

# My Little Catechism

A Primer for First Confession and First Communion



**“Let the Children Come to Me” (Mark10:14)**

Second Edition

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Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Allentown, on the ninth day of August, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-three, in the sixth year of my Episcopate.



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Bishop of Allentown

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DEDICATED  
TO  
THE HOLY CHILD JESUS  
AND HIS MOTHER  
MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE

## PREFACE

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This book is simplified for children but is not meant to be read exclusively by children. Actually, it is written for teachers or parents to read to their children since not all children may be able to read yet when they start learning their catechism. Because of the brevity of the answers given in the text, parents and teachers need to reinforce the answers given in the text and answer children's questions. The book is divided into ten lessons, but some lessons may need two or three teaching sessions to complete.

This catechism is in question-and-answer format. I have added some pictures or illustrations to make the book interesting to the children. Most of the pictures used here are believed to be in the public domain here in the U.S. Others, which I found on the internet without provenance, have an undetermined copyright status, but I took the liberty of using them based on the concept of "fair use," as defined by Title 17, U.S. Code §107, for educational purposes. Picture credits and a link to their sources and license (when available) are given at the end of the book.

I gratefully acknowledge here the help of those who have given me helpful suggestions, comments, and feedback.

Although I made this book as a lay Dominican, it is my personal project and not the project of the Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic. Therefore, any error, omission, or legal infraction detected in this book is solely my responsibility and does not implicate the Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic or the Order of Preachers as a whole.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<b>Lesson 1</b> <i>God</i>	5
<b>Lesson 2</b> <i>God the Father, Man, Angels, and Sin</i>	12
<b>Lesson 3</b> <i>God the Son, the Blessed Virgin, and Saint Joseph</i>	20
<b>Lesson 4</b> <i>God the Holy Spirit and Grace</i>	36
<b>Lesson 5</b> <i>The Sacraments</i>	41
<b>Lesson 6</b> <i>The Commandments of God</i>	46
<b>Lesson 7</b> <i>The Stories of Jesus</i>	51
<b>Lesson 8</b> <i>Confession</i>	59
<b>Lesson 9</b> <i>Holy Mass</i>	64
<b>Lesson 10</b> <i>Holy Communion</i>	68
<b>Appendix:</b> <i>Catholic Prayers</i>	74
<i>Picture Credits and Sources</i>	88

## LESSON 1 GOD

### What is God?

God is the powerful Being who made the whole world and everything in it.

### How did God make the world?

He made the world with His power. He made everything out of nothing by His command alone.

### How was the world made?

In the beginning, God was all alone. Then He commanded, “Let the stars be,” and the stars were made. He said, “Let the sun be,” and the sun was made; “Let the moon be,” and the moon was made. He is *all-powerful* and can make the whole world out of nothing by His command. All He has to do is say, “Let the world be.”



**Fig. 1.1 God Makes the World**

### Can we see God?

No, we cannot see God because He is a pure spirit. Spirits have no bodies. In the picture above, God is shown as a man with a white beard, only to help our imagination. Actually, God is a spirit and cannot be seen with the eye.

### Where did God come from?

God did not come from anywhere or anything. He always was and always will be. He had no beginning and will never have an end. He is always living and will never die.

### Where is God?

God is in Heaven. Heaven is God's home. But God is in all places, too. He is in our hearts and minds. We say that God is *all-present* because He is everywhere.

### Does God know everything?

Yes, God sees and knows everything. He knows our thoughts and sees all that we do. He is *all-knowing*. We cannot hide anything from Him. He knows when we are good and when we are bad.

### Did God make the Earth?

Yes, God made the Earth. He made the land, the sea, the sky, and everything in them. He made the animals, the fishes, the birds, the plants, and the trees. He made the people, too.

### Why did God make us?

God made us to know, love, and serve Him in this world and to be happy with Him forever in our next life. He wants us to live again and be happy with Him after we die.

### Do we have another life after death?

Yes, and it will be a life that will never end. In our next life, we will never die again.

### What will our next life be like?

Our next life will be a life of unending happiness or a life of unending sadness. If we have been good, God will let us live happily with Him forever in Heaven. If we have been bad, we will lose God's love and live sadly away from Him in our next life.

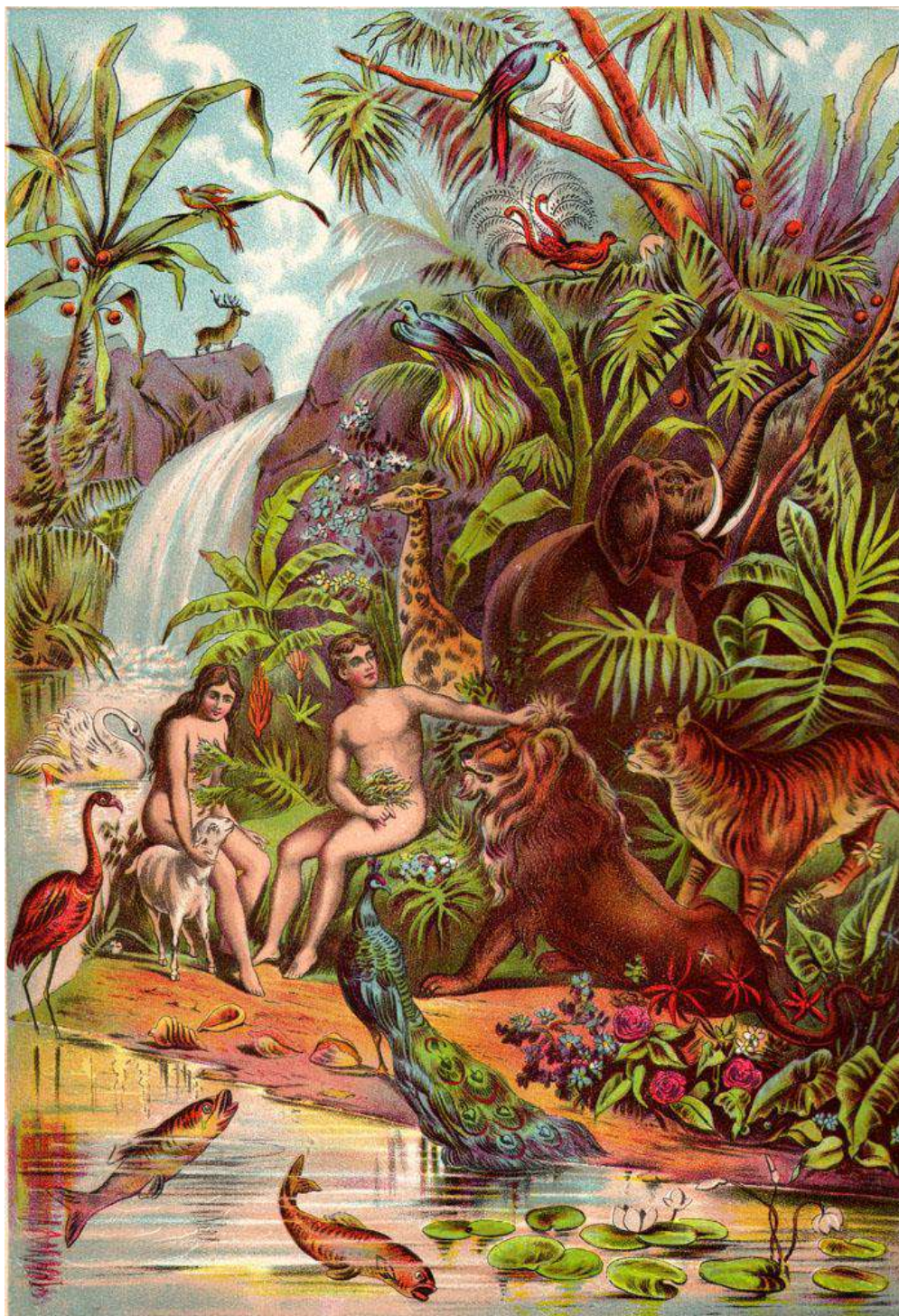
### If God cannot be seen, how do we know that there is a God?

Our minds tell us that there is a God. Without Him, we do not know where everything came from. There must be a good God Who made the world and placed the first man and woman—Adam and Eve—in it.

### Where did the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, live?

Adam and Eve lived in a place on Earth called the Garden of Eden. The garden was so beautiful that it was called Paradise. In Paradise, Adam and Eve lived peacefully, and all the animals obeyed them.





**Fig. 1.2 Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden**

The first people on Earth were Adam and Eve. They were our first parents. In the picture, they weren't wearing clothes because they were innocent when they were made and had no shame.

Is there only one God?

Yes, there is only one God.

What is the greatest truth that we learn about God?

The greatest truth we learn about God is that in one God there are three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each of us is only one person, but God is different. God is three Persons.

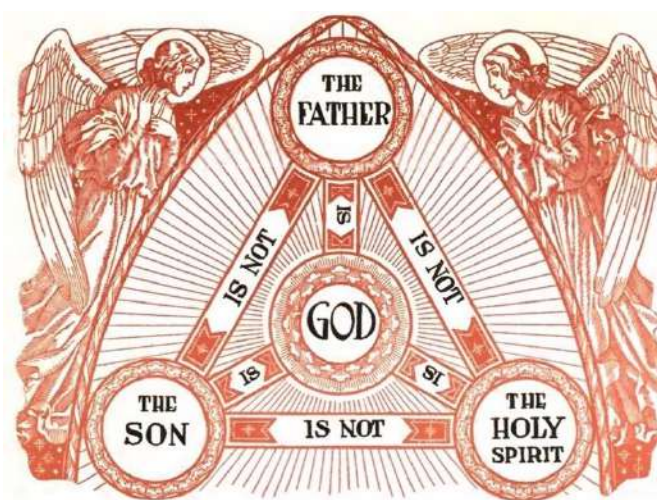


Fig. 1.3 The Blessed Trinity

The three Divine Persons are like the three corners of a triangle. In a triangle, there are three corners, but only one triangle. In God, there are three Persons, but only one God. Each Divine Person is different, just as each corner of the triangle is different. The Father is God, but He is not the Son. The Son is God, but He is not the Father. The Holy Spirit is God, but He is neither the Father nor the Son. Each Person is God. But there are not three, but only ONE God. The three Persons in one God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—are known as the **Blessed Trinity**.

How do we show that we believe in the Blessed Trinity?

We show that we believe in the Blessed Trinity, or the three Persons in one God, by making the *Sign of the Cross*. We say this prayer while moving our hands over our bodies in the form of a cross.

How do we make and pray the *Sign of the Cross*?

We make a cross over our bodies and say, “*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*” (Look at the picture below.)

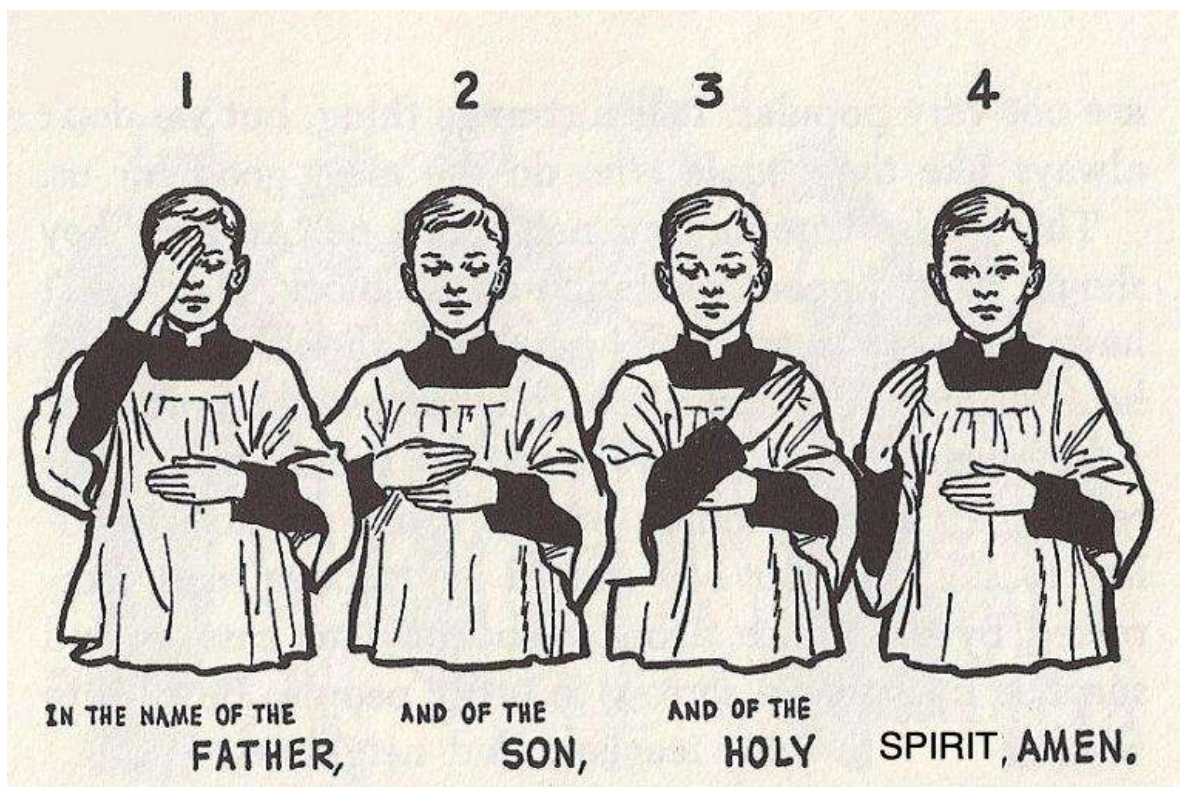


Fig. 1.4 The Sign of the Cross

We begin and end our prayers with the *Sign of the Cross* to honor the Blessed Trinity. We pray before we sleep, when we wake up, and before we eat or study.

What other prayer do we use to honor the Blessed Trinity?  
 The other prayer that we use to honor the Blessed Trinity is the *Glory Be*. It goes like this: “*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*”



**Fig. 1.5 The Three Persons in One God**

Explain the picture above.

The picture above is a symbol of the three Persons in one God. The man with the white beard is the symbol of God the Father. The man carrying a cross is the symbol of God the Son. And the white dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. This picture is only a symbol because, actually, God cannot be seen by the eye.

## LESSON 2 GOD THE FATHER, MAN, ANGELS, AND SIN

How did God the Father show His love for us?

God the Father showed His love for us by making us.

In whose likeness did He make us?

He made us in His own image and likeness.

Is this likeness in our bodies or in our souls?

In our souls.

Can we see our souls?

No, because our souls are also spirits.

In what way are our souls like God?

Our souls are like God because they are spirits and will never die.

Which must we take most care of, our bodies or our souls?

We must take the most care of our souls because they are more important than our bodies. Our souls do not die, but our bodies can.

Before God made us, did He make anyone else?

Yes, He made the angels in Heaven. Like God, the angels are also pure spirits and will never die. Unlike God, they are not all-powerful, all-present, or all-knowing.

## What do angels do?

Angels act as God's messengers. This is why they are shown with wings in the picture below. In Heaven, the angels also sing songs and praises to God without end.



**Fig. 2.1 Angels**

This picture is only an artistic representation or symbol of angels because angels are pure spirits and have no bodies or wings. Strictly, therefore, we cannot see them.

Is that all that the angels do?

Some angels also watch out for us and protect us. They are called our **guardian angels**. Every child, man, and woman has a guardian angel. We must often pray to our guardian angel to protect us against danger. (See *Appendix* for the *Prayer to Our Guardian Angel*.)



**Fig. 2.2 A Guardian Angel Watches Over the Children**

### Are all angels good?

In the beginning, the angels were all very good. God loved them and gave them special gifts: beauty, intelligence, and power. He wanted them to obey Him and be happy with Him forever in Heaven. But some of the angels became bad and did not want to obey God. They stopped doing what God wanted. That was very bad. Disobedience to God is a **sin**.

### Where do the angels live?

The good angels live with God in Heaven. There, the good angels live happily with God.

### What happened to the bad angels?

The bad angels—also called devils or demons—did not want to be with God in Heaven. So, God punished them. God sent His good angels to cast the devils out of Heaven. The leader of the good angels was St. Michael. He and the other good angels drove the devils into hell. There, they are being punished and burned with hellfire forever.

### Are all devils in hell?

Yes, but some devils or demons are also on Earth, trying to make people disobey God and commit sin.





**Fig. 2.3 St. Michael Casts the Demons into Hell**

Who else will be happy with God in Heaven?

After death, good people who love, serve, and obey God will join the good angels and be happy with God in Heaven. Their happiness will never end. They will be happy forever.

What will happen to bad people who do not love, serve, and obey God?

After death, bad people who do not love, serve, and obey God will join the devils in hell and will be punished together with the devils with hellfire. Their suffering will never end; they will suffer and be unhappy forever.

## Sin

What makes us bad?

Sin makes us bad. Sin is any act of disobedience against God.

What do we call the sins we commit?

We call the sins we commit “actual sins.” When we disobey God, we commit an actual sin.

What is original sin?

Original sin is the sin committed by our first parents, Adam and Eve. Original sin is not our actual sin; it is the actual sin of Adam and Eve. But we are stained with this sin since we came from Adam and Eve.

## How did Adam and Eve commit their sin?

When God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, He told them that they could eat any fruit in the garden except the fruit of a certain tree that grew in the garden. One day, the devil appeared to Eve in the form of a serpent and told her that if she were to eat the forbidden fruit, she would also become all-knowing and all-powerful like God. That was a lie. But Eve believed it, ate the fruit, and gave some to Adam. When Adam learned from Eve what the devil said, he also believed the devil's lie and ate the fruit. Both Adam and Eve disobeyed God and committed the first sin by eating the forbidden fruit. Their sin is called original sin.



**Fig. 2.4 The Sin of Adam and Eve**

What happened to Adam and Eve because of their sin?

God is all-knowing. He knows that Adam and Eve ate the fruit that He told them not to eat. So, He punished them for their disobedience by driving them out of Paradise and closing Heaven's door to them.



**Fig. 2.5 Adam and Eve Driven Out of Paradise**

God put angels in Paradise so that Adam and Eve could not return to their former home. Because of this, all of us—the children of Adam and Eve—also lost Heaven and Paradise; just like when careless parents lose their house to fire, the children also lose their home. Although original sin is not our actual sin, we share the punishment of our first parents. Our souls are stained with original sin when we are born.

## LESSON 3 GOD THE SON, THE VIRGIN MARY, AND ST. JOSEPH

Did God take pity on our first parents after they sinned?

Yes, He promised to send them a Savior who would open Heaven's door again for them and save them and all of us from the punishment of sin.

Who was this Savior?

The Savior sent by God the Father to save us from the punishment of sin was God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

How did God the Son save us from the punishment of sin?

God the Son saved us from the punishment of sin by becoming man Himself and offering His life for the forgiveness of our sins—original sin and our actual sins.

What name did God the Son take as a man?

As a man, God the Son took the name **Jesus Christ**.

How did God the Son become man?

God the Father first sent the Angel Gabriel to a holy virgin whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "*Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.*" It means, "God is very pleased with you, Mary." Then he explained to her that God had chosen her to become the mother of a child Who

would be called Jesus. Mary asked the angel, “How shall this happen?” The angel answered, “By the power of the Holy Spirit. He will come upon you, and the child Who will be born of you shall be called the Son of God.” When Mary said yes, the Baby Jesus began to grow in her womb.



**Fig. 3.1 The Angel Tells Mary That She Will Be the Mother of Jesus**

Note: The dove in the picture is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

Did God the Son stop being God when He became man?  
No, He remained God while also being a man. Jesus Christ  
is both God and man.

When was Our Lord Jesus Christ born?

Our Lord Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem on Christmas  
Day over 2000 years ago. On Christmas Day, we celebrate  
the birthday of Jesus.<sup>1</sup>



**Fig. 3.2 The Birth of Jesus**

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<sup>1</sup> At this point, parents and catechists should tell the true story of Christmas to the children. See Luke 2:1–20 and Matthew 2:1–12.

## Is the Blessed Virgin Mary God?

No, the Blessed Virgin Mary is not God. She is also a human being like us. But because Jesus Christ is not only man but also God, and the Virgin Mary is the mother of Jesus, the Virgin Mary is called the *Mother of God*.

## What is the prayer that we often say to the Virgin Mary?

The prayer that we often say to the Virgin Mary is the *Hail, Mary*. It goes like this: “*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 *Hail Mary* prayer begins with “Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.” Is this not the same as the angel’s words to Mary?

Yes, it is. And that is why it is the best prayer we can make to the Virgin Mary. When we pray the *Hail Mary*, we are praising her like the Angel Gabriel!

## Why do we say that the Virgin Mary is “full of grace”?

The Virgin Mary is “full of grace” because God loved her very much. He loved her so much that He made her *without* any stain of original sin. Not only was she born without the stain of original sin, but she also never committed an actual sin in her life because she always obeyed God.



What does it mean when we say, “The Lord is with thee”?  
With these words, we tell the Virgin Mary that God is always with her because she is very special to God.

What does it mean when we say, “Blessed art thou among women”?

With these words, we praise the Virgin Mary for being the happiest of all women since she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, the Son of God. As the mother of God’s Son, she is higher than all the angels in Heaven and is to be honored by them as their queen.

What does it mean when we say, “And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus”?

With these words, we also praise Mary’s son, Jesus, for being the source of her dignity as Mother of God.

What do we ask for when we say, “Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death”?

With these words, we ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to protect us with her powerful prayers during this life and at the hour of our death.

Why are the prayers of the Virgin Mary so powerful?

The prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary are so powerful because she is the mother of Jesus Christ. As a good son, Christ listens to His mother and grants her requests.



**Fig. 3.3 Statue of the Holy Family**

### Who is the father of Jesus Christ?

As God the Son, Christ's true father is God the Father. As a man, Jesus Christ had no human father, but He had a foster father or guardian, and that was St. Joseph. Like the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph was also just a human being. But he was a good man, and he took care of the Virgin Mary and Jesus. Together, they made a holy family.

## What did Jesus do as a child?

Jesus was an only child. But He had cousins and played with them. He was never mean to anyone and never told a lie. He was obedient to the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph and always did what He was told. He never murmured or talked back. When He got a little bigger, He helped St. Joseph in his work as a carpenter. This is how Our Lord Jesus came to be known as “the carpenter’s son.”



**Fig. 3.4 The Boy Jesus Helps St. Joseph**

What did Jesus do when He grew up?

When He grew up, the Lord Jesus taught the people how to be good, pray, and go to Heaven. One prayer He taught was the *Our Father*. This prayer goes like this: “*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.*”

Why do we call God our Father?

We call God our Father because we are His *adopted* children.

What do we mean when we say, “Hallowed be Thy name”?

By this, we pray that God’s name may be honored and that He may be known, loved, and served by the whole world.

For what do we pray when we say, “Thy kingdom come”?

By this, we ask God the Father to come and reign in our hearts as our King, and that someday we, too, may come to live in His heavenly kingdom.

What does it mean when we say, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven”?

Here we ask God to help us obey His commands and accept His will, both in good times and in bad.



**Fig. 3.5 Thy Will Be Done**

For what do we pray when we say, “Give us this day our daily bread”?

Here we ask God to give us what we daily need for our bodies and for our souls.

For what do we pray when we say, “And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us”?

“Trespasses” are sins. In this prayer, we ask God’s mercy to forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

For what do we pray when we say, “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”?

Here we ask God to help us in our battle against the devil when he tempts us to sin.

Was Jesus Christ good to children?

Oh, yes! Jesus loved children, and the children loved Him. He taught them to be kind, love, and forgive each other.



**Fig. 3.6 Jesus with the Children**

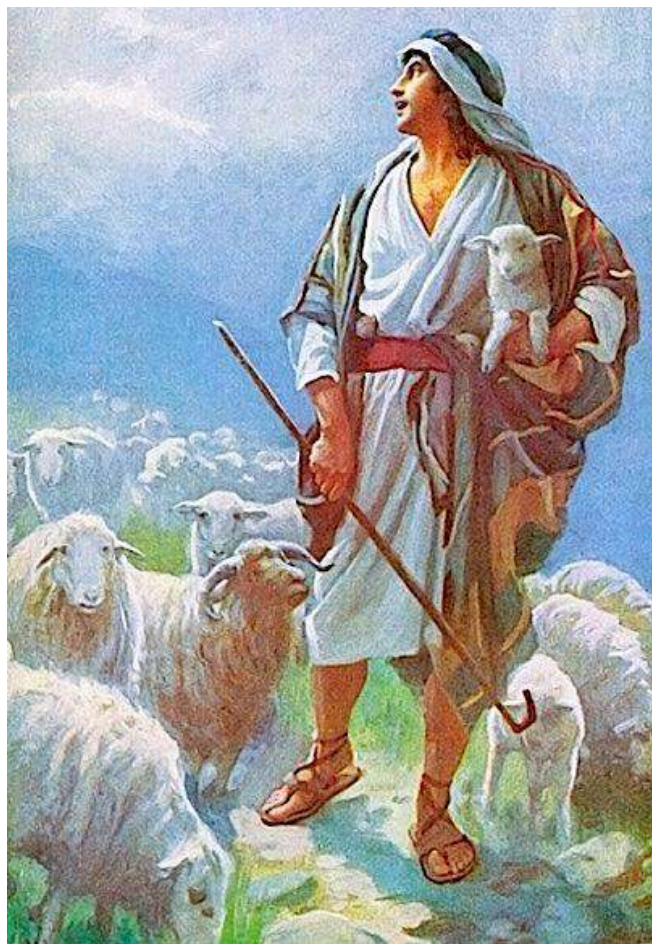
The Lord Jesus also taught the people how to be good, love, and forgive one another. He told them many stories that were easy to understand.



**Fig. 3.7 Jesus Teaches the People**

What else did Jesus teach the people?

One of Our Lord's teachings was that He was like a good shepherd, and we are like sheep. A good shepherd leads the sheep to a green pasture and takes care of them, and the sheep follow him. When a wolf comes, the good shepherd does not run away and leave the sheep. Instead, he stays with the sheep and defends them against the wolf. He would even lay down his life to save them.



**Fig. 3.8 The Good Shepherd**

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He stays with us and protects us against our enemies, especially the devil. In the end, He even gave His life to save us.



What else did Jesus Christ do besides teach the people?

Jesus Christ also helped the people by healing the sick, making the lame walk, making the blind see, and raising some who were already dead to life.

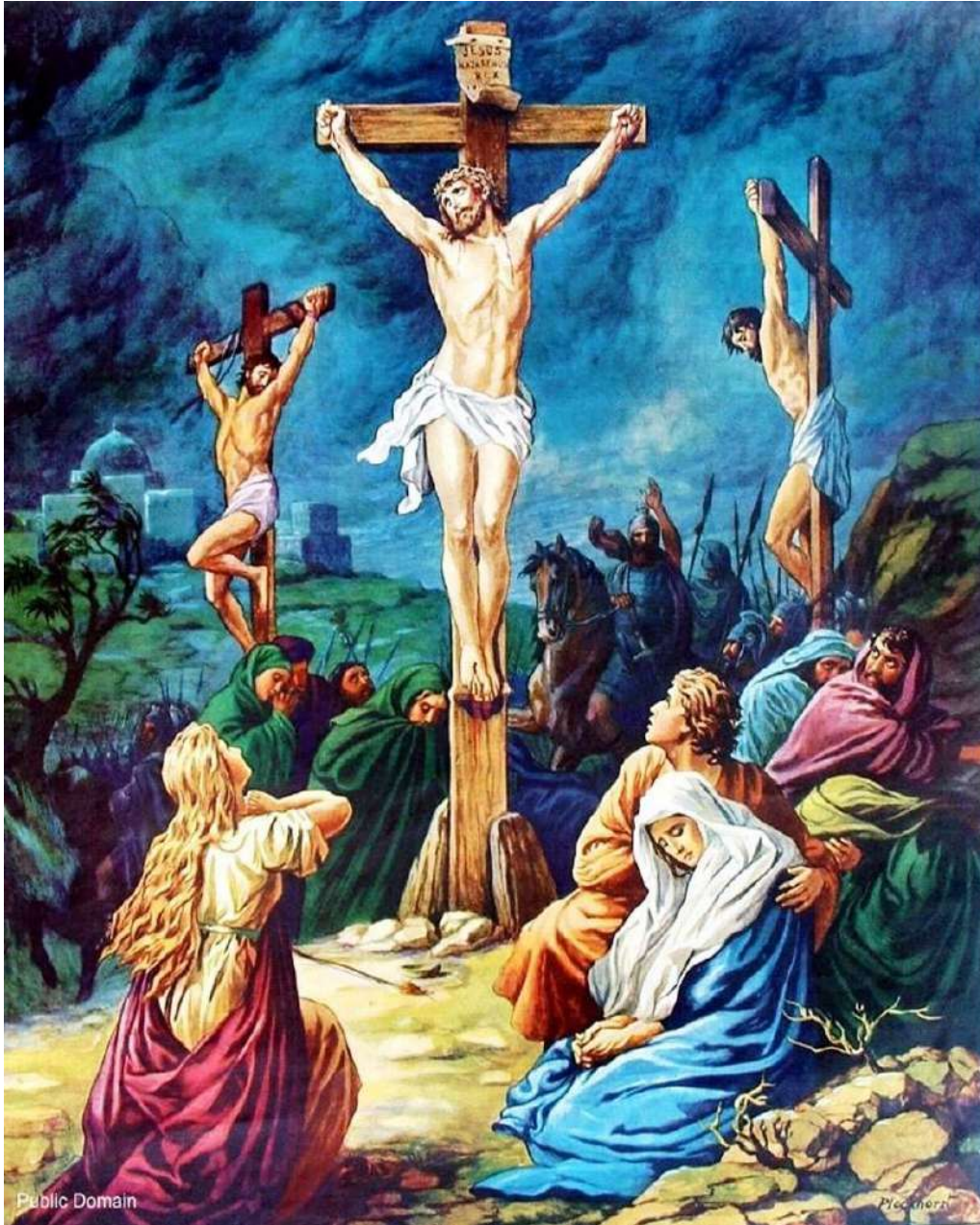


**Fig. 3.9 Jesus Heals a Blind Man**

He chose twelve people to be His special friends and helpers and called them His “Apostles.” Jesus was not just a man. He is also the Son of God. He came into the world to be our good shepherd. He offered His life so that we might be saved from the punishments due to our sins.

How did Jesus Christ offer Himself to save us?

Jesus Christ offered Himself by dying on the cross. His enemies scourged Him, crowned Him with thorns, and nailed Him to the cross. On the cross, Jesus prayed to God the Father to forgive us all our sins.



**Fig. 3.10 The Crucifixion**

On what day did Jesus Christ die?

Jesus Christ died on Good Friday.

Where was the body of Jesus Christ buried?

The body of Jesus Christ was buried in a new grave cut out of a rock, not far from where He was crucified.

Did Jesus Christ remain in the grave?

No. He rose from the dead on the morning of Easter Sunday. His rising from the dead is a sign that God the Father has forgiven our sins and that Heaven's door is now open again for us.

What did Jesus Christ do after rising from the dead?

He appeared to His Apostles and many other people. He appeared several times to show them that He was not a ghost but that He had truly risen. He stayed on earth for forty days before going up to His Father in Heaven.

Was there anything else that Jesus did before going to Heaven?

Yes. He sent His Apostles to go out into the world, baptize the people, and teach them how to go to Heaven. He also promised that He would send them the Holy Spirit—the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity—who would teach them everything else that they needed to know.



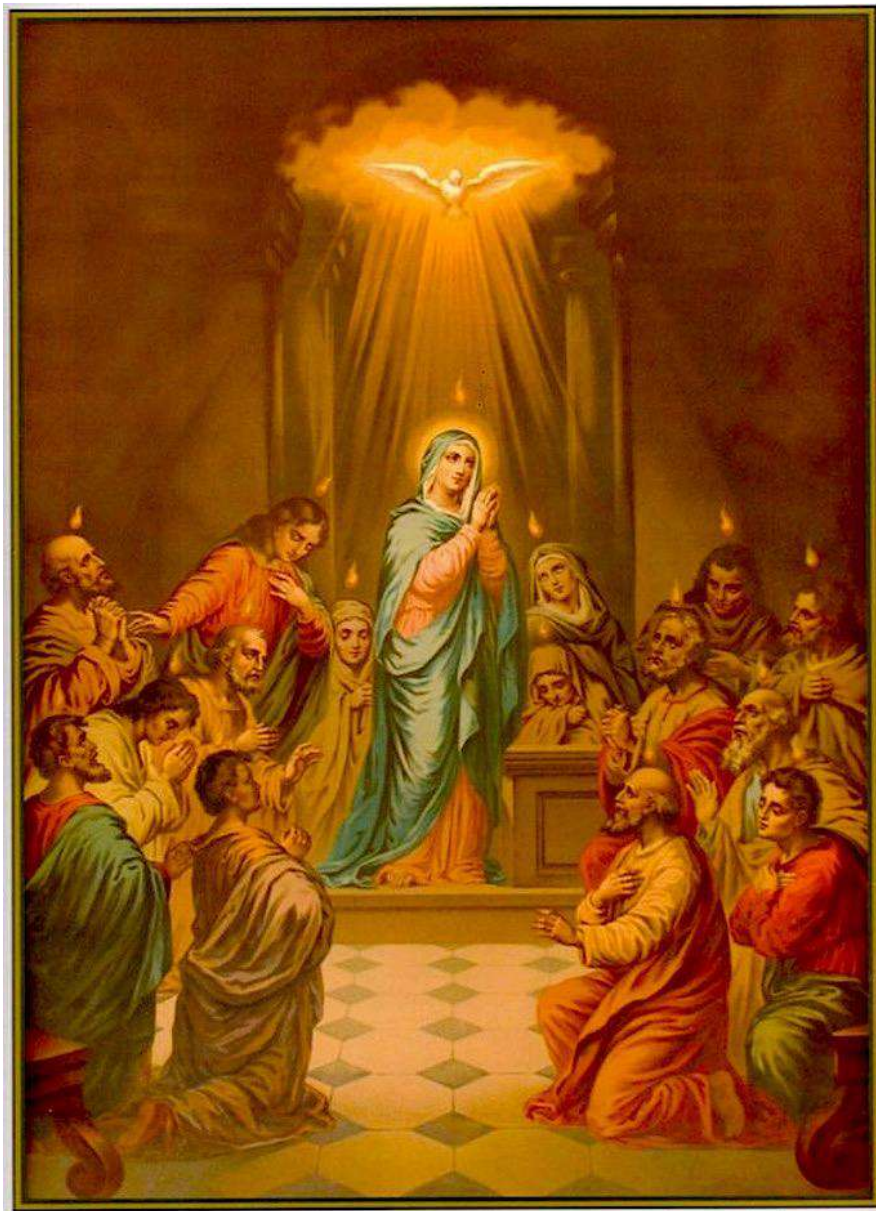
**Fig. 3.11 Jesus Goes Up to Heaven to Be with His Father**

As He was going up to Heaven, Jesus blessed the Apostles and said, “I will be with you always, even to the end of the world.”

## LESSON 4 GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT AND GRACE

Did Jesus Christ fulfill His promise of sending the Holy Spirit to the Apostles?

Yes. Ten days after He went to Heaven, while all the Apostles were praying with the Virgin Mary, the Holy Spirit came down upon them in the form of tongues of fire.



**Fig. 4.1 The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

What happened after the Apostles received the Holy Spirit?  
After receiving the Holy Spirit, the Apostles' minds were opened, their hearts were filled with God's love, and they started teaching about Jesus Christ without fear.

How does the Holy Spirit show His love for us?

The Holy Spirit shows His love for us by making us holy. The Holy Spirit makes us holy by giving us sanctifying grace.

What is sanctifying grace?

Sanctifying grace is the divine life in our souls that makes us pleasing and holy before God. When we are baptized, the stain of original sin is removed from our souls, and God begins to dwell in them. His living presence in our souls gives us a new life that is a sharing in God's life itself. This new, divine life—called sanctifying grace—makes us holy, adopted children and friends of God, and heirs of Heaven.

Can we lose sanctifying grace in our souls?

Yes. We lose this grace and God's friendship when we commit a big or mortal sin. With a mortal sin in our soul and without God's friendship, we cannot enter Heaven.

Can we lose sanctifying grace when we commit small sins?

No. Small sins do not take away sanctifying grace or God's friendship from our souls. But committing small sins makes it easier for us to commit big or mortal sins. This is

why we must avoid committing even small sins if we want to keep God's friendship in our souls.

How do we gain sanctifying grace?

We first receive sanctifying grace when we are baptized. If we lose this grace through mortal sin, we can gain it again through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (We will talk more about the sacraments in the next lesson.)

What other graces does the Holy Spirit give us?

The Holy Spirit also gives us actual graces.

What is actual grace?

Actual grace is the help that the Holy Spirit gives us to do good and avoid evil (sin). By cooperating with the Holy Spirit through the actual graces that He gives us, we can do good, avoid sin, grow in God's friendship, and keep the divine life (or sanctifying grace) in our souls. Without actual grace (God's help) and without cooperating with the Holy Spirit, we are likely to commit a big sin and lose sanctifying grace and God's friendship.

How can we increase sanctifying grace and gain actual graces in our souls?

We can increase sanctifying grace and gain actual graces by praying, doing good works, attending Holy Mass, receiving the sacraments, and cooperating with the Holy Spirit through the actual graces that He gives us.

## What is prayer?

Prayer is speaking lovingly to God. We can pray with our voices or quietly with our hearts and minds.

## What is good work?

Good work is anything we do for the love of God, such as the following:

1. Feeding the hungry
2. Giving drink to the thirsty
3. Giving clothes to the naked
4. Visiting the sick



**Fig. 4.2 Saint Anthony of Padua Gives Bread to a Beggar**



5. Forgiving our enemies
6. Praying for others
7. Suffering wrongs patiently
8. Comforting those who are suffering

Does the Holy Spirit do anything more than give grace?

Yes, the Holy Spirit also watches over our Mother Church and protects her from error. Our Church is the Catholic Church. With the help of the Holy Spirit, the Catholic Church safely teaches us how to go to Heaven.

Who are the members of the Church?

The members of the Church are the *faithful* and the *ministers*. We are the faithful. The pope, the bishops, the priests, and the deacons are the ministers.

What do the ministers do?

The ministers teach us what to believe, lead us to God, and distribute God's graces to us through the sacraments.

## LESSON 5 THE SACRAMENTS

What are the sacraments?

The sacraments are the ways that Our Lord Jesus gave us to get God's grace and help us go to Heaven.

How many sacraments are there?

There are seven sacraments. But in this book, we will talk only of four of them, namely, **Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation**, and the **Holy Eucharist**.

### Baptism

What does Baptism do?

Baptism takes away the stain of original sin from our souls, forgives any actual sin, makes God dwell in our souls, and gives us a new, divine life (sanctifying grace). By receiving sanctifying grace through this sacrament, we become adopted children and friends of God, members of the Church, and heirs of Heaven.

How is Baptism given?

Baptism is given by pouring water on the person to be baptized and saying the words given by Christ.

Which words need to be said at the time the water is poured?

The words needed are these: *“I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”*



**Fig. 5.1 Baptism**

Why is the name of a saint frequently given to the person who is being baptized?

He who is being baptized is frequently given the name of a saint to put him under the protection of the saint and to encourage him to imitate that saint's example.

## Confirmation

What does Confirmation do for us?

Confirmation gives us the grace to become better and more faithful followers of Christ.

How is Confirmation given?

Confirmation is given by a bishop or by a priest who is ordered to do so by the bishop. The bishop or priest prays that the Holy Spirit may come down upon us and makes a small sign of the cross on our foreheads using holy oil (chrism).



**Fig. 5.2 Confirmation**  
A Bishop Confirming the Children

## Reconciliation

What does the Sacrament of Reconciliation do for us?

“To reconcile” means to restore a lost or broken friendship. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the sacrament that forgives sins and *restores* God’s life and friendship that we have lost or broken through mortal sin.

How are sins forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Sins are forgiven by the priest’s absolution, which he gives after hearing our confession and act of contrition.



**Fig. 5.3 Confession**

## Holy Eucharist

What does the Holy Eucharist do for us?

It feeds and nourishes our souls with the true Body and Blood of Christ, which we receive in the form of bread or wine.

How must we receive the Holy Eucharist?

We must receive the Holy Eucharist with a clean soul. If we have a big sin in our soul, we need to confess it first and have it forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving the Holy Eucharist.



**Fig. 5.4 Holy Communion**

Receiving the Holy Eucharist is called “Holy Communion.” When you receive the Holy Eucharist, you are receiving the true Body of Christ. The white, round Host looks like bread and tastes like bread, but it is NOT bread. It is the true Body of Christ. In the picture, Christ is shown giving the Host. But in the church, the priest, deacon, or minister takes the place of Christ.

## LESSON 6 THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

Why did God make us?

God made us to love Him, serve Him, and be happy with Him forever in our next life.

How can we show that we love and serve God?

We can show that we love and serve God by keeping His commandments. When we do not obey any of God's commandments, we commit a sin. When we sin, we make God sad, lose His friendship, and become friends with the devil.

Which is the first and greatest commandment?

The first and greatest commandment is **to love God above all things.**

What is the second greatest commandment?

The next greatest commandment is **to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

What are some examples of sins against the love of God?

Some sins against the love of God include the following:

- Making games and TV more important than God
- Making fun of God or holy things
- Being too lazy to say our daily prayers

- Not going to church on Sundays
- Not praying or paying attention during Holy Mass
- Being noisy in church

What are some examples of sins against the love of our neighbor?

Some examples of sins against the love of our neighbor are the following:

- Not obeying our parents or teachers
- Answering back when we are corrected
- Fighting or hurting other children
- Looking at immodest shows on TV



**Fig. 6.1 Fighting or Hurting Someone Is a Sin**



- Saying or laughing at immodest jokes
- Cheating and stealing
- Destroying things that belong to others
- Not returning what we borrowed
- Telling a lie
- Being jealous of other children
- Cursing, swearing, and calling names

### Are all sins alike?

Sins are not all alike. Some are small sins, and some are big sins. Big sins are always serious. Slapping your classmate's hand is a small sin, but breaking his arm is a big sin. Refusing to play with your brother is a small sin, but pushing him into the river to drown is a big sin. Burning a book is a small sin, but setting a house on fire is a big sin.

### What, then, is a big sin?

A big sin, also called a **mortal** sin, is a serious sin that takes away divine life (sanctifying grace) from our souls. This sin makes God very sad because it totally breaks our friendship with Him and makes us friends with the devil.

### What is a small sin?

A small sin, also called a **venial** sin, is a less serious sin that lessens, but does not remove, divine life in our souls. This sin makes God a little sad, but not very sad, because it does not totally break our friendship with Him.



**Fig. 6.2 Illustration Showing No Sin, with Small Sins, and with Big Sin in the Heart**

Does God punish all sins?

Yes, God punishes all sins.

Does God punish all sins with hellfire?

No. God punishes only the big sins with hellfire.

Does God like to punish us?

No, God does not like punishing us. He loves us and wants us to be happy with Him in Heaven. But when we commit big (or mortal) sins and are not sorry for them, then God will punish us with hellfire in our next life.

### Why are mortal sins so bad?

Mortal sins are so bad because they take away divine life from our souls and make us lose God's friendship. Without His friendship, we cannot enter Heaven.

### Can all sins be forgiven?

Yes, all sins, including mortal sins, can be forgiven if we are truly sorry for them and promise not to commit them again.

### How do we show God that we are truly sorry for our sins?

We show God that we are truly sorry for our sins by making a good **act of contrition**, like this: *“O my God, I am sorry for all my sins because they displease You, Who are all-good and deserving of all my love. With Your help, I will confess my sins and sin no more. Amen.”* (Memorize this prayer!)

### Is there anything else we have to do?

Yes. If we have committed a mortal sin or a big sin, then we must also confess our sin to a priest and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as possible. This must be done to restore divine life (sanctifying grace) and God's friendship to our souls.

## LESSON 7 THE STORIES OF JESUS

### The Good Samaritan

One day, a lawyer asked Our Lord Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” Christ answered him by telling the story of the Good Samaritan.



**Fig. 7.1 The Good Samaritan**

A man went from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the road, he met some robbers who took his clothing, beat him up, and left him lying half dead. A little later, a priest passed by. He saw the man, but he just kept walking. Another man, a Levite,<sup>2</sup> also came. He saw the man and looked at him. Like the priest, he didn't stop and just went on. Then a Samaritan<sup>3</sup> came. On seeing the man, his heart was filled with pity. He didn't know who this poor man was. Yet he came to him, bound up his wounds, and poured oil and wine on them to ease the pain. Then he lifted the man onto his donkey and took him to a house where he could be cared for. The next day before he left, the good Samaritan took out some money from his pocket and gave it to the homeowner and said to him, "Take care of him. If you have to spend more money than I have given, I will pay you back when I return."

Which of these three people—the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan—treated the poor man like a neighbor?

The Samaritan, because he stopped and helped the man who was robbed, although he didn't know him.

Who, then, is our neighbor?

Our neighbor is every man, woman, or child, including those whom we do not know or who are not our relatives.

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<sup>2</sup> A Levite is a member of a Hebrew tribe who often serves as an assistant to a priest.

<sup>3</sup> A Samaritan is someone who lives in Samaria, which is the middle part of Israel.

## The Prodigal Son

Another beautiful story told by Our Lord Jesus Christ is the story of the prodigal son.



**Fig. 7.2 The Prodigal Son Returns to His Father**

A man had two sons. One day, the younger one said to his father, “Father, give me the part of your property that would become mine when you die.” The father divided his wealth between his two sons.

A few days later, the younger son took all his money and went to a faraway country, where he wasted his money on foolish living. When all the money was gone, a great famine came to that country, and he had no money to buy food. He was forced to look for work. Finally, a man hired him to feed and take care of the swine. He was so hungry that he would happily eat the husks that the swine had for food, but no one gave him anything. Then he remembered how his father's servants had plenty of bread to eat, while here he was dying of hunger! Then he thought, "I will arise and go back to my father and say to him, Father, I have sinned against Heaven and against you. I am not worthy to be called your son; let me be one of your hired servants."

Rising up, he went back to his father's house. When he was still a long way from the house, his father saw him and ran out to meet him. The prodigal son kissed his father and said, "Father, I have sinned against Heaven and against you. I am now not worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quickly bring out the best clothes and put them on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Kill the fatted calf and let us make a feast. Because my son was dead and is now alive again. He was lost, and now he is found." And they began to be merry.

Why is the younger son called the "prodigal son"?

Because he wasted the money that he received from his father on foolish things. "Prodigal" means wasteful.

What did the prodigal son do when he realized his sin?

When he realized his sin, the prodigal son began to be sorry and thought of going back to his father.

Why did he go back to his father?

He went back to his father to ask for forgiveness and that he might take him in as one of his servants.

But what did the father do when his son returned?

The father lovingly forgave his prodigal son and treated him again as his son rather than as his servant.

Who does the prodigal son represent in the story? Who does the father represent?

The prodigal son represents us sinners, and the father represents God. We are like the prodigal son when we waste and lose the gifts that we receive from God, especially the gifts of sanctifying grace and actual grace.

Will God always forgive us when we commit a sin?

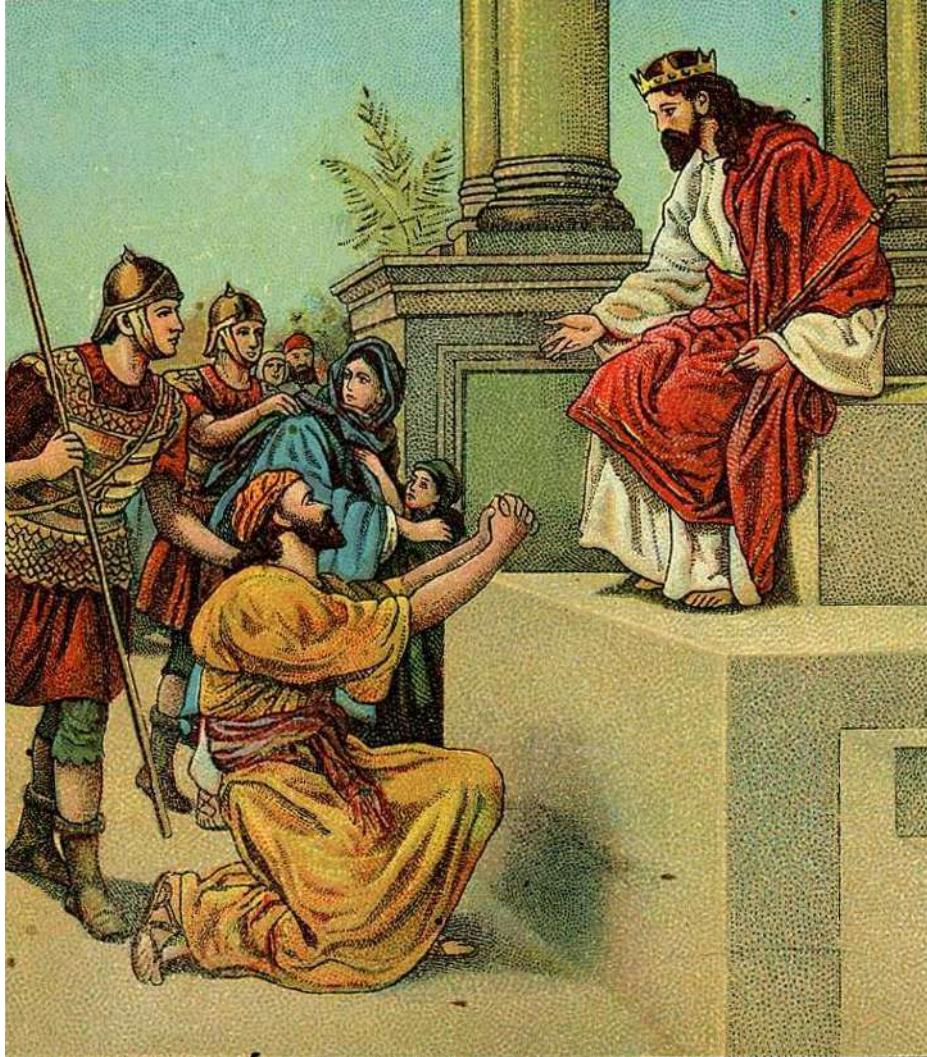
Yes. Like the father in the story of the prodigal son, God is always happy to meet us when we return to Him, sorrowful and ready to change our lives.

How do we ask God for forgiveness?

When we realize our sins and are sorry for them, we return to God, our Heavenly Father, by confessing our sins to a priest (who represents God) and asking for forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



## The Unforgiving Servant



**Fig. 7.3 The Servant Asks the King for Mercy**

Once, there was a servant who owed the king a lot of money. The king told the servant that he and his family would be sold as slaves to pay the debt. But the servant fell on his knees and begged for mercy, saying, “Be patient with me, and I will pay you everything.” The king had mercy and forgave him of the debt.

When the servant had gone out, he met one of the other servants who owed him a small amount of money. He seized him by the throat, saying, “Pay what you owe.” His fellow servant fell on his knees and begged him for mercy, saying, “Be patient with me, and I will pay you everything.” But he would not have mercy. Instead, he sent him to prison until he paid the debt.

His fellow servants told the king what had happened. The king called his servant again and said to him, “You bad servant, I forgave you all your debt because you begged for mercy. Should you not have mercy on your fellow servant, even as I had mercy on you?” Being angry, the king sent him to prison until his whole debt was paid. Then Christ said, “So also shall My Father in Heaven do to you if you do not forgive every one of your brothers from your heart.”

When we pray the *Our Father*, what do we say so that God may forgive our sins?

We say, “And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Like the king in the story of *The Unforgiving Servant*, God will not have mercy on us and forgive us our sins if we do not have mercy and forgive those who sin against us.



**Fig. 7.4 Forgiving the Faults of Others**

## LESSON 8 CONFESSION

What must we do to bring God's friendship back into our souls?

To bring back God's friendship into our souls, we must be sorry for our sins, confess them to a priest, and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Going to confession is like the prodigal son returning to his father to ask for forgiveness.

How do we prepare for a good confession?

To prepare for a good confession, we must first spend enough time thinking about the sins we have committed. This is called "examination of conscience."

How do we examine our conscience?

We examine our conscience by thinking of how we sinned against **God** and our **neighbor**. For example, we have to ask ourselves, Have I been saying my morning and night prayers? Was I too lazy to go to church on Sundays? Have I been unkind to my schoolmates? Have I stolen anything or told a lie? Etc.

What do we do after examining our conscience?

Once we know the sins we have committed, we should be sorry for them, resolve not to sin again, make a good act of contrition, and then go to the priest and confess our sins.

## How do we make a good confession?

When you go to confession, do the following:

1. Begin by saying, “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.”
2. Then say, “This is my first confession.” (If this is not your first confession, say instead, “I made my last confession \_\_\_\_\_ weeks ago.”)
3. Tell your sins to the priest. You must say how many times or how often you have committed each sin. For example, “I cheated three times.” Also, speak just loud enough so that no one else but the priest can hear your sins!
4. When finished, say, “That is all, Father.”
5. The priest will then give you a few prayers to say after confession. This is called your penance. (You will say these prayers when you leave the confessional.)
6. He will now ask you to recite the *Act of Contrition* and give you absolution.
7. After the absolution, say “Amen.” When the priest says, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,” you respond, “His mercy endures forever.”
8. Done! You are now a *friend* of God again, and there is divine life (sanctifying grace) in your soul.

When you go back to your seat after confession, thank God for forgiving your sins, say your penance as soon as possible, and resolve never to commit the same sins again.



**Fig. 8.1 Confession**

Must we confess all our sins?

We must confess all our big sins. We may also confess our small sins if we like.

Should we be sorry for all our sins?

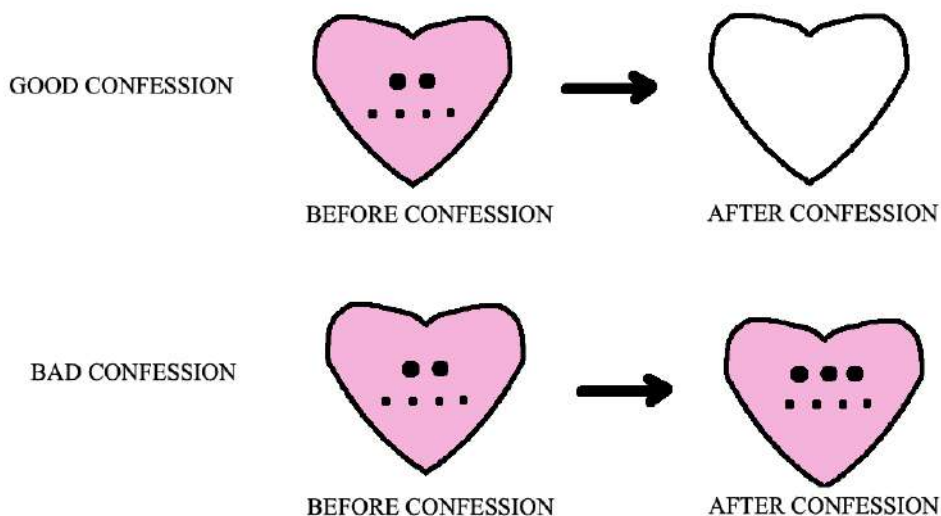
Yes. Even if we only confessed the big sins, we must still be sorry for all our sins, including the small ones.

When is our confession bad?

Our confession is bad when we are not sorry for all our sins or if we hide a big sin during confession. Hiding a big sin in confession is itself a big sin deserving of hellfire.

What happens when we make a bad confession?

When we make a bad confession, none of the sins we confessed are forgiven, and another big sin is added to our souls. Look at the drawing below. Suppose you have in your heart two big sins and four small sins. After a good confession, all sins are forgiven, and no sin is left in your heart. But after a bad confession, the two big sins and four small sins still remain in your heart, and one more big sin is added.



**Fig. 8.2 Comparison Between Good and Bad Confession**

What must we do if we have made a bad confession?

When we have made a bad confession, we must go to confession again and tell the priest that we made a bad confession. Then we must tell all our sins again to the priest, including those that we already confessed in our bad confession, because none of them have been forgiven.

What if we forgot a big sin during confession?

If we honestly forgot to confess a big sin during confession, then our confession was still good. But we must confess the sin that we forgot the next time we go to confession. We simply tell the priest that we forgot to confess it during our last confession.

Will the priest tell anyone what you confessed to him?

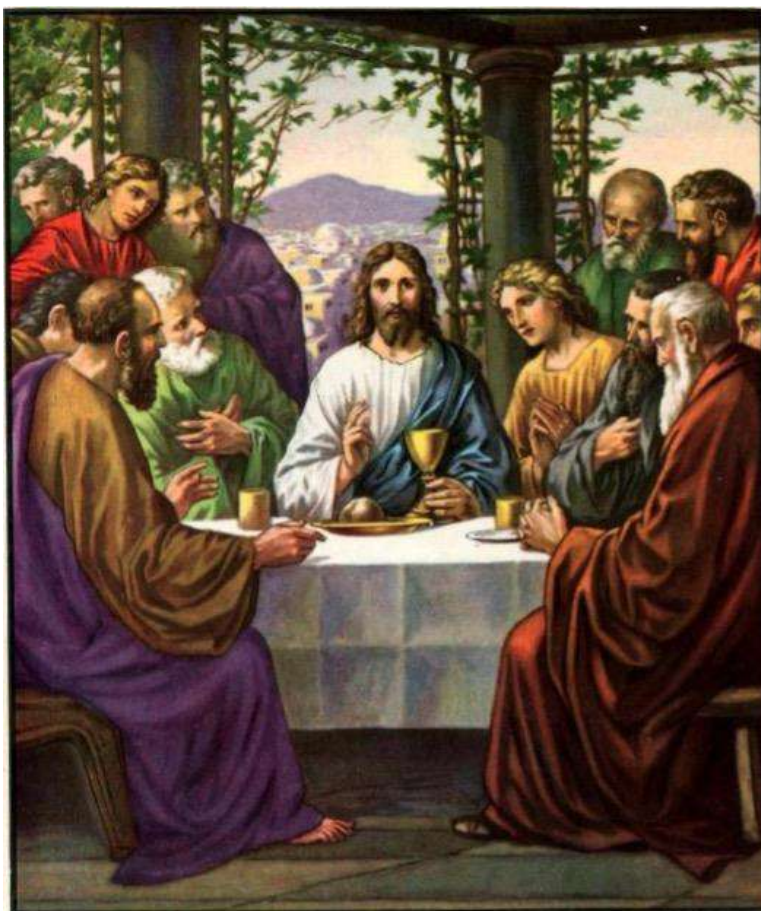
No, he will not, because if he does, then he will commit a mortal sin. A good priest would rather die than tell any of our sins to another person.



## LESSON 9 HOLY MASS

How did Our Lord Jesus show His special love for us? Our Lord showed His special love for us by making Himself the food of our souls. We call this heavenly food the Holy Eucharist.

When did Christ give Himself to us as food for our souls? On the night before He died, while He was having His last supper with His Apostles, Christ changed the bread and wine into His Body and Blood to become food for our souls.



**Fig. 9.1 Christ Changes the Bread and Wine into His Body and Blood**

## How did Christ change the bread and wine into His Body and Blood?

*By the power of God!* Christ simply held the bread and said, “This is My Body,” and the bread became His Body. In a similar way, He took the chalice of wine and said, “This is the chalice of My Blood,” and the wine in the chalice became His Blood. The Bread still looked and tasted like bread, and the Wine still looked and tasted like wine. But they were no longer bread and wine but the real Body and Blood of Christ.

## What happened after that?

Then, in memory of His death on the cross, Our Lord Jesus told the Apostles to do the same thing, that is, renew His sacrifice on the cross by giving them the power to change bread and wine into His Body and Blood. He told the Apostles to give this heavenly food—the Holy Eucharist—to the people as food for their souls.

## Do priests have this power to change bread and wine into Christ’s Body and Blood?

Yes, because the Apostles, who received from Christ the power to change bread and wine into Christ’s Body and Blood, passed on this power to their successors, that is, to the bishops and priests who came after them. Today, bishops and priests change the bread and wine into Christ’s Body and Blood at *Holy Mass*.

## What is Holy Mass?

Holy Mass is like the celebration of Christ's last supper. During Holy Mass, the priest renews Christ's death on the cross by changing the bread and wine on the altar into Christ's Body and Blood. The priest does this by saying, in the person of Christ, the same words that Our Lord used during the last supper: "This is My Body" and "This is the chalice of My Blood."

## When does the priest change the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood?

The priest changes the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood during that part of the Mass called the *consecration*. This is the holiest time of the Mass. The first part of the Mass is mostly just readings from the Bible in preparation for the consecration.



**Fig. 9.2 A Priest Celebrating Holy Mass**

During the consecration, the altar server rings the bell to let us know that the priest will change the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood. Like Christ, the priest lifts the white bread, which is called a host, and says, "This is My Body." After this, he also lifts the gold chalice containing the wine and says, "This is the chalice of My Blood."

After the consecration, there will be no more bread or wine on the altar. The white, round bread or host is now changed into Christ's Body, and the wine in the chalice is now changed into Christ's Blood. Although the Sacred Host still looks and tastes like bread and the Sacred Wine still looks and tastes like wine, they are no longer ordinary bread and wine but the real Body and Blood of Christ. Our Lord and Savior is now really and truly present on our altar.

### How should we assist at Mass?

We should assist at Mass with attention and piety. When the priest holds up the host and says, "This is My Body," we should look up to the Lord and say, "My Lord and my God! I believe that You are here, and I love You!" Then we all bow our heads in adoration. And when the priest lifts the chalice and says, "This is the chalice of My Blood," we recall how Christ shed His blood on the cross for us, and we say in our hearts, "Lord, be merciful unto me, a sinner." Then we all bow again and be ready to receive Christ in Holy Communion. At this time, start praying your *Prayer Before Holy Communion*. See Appendix.

## LESSON 10 HOLY COMMUNION

What is holy communion?

Holy communion is the act of receiving the Holy Eucharist, that is, the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the form of a white, round bread called a Host. Sometimes, the Holy Eucharist is also called “Holy Communion,” as when we say, “I received Holy Communion today.”



**Fig. 10.1 The Holy Eucharist**

Do we receive Holy Communion in the form of bread or in the form of wine?

Usually, we only receive Holy Communion in the form of bread. But it is still the *whole* Christ that we receive when we receive Holy Communion in the form of bread alone.

Sometimes the priest breaks the bread during holy communion. Is Jesus Christ broken when the Host is broken?

No. When the Host is broken into several pieces, each piece becomes the *whole* Christ. When you see broken pieces of the Host on a plate, it does not mean that there are now many parts of the Body of Jesus Christ on the plate. Rather, each piece of white Host, even the smallest piece or particle, is the *same, whole, undivided Jesus Christ!*

What is necessary to receive Holy Communion worthily?

To receive Holy Communion worthily, it is necessary:

1. To be free from mortal sin. If not, we must first make a good confession before receiving Holy Communion.
2. To avoid eating or drinking food one hour before receiving Holy Communion. In other words, no food (including chewing gum) or drink except water.

How often may we receive Holy Communion?

We may receive Holy Communion often, even daily, as long as there is no mortal sin in our souls.

Should Holy Communion be received in the hand or on the tongue?

It is *permitted* to receive Holy Communion in the hand, but it is *recommended* to receive the Sacred Host on the tongue.



**Fig. 10.2 Receiving Holy Communion on the Tongue**

Should we kneel or should we stand when receiving Holy Communion?

It is *permitted* to receive Holy Communion standing, but it is *recommended* to receive It kneeling.

What form of reverence must be shown to the Holy Eucharist when receiving Holy Communion?

The best form of reverence is to “fall on your knees” and receive Holy Communion on the tongue. But, if you are receiving Holy Communion standing rather than kneeling, show reverence to Our Lord Jesus by *bowing your head* before the Blessed Sacrament and by saying “Amen” after the priest or minister says, “The Body of Christ.”

How is Holy Communion received in the hand?

This is how you receive Holy Communion in the hand. If you are right-handed, you put your right hand under your left. When the priest puts the Host in your hand, you pick it up with your right hand and put it in your mouth. If you are left-handed, you put your left hand under your right. When the priest puts the Host in your hand, you pick it up with your left hand and put it in your mouth. Do not walk away with the Host in your hand. You **MUST** first put the Sacred Host in your mouth *in the presence of the priest or minister* before walking back to your seat.

How is Holy Communion received on the tongue?

When receiving Holy Communion on the tongue, close your eyes, open your mouth wide, and *extend* your tongue out over your lower lip so the priest or minister can put the Host properly on your tongue. Do not be embarrassed to extend and show your tongue. Many saints have done the same.



### When should the Sacred Host be swallowed?

You should try to swallow the Sacred Host as soon as possible and avoid spitting for some time. If the Host should cling to the roof of your mouth, remove it with your tongue, but never with your finger.

### What must you do after receiving Holy Communion?

After receiving Holy Communion, you should spend some time adoring Our Lord, thinking of His divine presence in your soul, thanking Him for coming to your heart, and saying your *Prayer after Holy Communion*. After the Mass and *throughout the day*, think of this great moment when Our Lord Jesus came and gave you a “kiss” in your soul.

### How long can you receive Holy Communion without first going to confession?

You can receive Holy Communion without going to confession as long as you remain free from mortal sin.

### How often should you go to confession?

It is good practice for those who receive Holy Communion every Sunday to go to confession once a month. But if you commit a mortal sin at any time, then make your confession as soon as possible *before* receiving Holy Communion again. Never receive Holy Communion when you have an unconfessed mortal sin in your heart.

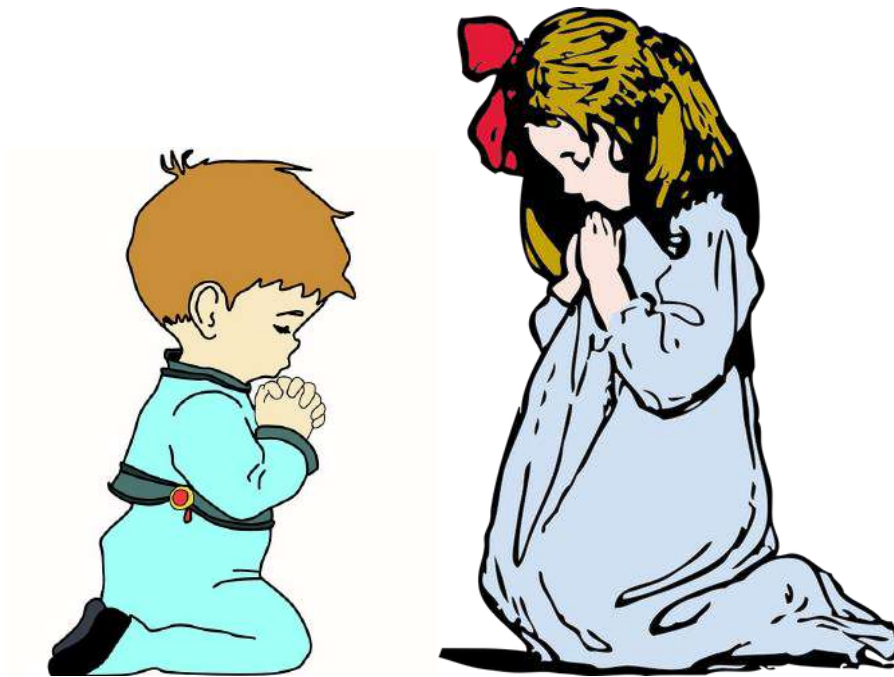


**Fig. 10.3 An Old Holy Card**

The Christ Child with a halo of thorns and holding three nails.

# Appendix

## Catholic Prayers



**Fig. 11.1 Boy and Girl Praying**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS – Catholic Prayers

	Page
<i>The Sign of the Cross</i>	76
<i>Our Father</i>	76
<i>Hail Mary</i>	77
<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	78
<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>	79
<i>Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love</i>	79
<i>Act of Contrition</i>	79
<i>Prayer Before Meals</i>	80
<i>Prayer to Our Guardian Angel</i>	81
<i>Morning Prayer</i>	82
<i>Night Prayer</i>	83
<i>Prayer Before Holy Communion</i>	84
<i>Prayer After Holy Communion</i>	85
<i>Prayer to the Child Jesus</i>	86
<i>Picture Credits and Sources</i>	88

## THE SIGN OF THE CROSS



**Fig. 11.2 Jesus Dies on the Cross**

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

## OUR FATHER

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.

## HAIL MARY



**Fig. 11.3 The Virgin in Prayer**

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.

## GLORY BE TO THE FATHER



**Fig. 11.4 The Holy Trinity**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and was seated 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 Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

## **ACTS OF FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE**

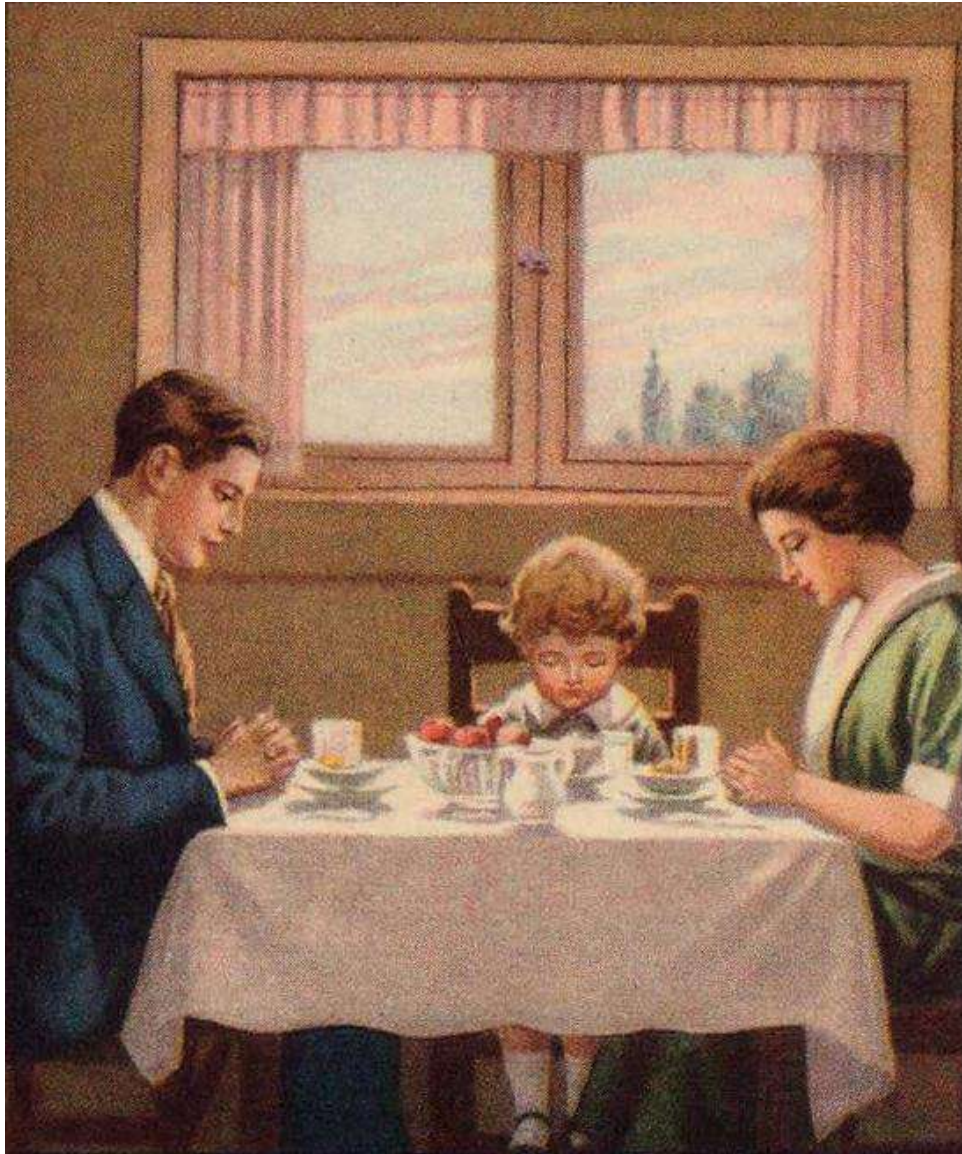
O my God, I believe in You, I trust in You, and I love You!

## **ACT OF CONTRITION**

O my God, I am sorry for all my sins, because they displease You, Who are all-good and deserving of all my love. With Your help, I will confess my sins and sin no more. Amen.



## PRAYER BEFORE MEALS



**Fig. 11.5 Praying Before Meals**

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

## PRAYER TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL



Fig. 11.6 Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
to whom His love entrusts me here,  
enlighten and guard, rule and guide me.  
Amen.

## MORNING PRAYER



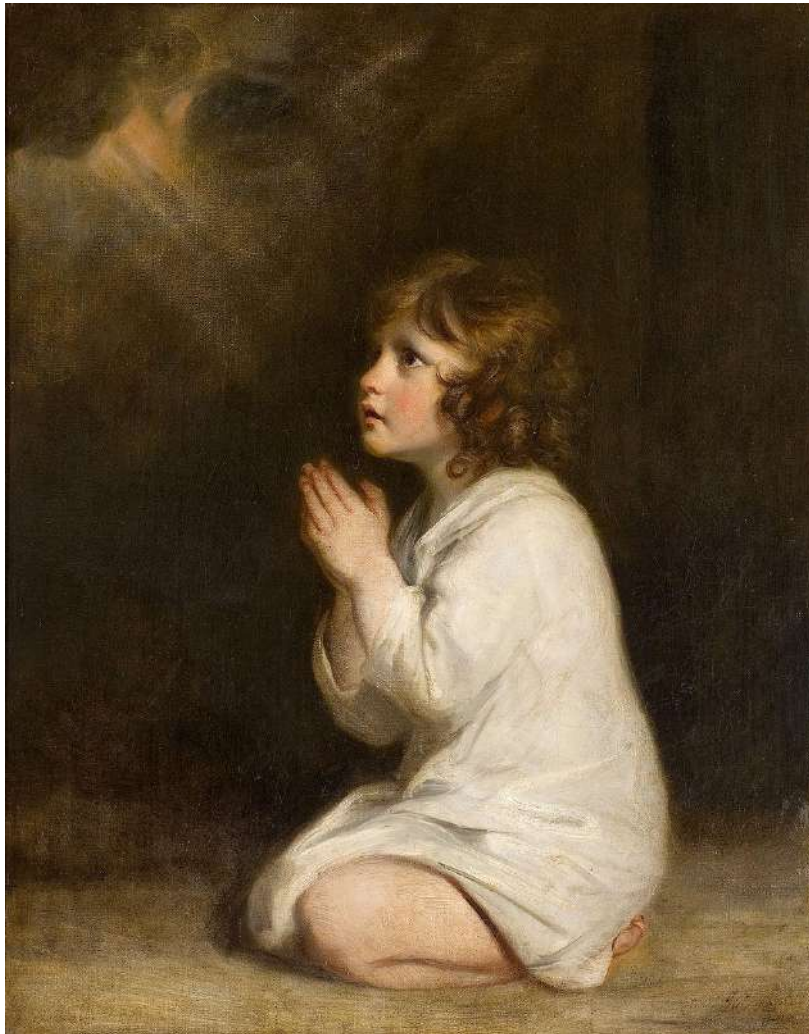
Fig. 11.7 Come to Me All

I offer You, dear Jesus,  
 Each action of today;  
 My prayers, my work, my sufferings  
 Accept them now, I pray.

I offer You, dear Jesus,  
 The moments as they pass;  
 I join with feeble heart's desire,  
 With Yours in Holy Mass.  
 Amen.

(Prayer from Lawrence G. Lovasik, *Treasury of Prayer*, 1954)

## NIGHT PRAYER



**Fig. 11.8 The Boy Samuel**

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep;  
If I should die before I wake,  
I pray thee, Lord, my soul to take.  
If I should live for other days,  
I pray thee, Lord, to guide my ways.  
Amen.

## PRAAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION



**Fig. 11.9 Oh, Jesus! Our Friend, Be Thou Our Guide and Our Protector**

You are my Good Shepherd,  
I, Your little lamb.  
Take me, O my Savior,  
All I have and am.

Take my body wholly,  
Mind and heart and soul.  
Never, never let me  
Fly Your sweet control.

(Prayer adapted from Bishop LaRavoire Morrow, *My First Communion*, 1949)

## PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION



**Fig. 11.10 The Holy Eucharist**

Jesus, Lord, I love You  
More than I can tell,  
Not for love of heaven,  
Nor from fear of hell;

Not for what You bring me,  
Not for what You give,  
Just for You, all-holy,  
Just for You I live!

O someday I'll see You,  
And in Heav'n above  
Join the angels praising,  
Giving love for Love!

(Prayer adapted from Bishop LaRavoire Morrow, *My First Communion*, 1949)

## PRAYER TO THE CHILD JESUS



**Fig. 11.11 Infant of Prague**

All honor, praise and glory be,  
O Jesus, Virgin-born, to Thee:  
All glory, as is ever meet  
To Father and to Paraclete.



**Fig. 11.12 Saint Joseph with the Infant Jesus**

**THE END**



## Picture Credits and Sources

### Cover Page – “Let the Children Come to Me”

Artist: Carl Christian Vogel von Vogelstein (1788–1868)

<https://www.imagesforjesus.com/v-artists/vogel-von-vogelstein/vogel-von-vogelstein-01.jpg.html>

### Fig. 1.1 God Makes the World

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<https://www.maxpixel.net/The-Creation-Of-The-Earth-All-Globe-Universe-3420058>

### Fig. 1.2 Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden

From a book published in 1887.

<http://karenswhimsy.com/church-clipart.shtm>

### Fig. 1.3 The Blessed Trinity

An illustration from Bishop Louis LaRavoire Morrow, *My Catholic Faith*, 1963, p. 30

### Fig. 1.4 The Sign of the Cross

A traditional picture found in many places on the internet without provenance.

<https://seanisloved.wordpress.com/2019/06/13/an-excellent-trinitarian-prayer-to-start-every-day/>

### Fig. 1.5 The Three Persons in One God

From an old Portuguese Catechism

<http://www.sendarium.com/p/catecismo-ilustrado-de-1910.html>, #11 (cropped)

### Fig. 2.1 Angels

Artist: Johann von Schraudolph (1808–1879)

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/two-angels-floating-1865-johann-von-schraudolph.html>

### Fig. 2.2 A Guardian Angel Watches Over the Children

Artist: Fridolin Leiber (1853–1912)

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### Fig. 2.3 St. Michael Casts the Demons into Hell

Artist: Luca Giordano (1634–1705), circa 1665

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Luca\\_Giordano\\_-\\_The\\_Fall\\_of\\_the\\_Rebel\\_Angels\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Luca_Giordano_-_The_Fall_of_the_Rebel_Angels_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

### Fig. 2.4 The Sin of Adam and Eve

From an old Portuguese Catechism

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**Fig. 2.5 Adam and Eve Driven Out of Paradise**

Artist: James Jacques Joseph Tissot (1836–1902)

Retouched version - more clothing added on Eve:

<http://www.marysrosaries.com/collaboration/images/0/08/Adam-and-Eve-Driven-from-Paradise-001.jpg>

**Fig. 3.1 The Angel Tells Mary That She Will Be the Mother of Jesus**

Artist: Paolo de Matteis (1662–1728)

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**Fig. 3.2 The Birth of Jesus**

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**Fig. 3.3 Statue of the Holy Family**

Statue of the Holy Family in the Church of St. Andrew in Saint-Sylvestre-Cappel, France

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Saint-Sylvestre-Cappel\\_\(Nord,\\_Fr\)\\_%C3%A9glise,\\_statue\\_Sainte\\_Famille.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Saint-Sylvestre-Cappel_(Nord,_Fr)_%C3%A9glise,_statue_Sainte_Famille.JPG)

**Fig. 3.4 The Boy Jesus Helps St. Joseph**

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**Fig. 3.5 Thy Will Be Done**

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**Fig. 3.6 Jesus with the Children**

Artist: Otto Adolph Stemler (1872–1953)

An illustration from Lillie A. Faris' *Standard Bible Story Readers*, Book One, 1925, p. 118

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**Fig. 3.7 Jesus Teaches the People**

Artist: Otto Adolph Stemler (1872–1953)

Illustration used in Lillie A. Faris, *Standard Bible Story Readers*, Book One, 1925, p. 117.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/32495192@N07/10807453865/in/album-72157637569720104/>

**Fig. 3.8 The Good Shepherd**

Artist: Harold Copping (1863–1932)

<https://archive.org/details/HaroldCoppingIllustrations/EBA9B360-B7F0-4FB2-A8BA-0E49EA173786.jpeg>

**Fig. 3.9 Jesus Heals a Blind Man**

Artist: Francesco de Mura (1696–1782)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Francesco\\_de\\_Mura\\_\(1696-1782\)\\_-\\_Christ\\_Healing\\_the\\_Blind\\_Man\\_-\\_266434\\_-\\_National\\_Trust.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Francesco_de_Mura_(1696-1782)_-_Christ_Healing_the_Blind_Man_-_266434_-_National_Trust.jpg)

**Fig. 3.10 The Crucifixion**

Artist: Bernhard Plockhorst (1825–1907)

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**Fig. 3.11 Jesus Goes Up to Heaven to Be with His Father**

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**Fig. 4.1 The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

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**Fig. 4.2 Saint Anthony of Padua Gives Bread to a Beggar**

Statue of St. Anthony of Padua at the Saint Augustine Church in Covington, Kentucky

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**Fig. 5.1 Baptism**

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**Fig. 5.2 Confirmation**

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**Fig. 5.3 Confession**

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**Fig. 5.4 Holy Communion**

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**Fig. 6.1 Fighting Is a Sin**

Artist: Giulio del Torre (1856–1932)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Giulio\\_del\\_Torre\\_Zwei\\_raufende\\_Buben\\_1927.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Giulio_del_Torre_Zwei_raufende_Buben_1927.jpg)

**Fig. 6.2 Illustration Showing No Sin, with Small Sins, and with Big Sin in the Heart**

An illustration from Bishop LaRavoire Morrow, *My First Communion*, The Edward O'Toole Co., Inc., 1949, p. 69.

**Fig. 7.1 The Good Samaritan**

Artist: Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872)

Source: *Life of Our Lord*, by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1890.

**Fig. 7.2 The Prodigal Son Returns to His Father**

Artist: Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872)

Source: *Life of Our Lord*, by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1890.

**Fig. 7.3 The Servant Asks the King for Mercy**

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**Fig. 7.4 Forgiving the Faults of Others**

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**Fig. 8.1 Confession**

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**Fig. 8.2 Comparison Between Good and Bad Confession**

My own drawing.

**Fig. 9.1 Christ Changes the Bread and Wine into His Body and Blood**

Source: Archive.org.

<https://ia803006.us.archive.org/7/items/OldBiblePicturesSmaller/A6E1CBBB-2236-4C0C-A4F0-2AC2A5453AD1.jpeg>

**Fig. 9.2 A Priest Celebrating Holy Mass**

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**Fig. 10.1 The Holy Eucharist**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The\\_holy\\_eucharist\\_-\\_la\\_sagrada\\_eucaristia\\_LCCN2002695875.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_holy_eucharist_-_la_sagrada_eucaristia_LCCN2002695875.jpg)

**Fig. 10.2 Receiving Holy Communion on the Tongue**

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**Fig. 10.3 An Old Holy Card**

From the Norman Castle Holy Card Collection,  
John J. Burns Library, Boston College

<https://johnjburnslibrary.wordpress.com/2011/12/05/archives-diary-norman-castle-holy-cards/>

**Fig. 11.1 Boy and Girl Praying**

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Praying Girl: <https://publicdomainvectors.org/en/free-clipart/Vector-illustration-of-young-girl-praying/17090.html>

**Fig. 11.2 Jesus Dies on the Cross**

Artist: Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617–1682)

Source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cristo\\_crucificado\\_\(Murillo\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cristo_crucificado_(Murillo).jpg)

**Fig. 11.3 The Virgin in Prayer**

Artist: Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato (1609–1685)

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**Fig. 11.4 The Holy Trinity**

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Source: <http://www.catholictradition.org/Children/creed6.htm>

**Fig. 11.5 Praying Before Meals**

Published by Providence Lithograph Company, circa 1900

**Fig. 11.6 Guardian Angel**

Artist: Lindberg Heilige Schutzengel, circa 1908

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**Fig. 11.7 Come to Me All**

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**Fig. 11.8 The Boy Samuel**

Artist: Joshua Reynolds (1723–1792)

Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:InfantSamuel.jpg>

**Fig. 11.9 Oh, Jesus! Our Friend**

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**Fig. 11.10 The Holy Eucharist**

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**Fig. 11.11 Infant of Prague**

This is my own photo.

**Fig. 11.12 Saint Joseph with the Infant Jesus**

Artist: Guido Reni (1575–1642)

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