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A Catechism

that is to say, an Instruction,
to be Learned by Every Person before he
be brought to be Confirmed
by the Bishop.

QUESTION. What is your Name?

Answer. *Name or First Name First Name.*

Question. Who gave you this Name?

Answer. My Sponsors in Baptism; when I was made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.

Question. What did your Sponsors do for you?

Answer. They did promise and vow three things in my name: First, that I should renounce the devil and all his works, the arrogance and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh; Secondly, that I should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith; And Thirdly, that I should keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life.

Question. Do you not think that you are obligated to believe, and to do as they have promised for you?

Answer. Yes, truly; and by God's help I will. And I heartily thank our heavenly Father, that he has called me to this state of salvation, through Jesus Christ our

Savior. And I pray to God to give me his grace, that I may continue in the same to my life's end.

Catechist. Rehearse the Articles of your Belief.

Answer. I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker 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, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

Question. What do you chiefly learn in these Articles of your Belief?

Answer. First, I learn to believe in God the Father, who has made me, and all the world.

Secondly, in God the Son, who has redeemed me, and all mankind.

Thirdly, in God the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies me, and all the people of God.

Question. You said that your Sponsors did promise for you, that you should keep God's Commandments. How many are there?

Answer. Ten.

Question. What are they?

Answer. The same which God spoke in the twentieth Chapter of Exodus, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

I. You shall have no other gods before me.

II. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

III. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

IV. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your

gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

V. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

VI. You shall not murder.

VII. You shall not commit adultery.

VIII. You shall not steal.

IX. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

X. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

Question. What do you chiefly learn through these Commandments?

Answer. I learn two things; my duty towards God, and my duty towards my Neighbor.

Question. What is thy duty towards God?

Answer. My duty towards God is to believe in him, to fear him, and to love him with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength; To worship him, to give him thanks; To put my whole trust in him, to call upon him; To honor his holy Name

and his Word; and to serve him truly all the days of my life.

Question. What is thy duty towards your Neighbor?

Answer. My duty towards my Neighbor is to love him as myself, and to do to all men as I would they should do to me; to love, honor, and aid my father and mother; to honor and obey the civil authority; to submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters; to act respectfully to those in my charge; to hurt nobody in my words or deeds; to be truthful and just in all I do; to bear no ill-will or hatred in my heart; to keep my hands from stealing, and my tongue from evil speaking, lying, and slandering; to keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity; not to covet nor desire the possessions of others; but to learn and labor to make my living; and to do my duty in the vocations that God calls for me.

Catechist. My good Child, know this; that you are not able to do these things of your, nor to walk in the Commandments of God, and to serve him, without his special grace; which you must learn at all times to call for by diligent prayer. Let me hear, therefore, if you can say the Lord's Prayer.

Answer. 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Question. What do you desire from God in this Prayer?

Answer. I desire my Lord God, our heavenly Father, who is the giver of all goodness, to send his grace unto me, and to all people; that we may worship him, serve him, and obey him, as we ought to do. And I pray to God, that he will send us all things that are necessary for both our souls and bodies; and that he will be merciful unto us, and forgive us our sins; and that it will please him to save and defend us in all dangers both of soul and body; and that he will keep us from all sin and wickedness, and from our spiritual enemy, and from everlasting death. And this I trust he will do of his mercy and goodness, through our Lord Jesus Christ. And therefore, I say, Amen, which means “So be it.”

Question. How many Sacraments has Christ ordained in his Church?

Answer. Two only, as generally necessary for salvation; that is to say, Baptism, and the Supper of the Lord.

Question. What do you mean by the word Sacrament?

Answer. I mean an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given to us; ordained by Christ himself, as a means where we receive the same, and a pledge to assure us.

Question. How many parts are there in a Sacrament?

Answer. Two; the outward visible sign, and the inward spiritual grace.

Question. What is the outward visible sign or form in Baptism?

Answer. Water; where the person is baptized, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Question. What is the inward and spiritual grace?

Answer. A death in our sins, and a new birth into righteousness: for being by nature born in sin, and the children of wrath, we are now made the children of grace.

Question. What is required of persons to be baptized?

Answer. Repentance, where we forsake sin; and Faith, where we loyally believe the promises of God made in that Sacrament.

Question. Why are infants baptized, when by reason of their tender age they cannot repent or have faith?

Answer. Because their Sponsors promise on their behalf; which promises, when the infants come to age, themselves are bound to perform.

Question. Why was the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ordained?

Answer. For the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of the death of Christ, and for the benefits which we receive through it.

Question. What is the outward part or sign of the Lord's Supper?

Answer. Bread and Wine, which the Lord has commanded to be received.

Question. What is the inward part, or thing signified?

Answer. The Body and Blood of Christ, which are spiritually taken and received by the faithful in the Lord's Supper.

Question. What are the benefits we partake in through the Lord's Supper?

Answer. The strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of Christ, just as our bodies are strengthened and refreshed by the Bread and Wine.

Question. What is required of those who come to the Lord's Supper?

Answer. To examine themselves, whether they truly repent of their former sins, steadfastly purpose to lead a new life; have a lively faith in God's mercy through Christ, with a thankful remembrance of his death; and be in charity with all men.

¶ *The Minister of every Parish shall diligently, upon Sundays and Holy Days, or on some other convenient occasions, openly in the Church, instruct or examine so many Children of his Parish, sent unto him, as he shall think convenient, in some part of this Catechism.*

¶ *And all Fathers, Mothers, Masters, and Mistresses, shall cause their Children, Servants, and Apprentices, who have not learned their Catechism, to come to the Church at the time appointed, and obediently to hear and to be ordered by the Minister, until such time as they have learned all that is here appointed for them to learn.*

¶ *So soon as Children are come to a competent age, and can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and can answer to the other questions of this short Catechism, they shall be brought to the Bishop.*

¶ *And whenever the Bishop shall give knowledge for Children to be brought unto him for their Confirmation, the Minister of every Parish shall either bring, or send in writing, with his hand subscribed thereunto, the Names of all such Persons within his Parish, as he shall think it to be presented to the Bishop to be confirmed.*

