

June 7, 2021

Good Morning All,

At Mass yesterday, Fr. Gillespie recommended the following Formed video-check it out! Seven minutes - WATCH! [The Veil Removed - Film - YouTube](#)

Thank you to Jerrad Fenske and all the performers who gave us a wonderful Sunday evening concert! It was wonderful!

1. Today's Readings: [Monday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time | USCCB](#)
2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Today, we have a follow up article about the Catechism of the Catholic Church written again by Fr. John Hardon. The article explores how to use the Catechism.

Interested in reading pieces of the Catechism in small bites? One of our Catholic authors has developed "The Random Catechism". The second article explains what that is all about and how to use it. Here is the link for The Random Catechism: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/catechism/randomcatechism.cfm>

3. Quote of the Day: If from the beginning Christians have celebrated the Eucharist and in a form whose substance has not changed despite the great diversity of times and liturgies, it is because we know ourselves to be bound by the command the Lord gave on the eve of his Passion: "Do this in remembrance of me." CCC

St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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UNDERSTANDING HOW TO USE THE CATECHISM

There is still one more important aspect of this subject to explain; it is also the most important practical question that needs raising. How is The New Catechism of the Catholic Church to be put into apostolic use.

Before going any further, certain things should be made clear.

- This Catechism is no mere reference work that we may occasionally consult, like a standard dictionary or encyclopedia.
- This Catechism is no mere summary of religious ideas or ideals that provide a readable handbook on how Catholics think.

No, the Catechism is an indispensable arm of instruction on every level of the teaching apostolate.

We now have a one-volume reservoir of Catholic truth and practice for everyone who wants to bring others to Christ, if they are not yet Christians; to solidify the faith of those who have been baptized; to defend Roman Catholicism in a world in which the Church has been abandoned by so many once-believing Catholics and is being betrayed even by some of her ecclesiastical leaders.

The question, however, still remains: How to use the Catechism in the apostolate of evangelization and catechesis? I have five recommendations:

- Know the Catechism
- Trust the Catechism
- Adapt the Catechism
- Live the Catechism
- Share the Catechism

Each of these recommendations deserves detailed explanation. We shall be satisfied with just a short comment about each of the five.

Know the Catechism. Our most fundamental duty is to know the Catechism. How do you come to know anything? By reading, by discussing, by hearing it explained by competent persons.

Speed reading of the Catechism would be self-defeating. If anything, the Catechism should be not only read but prayerfully meditated. Spend some time set aside for reflecting, in God's presence, what the Catechism teaches through more than 500 pages of print.

How much time people waste in reading fiction, or worse. Is it too much for Christ to expect us to spend a few hours a week in reading, alone or with others, what promises to be the food that feeds the soul on revealed truth?

Trust the Catechism. Already, critics have appeared who discredit the Catechism on both sides of the spectrum.

- Some criticize it for being outmoded and out of touch with the times.
- Others criticize it for giving in to Modernism and therefore discredit what the Vicar of Christ is offering the believing faithful for their spiritual sustenance in a world that is dying out of hunger for the truth.

Pay no attention to these critics. To distrust the Catechism is to play into the hand of the devil, who fears nothing more than security of doctrine among the followers of Christ.

Adapt the Catechism. The Catechism is not simple reading. But neither is it sophisticated and out-of-touch with the vocabulary of the people. In any case, the Catechism contains all the essentials for Catholic faith, morality, and divine worship.

In using the Catechism to teach others, adjust the language to the mentality of those you are teaching. Adapt the ideas, without watering them down. Accommodate what the Catechism says, to the mental and spiritual level of those with whom you are sharing God's truth.

Live the Catechism. This is no pious platitude. Teaching the true faith is unlike any other form of pedagogy.

The purpose of teaching the Catholic faith is to enable those you are teaching to practice the virtues which Christ expects of His followers. Very well, but how do you enable those you teach to practice what they have learned? You don't! Only Christ can give them the grace they need to practice what they believe. So how do they get the grace they need? From Christ, of course. But through you, their teachers.

What are we saying? We are saying that God uses holy people as channels of His grace to others. In the measure of our own union with Him, He will communicate to those we teach the light and strength they need to live the Christian faith. God uses humble people to give others the gift of humility. He uses chaste people as conduits of His grace of chastity; patient people to inspire patience; prayerful people to make others prayerful.

In a word, if we live the Catechism, we become instruments of divine faith to everyone whose life we touch. This, we may say, is the law of spiritual generation. Sanctity is reproductive; holiness is procreative.

Share the Catechism. One final point should be made: On the last day we shall be judged on our practice of charity. How we hope that when Christ appears, He will say to us, "Come, blessed of my Father, and possess the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; thirsty and you gave me to drink; naked and you clothed me, sick and in prison and you visited me."

What does this have to do with the Catechism of the Catholic Church? Everything! This masterpiece of sacred wisdom provides us with all the resources we need to meet the spiritual needs of America. But we must be convinced that these needs are desperate, and that we have at hand the means of saving the soul of our society.

PRAYER

"Lord Jesus, you have given us the Catechism of the Catholic Church to bring light to those who are walking in darkness and supernatural life to those who are sitting in the shadow of death.

"Enlighten our minds with your revealed truth and inspire our hearts with your divine love — so that by our courageous witness to your Name here on earth we

Parish Office Communication

may bring countless souls with us to that heavenly Kingdom for which we were made. Amen."

Source: ewtn.com