

A CATECHISM

THAT IS TO SAY

AN INSTRUCTION TO BE LEARNED OF EVERY PERSON
BEFORE HE BE BROUGHT TO BE CONFIRMED

BY THE BISHOP

THE COVENANT.

Question.

WHAT is your Name?

Answer. *N.* or *M.*

Question. Who gave you this Name?

Answer. My Godfathers and Godmothers in my Baptism; wherein I was made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.

Question. What did your Godfathers and Godmothers promise then 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 pomps 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. Dost thou not think that thou art bound to believe, and to do, as they have promised for thee?

Answer. Yes verily: and by God's help so I will. And I heartily thank our heavenly Father, that he hath called me to this state of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. And I pray unto God to give me his grace, that I may continue in the same unto my life's end.

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THE FAITH.

Catechist.

Rehearse the Articles of thy Belief.

Answer.

IBELIEVE 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 at 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 Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

¶ **Note, That the words in the Creed** He descended into hell **are considered as words of the same meaning as** He went into the place of departed spirits.

Question. What dost thou chiefly learn in these Articles of thy Belief?

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

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

Thirdly, in God the Holy Ghost, who sanctifieth me, and all the elect people of God.

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THE COMMANDMENTS.

Question.

You said that your Godfathers and Godmothers did promise for you, that you should keep God's Commandments. Tell me how many there be?

Answer. Ten.

Question. Which be they?

Answer.

THE same which God spake in the twentieth chapter of Exodus, saying, I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

I. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

II. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them. For I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and shew mercy unto thousands in them that love me and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh his Name in vain.

IV. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work,

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thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt do no murder.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

Question.

What dost thou chiefly learn by these Commandments?

Answer. I learn two things: my duty towards God, and my duty towards my Neighbour.

Question. What is thy duty towards God?

Answer. My duty towards God is,

I. 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:

II. To worship him, to give him thanks, to put my whole trust in him, to call upon him:

III. To honour his holy Name and his Word:

IV. And to serve him truly all the days of my life.

Question. What is thy duty towards thy Neighbour?

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Answer. My duty towards my Neighbour is to love him as myself, and to do to all men as I would they should do unto me:

V. To love, honour, and succour my father and mother: To honour and obey the King, and all that are put in authority under him: To submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters: To order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters:

VI. To hurt nobody by word nor deed: To bear no malice nor hatred in my heart:

VII. To keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity:

VIII. To be true and just in all my dealing: to keep my hands from picking and stealing:

IX. And to keep my tongue from evil-speaking, lying, and slandering:

X. Not to covet nor desire other men's goods; but to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life, unto which it shall please God to call me.

PRAYER.

Catechist.

My good child, know this, that thou art not able to do these things of thyself, nor to walk in the commandments of God, and to serve him, without his special grace; which thou must learn at all times to call for by diligent prayer. Let me hear therefore if thou canst say the Lord's Prayer.

Answer.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy

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will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Question. What desirest thou of God in this Prayer?

Answer. In the Lord's Prayer, 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, and serve him, and obey him as we ought to do :

And I pray unto God, that he will send us all things that are needful both for our souls and bodies:

That he will be merciful unto us, and forgive us our sins:

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, So be it.

THE SACRAMENTS.

Question.

HOW many Sacraments hath Christ ordained in his Church ?

Answer. Christ has ordained two Sacraments only, as generally necessary to salvation; that is to say, Baptism, and the Supper of the Lord.

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Question. What meanest thou by this word Sacrament?

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

Question. How many parts are there in a Sacrament?

Answer. There are two parts in a Sacrament: the outward visible sign, and the inward spiritual grace.

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

Answer. The outward visible sign or form in Baptism is Water: wherein the person is baptized, *In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*

Question. What is the inward and spiritual grace?

Answer. The inward and spiritual grace in Baptism is, a death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness: for being by nature born in sin, and the children of wrath, we are hereby made the children of grace.

Question. What is required of persons to be baptized?

Answer. There is required of persons to be baptized repentance, whereby they forsake sin: and faith, whereby they stedfastly believe the promises of God, made to them in that Sacrament.

Question. Why then are infants baptized, when by reason of their tender age they cannot perform them?

Answer. Infants are baptized because they promise both repentance and faith by their

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sureties: which promise, when they come to age, themselves are bound to perform.

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

Answer. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was ordained for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of the death of Christ, and of the benefits which we receive thereby.

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

Answer. The outward part or sign of the Lord's Supper is, Bread and Wine, which the Lord hath commanded to be received.

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

Answer. The inward part or thing signified in the Lord's Supper is, the Body and Blood of Christ, which are verily and indeed taken and received by the faithful in the Lord's Supper.

Question. What are the benefits whereof we are partakers in the Lord's Supper?

Answer. The benefits whereof we are partakers in the Lord's Supper are, the strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of Christ, as our bodies are by the Bread and Wine.

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

Answer. It is required of persons who come to the Lord's Supper, to examine themselves, whether they repent them truly of their former sins, stedfastly purposing 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.

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- ¶ The Curate of every Parish shall diligently, upon Sundays and Holy-days, or at such other times as he shall think convenient, instruct and examine the children of his parish in this Catechism; and it is most expedient that this should be done openly in the Church, from time to time, either after the second Lesson at Morning or Evening Prayer, or at some other fit time.
- ¶ And all Fathers, Mothers, Masters, Mistresses, and Guardians, shall cause their children, servants, apprentices, and wards, to come to such instruction at the time appointed.
- ¶ So soon as children are come to a competent age, and can say, in their mother tongue, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and also can answer to the other questions of this Catechism; they shall be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed. And, where possible, everyone shall have a Godfather or Godmother as a Witness of their Confirmation.
- ¶ And whensoever the Bishop shall give knowledge for Children to be brought unto him for their Confirmation, the Curate 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 fit to be presented to the Bishop to be confirmed. And, if the Bishop approve of them, he shall confirm them in manner following.

THE ORDER OF CONFIRMATION

OR LAYING ON OF HANDS
UPON THOSE THAT ARE BAPTIZED
AND COME TO YEARS OF DISCRETION

¶ Upon the day appointed, all that are to be then confirmed, being placed and standing in order before the Bishop, the Minister shall present them unto the Bishop, and say,

REVEREND Father in God, I present unto you these persons to receive the laying on of hands.

Bishop. Take heed that the persons whom ye present be duly prepared and meet to receive the laying on of hands.

Minister. I have instructed them and enquired of them and believe them so to be.

¶ Then the Bishop, or some other Minister appointed by him, shall read this Preface following.

DEARLY beloved, To the end that Confirmation may be ministered to the more edifying of such as shall receive it, the Church hath thought good to order that none hereafter shall be confirmed, but such as can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, and can also answer to such other questions as in the Catechism are contained: and forasmuch as these persons present, being by baptism members of Christ's Church, are instructed and prepared as aforesaid, we are assembled together here to pray for them and to bless them by the laying on of hands. This order is very convenient to be observed for divers reasons.

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First. Because it is evident from sundry places in holy Scripture that the Apostles prayed for and laid their hands upon those who were baptized; and the same is agreeable with the usage of the Church since the Apostles' time.

Secondly. In order that by prayer and laying on of hands they that are confirmed may be strengthened by the Holy Ghost.

Thirdly. In order that persons, having now come to the years of discretion, and being mindful of their bounden duty to acknowledge openly the vows made by them, or by their Godfathers and Godmothers for them, in baptism, they may themselves, with their own mouth and consent, openly before the Church, ratify and confirm the same; and also promise that by the grace of God they will evermore endeavour faithfully to observe such things as they by their own confession have assented unto.

¶ Then the Bishop, or some Minister appointed by him, shall say,

HEAR the words of holy Scripture written in the eighth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning at the fifth verse.

AND Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and proclaimed unto them the Christ. And the multitudes gave heed with one accord unto the things that were spoken by Philip, when they heard, and saw the signs which he did. For from many of those which had unclean spirits, they came out, crying with a loud voice: and many that were palsied, and that were lame, were healed. And there was much joy in that city. But when they believed Philip preaching good tidings concerning the

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kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Now when the Apostles, which were at Jerusalem, heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: for as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they had been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

HEAR also the words of holy Scripture written in the nineteenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning at the first verse.

AND it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper country came to Ephesus, and found certain disciples: and he said unto them, Did ye receive the Holy Ghost when ye believed? And they said unto him, Nay, we did not so much as hear whether the Holy Ghost was given. And he said, Into what then were ye baptized? And they said, Into John's baptism. And Paul said, John baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Jesus. And when they heard this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And they were in all about twelve men.

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HEAR also the words of holy Scripture written in the fifth chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, beginning at the twelfth verse, and in the sixth chapter beginning at the first verse.

FOR when by reason of the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need again that some one teach you the rudiments of the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of solid food. Wherefore let us cease to speak of the first principles of Christ, and press on unto perfection; not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the teaching of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgement. And this will we do, if God permit.

¶ Then shall the Bishop say.

DO you here, in the presence of God, and of this Congregation, renew the solemn promise and vow that you made, or that was made in your name, at your Baptism; ratifying and confirming the same in your own persons, and acknowledging yourselves bound to believe and to do all those things which you then undertook, or which your Godfathers and Godmothers then undertook for you?

¶ And everyone shall audibly answer,

I do.

¶ Or else the Bishop shall say,

DO you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renounce the devil and

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all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh?

Answer. I do.

Bishop. Do you believe all the Articles of the Christian faith as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

Answer. I do.

Bishop. Will you endeavour to keep God's holy will and commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of your life?

Answer. I will, God being my helper.

The Bishop.

OUR help is in the Name of the Lord;
Answer. Who hath made heaven and earth.

Bishop. Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

Answer. Henceforth world without end.

Bishop. Lord, hear our prayers.

Answer. And let our cry come unto thee.

Bishop. Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate these thy servants by Water and the Holy Ghost, and hast given unto them forgiveness of all their sins: Strengthen them, we beseech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghost the Comforter, and daily increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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¶ Then all of them in order kneeling before the Bishop, he shall lay his hand upon the head of everyone severally, saying,

DEFEND, O Lord, this thy Child [or *this thy Servant*] with thy heavenly grace, that *he* may continue thine for ever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until *he* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. Amen.

¶ Then shall the Bishop say,

The Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

¶ And (all kneeling down) the Bishop shall add,

Let us pray.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

¶ And this Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who makest us both to will and to do those things that be good and acceptable unto thy divine Majesty: We make our humble supplications unto thee for these thy servants, upon whom (after the example of thy holy Apostles) we have now laid our hands, to certify them (by this sign) of thy favour and gracious goodness towards them. Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over them; let thy Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word,

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that in the end they may obtain everlasting life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

OALMIGHTY Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Bishop shall bless them, saying thus,

THE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you, for ever. *Amen.*

¶ And there shall none be admitted to the holy Communion, until such time as he be confirmed, or be ready and desirous to be confirmed.

A TABLE
OF
KINDRED AND AFFINITY

WHEREIN WHOSOEVER ARE RELATED ARE FORBIDDEN
IN SCRIPTURE AND OUR LAWS TO MARRY TOGETHER.

A Man may not marry his

- 1 MOTHER,
- 2 Step-mother,
- 3 Mother-in-law,

- 4 Daughter,
- 5 Step-daughter,
- 6 Daughter-in-law,

- 7 Sister,
- 8 Sister-in-law,

- 9 Grandmother,
- 10 Grandfather's Wife,
- 11 Wife's Grandmother,

- 12 Grand-daughter,
- 13 Wife's grand-daughter,
- 14 Grandson's Wife,

- 15 Aunt,
- 16 Aunt by marriage,

- 17 Niece,
- 18 Niece by marriage.

A Woman may not marry with her

- 1 FATHER,
- 2 Step-father,
- 3 Father-in-law,

- 4 Son,
- 5 Step-son,
- 6 Son-in-law,

- 7 Brother,
- 8 Brother-in-law,

- 9 Grandfather,
- 10 Grandmother's Husband,
- 11 Husband's Grandfather,

- 12 Grandson,
- 13 Husband's Grandson,
- 14 Grand-daughter's Husband,

- 15 Uncle,
- 16 Uncle by marriage,

- 17 Nephew,
- 18 Nephew by marriage.