

BALTIMORE
CATECHISM
TWO

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A CATECHISM
of CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE
NO. 2

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BALTIMORE CATECHISM TWO

*Prepared and Enjoined by Order of
The Third Plenary Council of Baltimore*

WITH PHONETICIZED WORDS,
AND WORD MEANINGS

QUESTIONS NUMBERED TO AGREE WITH
“EXPLANATION OF THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM”

With Prayers and Hymns



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P R A Y E R S



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 those who 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 amongst 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 arose 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

The Confiteor

I confess to Almighty God, to Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, to Blessed Michael the Archangel, to Blessed John the Baptist, to the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and to all the Saints, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I beseech Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Blessed Michael the Archangel, Blessed John the Baptist, the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and all the Saints, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

May the Almighty God have mercy on me, and forgive me my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant me pardon, absolution and remission of all my sins. Amen.

An Act of Faith

O my God! I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; I believe that Thy 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 Thou hast revealed them, who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.

An Act of Hope

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

An Act of Love

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

An Act of Contrition

O my God! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.

The Blessing before Meals

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

Grace after Meals

✠ We give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits, O Almighty God, who livest and reignest forever; and may the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

*The Manner in Which a Lay Person
Is to Baptize in Case of Necessity*

Pour common water on the head or face of the person to be baptized, and say while pouring it:

“I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

N.B. Any person of either sex who has reached the use of reason can baptize in case of necessity, but the same person must say the words while pouring the water.

CATECHISM

KEY TO
PRONUNCIATION

ā as in face	ě as in edge	ū as in huge
â as in chocolate	é as in baker	ů as in up
â as in dare	ī as in like	û as in burn
ǎ as in act	ĩ as in fin	ōō as in mood
ä as in farm	ō as in old	õõ as in brook
à as in tall	ô as in or	ou as in out
ē as in eve	ö as in oft	



LESSON FIRST

On the End of Man

-
- A-pos'tles** (ă-pôs'łz), the twelve men chosen by Christ to carry on His work.
- Chief** (chēf), the most important.
- Com-posed'** (kôm-pôzd'), made up of.
- Cre-a'tor** (krē-ā'tēr), the One who made all things out of nothing.
- Cre-a'ture** (krē'tūr), everything made by God out of nothing.
- Creed** (krēd), a list of the principal truths of faith in a few words.
- Cru'ci-fied** (krū'sī-fīd), nailed hands and feet to a cross.
- End**, the purpose for which he was made.
- Ev'er-last'ing** (ěv'ěr-lăst'ing), that never comes to an end.
- Free will**, power to choose the right or wrong.
- Know**, to learn all we can about.
- Serve** (sērv), to do His holy will.
- Soul**, the spirit in man giving life to the body.
- Spir'it** (spīr'īt), a living being which cannot be seen or touched.
- Un'der-stand'ing** (ŭn'dēr-stănd'ing), the power of knowing right from wrong.
- Wor'ship** (wūr'shīp), to pay God the honor due Him alone, to adore.

1. Q. Who made the world?

A. God made the world.

2. Q. Who is God?

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

3. Q. What is man?

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

- 4. Q. Is this likeness in the body or in the soul?**
A. This likeness is chiefly in the soul.
- 5. Q. How is the soul like to God?**
A. The soul is like God because it is a spirit that will never die, and has understanding and free will.
- 6. Q. Why did God make you?**
A. 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.
- 7. Q. Of which must we take more care, our soul or our body?**
A. We must take more care of our soul than of our body.
- 8. Q. Why must we take more care of our soul than of our body?**
A. We must take more care of our soul than of our body, because in losing our soul we lose God and everlasting happiness.
- 9. Q. What must we do to save our souls?**
A. 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?**
A. 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?**
A. We shall find the chief truths which the Church teaches in the Apostles' Creed.

12. Q. Say the Apostles' Creed.

A. 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

Im-pos'si-ble (ĩm-pös'ĩ-b'l), can not be done.	Per'fect (pĕr'fekt), so good that nothing can be better.
In'fi-nite-ly (ĩn'fĩ-nĩt-lĩ), beyond measure.	Per-fec'tions (pĕr-fĕk'shũnz), good qualities.
Mer'ci-ful (mĕr'sĩ-fũl), kind, and forgiving.	Se'cret (sĕ'krĕt), that which is known to myself only.

13. Q. What is God?

A. God is a spirit infinitely perfect.

14. Q. Had God a beginning?

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

15. Q. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere.

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

A. We do not see God, because He is a pure spirit and cannot be seen with bodily eyes.

17. Q. Does God see us?

A. God sees us and watches over us.

18. Q. Does God know all things?

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

19. Q. Can God do all things?

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

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

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



LESSON THIRD

On the Unity and Trinity of God

Dis-tinct' (dīs-tīnkt'), separate, different.	In'fi-nite (in'fī-nīt), without limit.
Di-vine' (dī-vīn'), having the nature of God.	Sub'stance (süb'stäns), the very heart of a thing.
Di-vine' Na'ture (nā'tūr), that which is one in God.	Su-preme' (sū-prēm'), above all.
E'qual (ē'kwäl), another just as great and perfect as Himself.	Trin'i-ty (trīn'ī-tī), three in one.
	U'ni-ty (ū'nī-tī), being only one.

21. Q. Is there but one God?

A. Yes; there is but one God.

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

A. 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?

A. 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?

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

25. Q. Is the Son God?

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

26. Q. Is the Holy Ghost God?

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

27. Q. What do you mean by the Blessed Trinity?

A. By the Blessed Trinity I mean one God in three Divine Persons.

28. Q. Are the three Divine Persons equal in all things?

A. The three Divine Persons are equal in all things.

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

A. The three Divine Persons are one and the same God, having one and the same Divine Nature and substance.

30. Q. Can we fully understand how the three Divine Persons are one and the same God?

A. We cannot fully understand how the three Divine Persons are one and the same God, because this is a mystery.

31. Q. What is a mystery?

A. A mystery is a truth which we cannot fully understand.