

Introduction to Catholicism

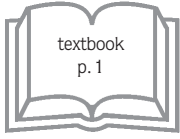
Student Workbook

Copyright © Midwest Theological Forum
www.theologicalforum.org

Midwest Theological Forum
Downers Grove, Illinois

Contents

Abbreviations Used for the Books of the Bible	vi
Chapter 1: Called to Holiness.	1
Chapter 2: The Existence of God and Divine Revelation	9
Chapter 3: The Nature of God: The Blessed Trinity.	21
Chapter 4: Creation, Man, and Original Sin	31
Chapter 5: Jesus Christ Incarnate of the Blessed Virgin Mary	41
Chapter 6: The Paschal Mystery	49
Chapter 7: The Holy Spirit	59
Chapter 8: The Holy Catholic Church	65
Chapter 9: The Resurrection of the Body and Life Everlasting.	77
Chapter 10: Christian Prayer	83
Chapter 11: The Sacraments	95
Chapter 12: Sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism and Confirmation .	103
Chapter 13: Sacraments of Christian Initiation: The Eucharist	113
Chapter 14: Sacraments of Healing: Penance and the Anointing of the Sick.	125
Chapter 15: Sacraments at the Service of Communion: Holy Orders	137
Chapter 16: Sacraments at the Service of Communion: Matrimony.	145
Chapter 17: Freedom, Morality, and Grace	153
Chapter 18: The Decalogue and the Beatitudes	165
Chapter 19: The First Three Commandments.	179
Chapter 20: The Fourth Commandment	191
Chapter 21: The Fifth Commandment	199
Chapter 22: The Sixth and Ninth Commandments.	211
Chapter 23: The Seventh and Tenth Commandments	221
Chapter 24: The Eighth Commandment	231
Chapter 25: The Person and Society	241
Catholic Prayers and Devotions	251



Chapter 1

CALLED TO HOLINESS

THIRST FOR CHRIST

1. According to Archbishop Sheen, what is holiness, or sanctity?

CALLED TO BE PERFECT

2. Why are Christians to seek perfection, and how do they do so?
3. According to the *Catechism*, no. 2053, what is the relationship between obeying the Commandments and the invitation to be perfect by following Christ?
4. Why will perfection only be possible in heaven?

Copyright © Midwest Theological Forum
www.theologicalforum.org

SIDEBAR: WHAT IS THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

5. What is the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*?

SIDEBAR: WHAT WAS THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL?

6. What is an Ecumenical Council?

CALLED TO HOLINESS

7. According to *Lumen Gentium*, what is the universal call to holiness?

8. The most recent Ecumenical Council of the Church (1962–1965) was convoked by St. John XXIII. It was held in _____ within the city of Rome, Italy. This council is called _____. The previous Ecumenical Council had been held in the year(s) _____.

SIDEBAR: ST. AUGUSTINE, THE CONVERT

9. How did St. Augustine figure in the development of Church teaching?

10. St. Augustine's most famous book is his spiritual autobiography, which is called _____.

ONE BODY IN CHRIST

16. Who makes up the Mystical Body of Christ?

17. There is a communal dimension to the call to holiness: _____ obliges a Christian to seek _____ not only for him- or herself but also for others through an evangelizing _____.

THE GIFT OF GRACE

18. What great gift allows a person to share in the life and love of the Blessed Trinity?

19. Name the theological virtues received in Baptism (cf. 1 Corinthians 13: 13).

20. How is the transformative effect of a Christian witness within the world comparable to making bread?

21. Why are friendships with others in the world important?

THE MARKS OF A DISCIPLE

22. What two Sacraments did Christ institute to help his people strive for a life of holiness?

23. What is discipleship, and what are the marks of discipleship?

24. What does it mean to say, “God chose us first”?

SIDEBAR: IS IT NOT ENOUGH JUST TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE?

25. If the Greatest Commandments of Christ are to love God and neighbor, then does a Christian really need to follow the other Commandments as well?

SIDEBAR: MARTYRS FOR THE FAITH

26. How was St. Peter crucified?

27. From what Greek word is the word “martyr” derived?

28. What common lesson can be drawn from the stories of St. Kizito, St. Thomas Thien Tran, St. Agatha Yi, and St. Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio?

Copyright © Midwest Theological Forum
www.theologicalforum.org

EVANGELIZATION

29. What is the starting point of evangelization?

30. What two types of evangelism are discussed in the paragraph, “We often think...” (p. 15)?

SIDEBAR: THE GOSPELS ARE “GOOD NEWS”

31. What are the names of the Evangelists who wrote the four Gospels of the New Testament? Who is the true author of Scripture, and why?

SIDEBAR: HOW CAN WE “KNOW” GOD INTIMATELY?

32. What happens when a person comes to know God in a very personal way?

Copyright © Midwest Theological Forum
www.theologicalforum.org

CONCLUSION

33. St. Francis of Assisi said, “Preach always—if necessary, use words.” What did he mean?

34. The call to participate in God’s eternal plan requires not only _____ and worship but also a life of discipleship and service to _____ and to _____.

Copyright © Midwest Theological Forum
www.theologicalforum.org