state in
which those suffer for a
time who die guilty of
venial sins, or without
having satisfied for the
punishment due to their sins.

417. Q. Will our bodies share in the reward or punishment of our souls?

Our bodies will share in the
reward or punishment of
our souls, because through

the resurrection they will
again be united to them.

420. Q. What is Heaven?

Heaven is the state of
everlasting life in which we
see God face to face, are
made like unto Him in
glory and enjoy eternal
happiness.