

The New Saint Joseph

65
FIRST
COMMUNION
Catechism

Baltimore catechism
Kelley (1963)
AEA 7238 (Cat.)



LESSON 5

OUR OWN SINS

Actual Sin

22. Is original sin the only kind of sin?

No, there is another kind of sin, called actual sin.

Adam and Eve committed **ORIGINAL** sin. We did not commit it, but are born with it. The sin we commit is **ACTUAL** sin.

23. What is actual sin?

Actual sin is any sin which we ourselves commit.



Actual Sin is Doing Wrong

We are not born with actual sin.
We commit it ourselves.

24. How many kinds of actual sin are there?

There are two kinds of actual sin: mortal sin and venial sin.

25. What is mortal sin?**. Mortal sin is a deadly sin.**

It is a big sin committed on purpose.

The word **deadly** means that it kills our soul.

Children do not often commit mortal sin.

God protects them in a special way.

But big people sometimes commit mortal sin.

Even big boys and girls do sometimes.

We must hate mortal sin.

26. What does mortal sin do to us?**Mortal sin makes us enemies of God and robs our souls of His grace.**

Anyone who commits mortal sin loves himself more than God.

He offends God very much.

One whose soul is dead in sin has no power to love God.

He cannot please God.



Grace in the Soul

Christ lives in us.

GRACE is the life
of Christ in us.

Mortal sin kills
this life.

It CRUCIFIES
CHRIST in us.



Mortal Sin in the Soul

Christ is crucified in us.

27. What happens to those who die in mortal sin?

Those who die in mortal sin are punished forever in the fire of hell.

Hell is a terrible place.

Those who are there suffer great pain.

They are slaves of the devil.

They hate God and everyone else.

They love only themselves.

They can never be happy.

28. What is venial sin?

Venial sin is a lesser sin.

Mortal sin is doing something big that God does not like.

Venial sin is doing something not so big that God does not like.

Sometimes we commit venial sin on purpose.

Sometimes we commit it without thinking.

If we do it on purpose, it offends God.

If we do it without thinking, it does not offend God.

But we must be sorry afterwards and try to find out why we committed the sin.

29. Does venial sin make us enemies of God or rob our souls of His grace?

No, venial sin does not make us enemies of God or rob our souls of His grace.

Venial sin does not kill God's life in our souls. But it makes our souls sick. Our soul is more important than our body. It is worse to have a sick soul than a sick body.

Our Blessed Lord loves us. Venial sin makes Him SAD, if we do it on **purpose**, or do not try to do **better**.



Venial Sin in the Soul

Christ is sad in us.

30. Does venial sin displease God?

Yes, venial sin does displease God.

God loves you. Venial sin hurts your own soul. It displeases God to see you hurt yourself. Does your mother like to see you hurt yourself?

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

1. What sin do we commit ourselves?
2. What does mortal sin do to the life of Christ in us?
3. What sin makes our soul sick?

4. Why should we hate sin?

LESSON 9

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

44 . What is the sacrament of Penance?

Penance is the sacrament by which sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.

Mortal sin kills the life of Christ in our soul.

Venial sin makes our soul sick.

The sacrament of Penance is like medicine.

It is the medicine of Christ's Precious Blood.

It cures sick souls.

It is much stronger than medicine for the body.

It even raises dead souls to life.



Jesus said to the man who could not walk, "Your sins are forgiven. Arise and go to your house." And the man got up and walked.

This sacrament heals the wounds of all our sins.
It helps us to be good afterwards.
It helps us to keep out of sin.

Our sins may be big.

Our sins may be many.

But Our Lord always forgives us if we are sorry .

He is never angry with us.

He loves to have us come to Confession.

45. What must you do to receive the sacrament of Penance worthily?

To receive the sacrament of **Penance** worthily I must:

1. Find out my sins
2. Be sorry for my sins.
3. Make up my mind not to sin again .
4. Tell my sins to the priest.
5. Do the penance the priest gives me.



The best way to do this is:

Pray to the Holy Spirit.

Then think about Our Lord's sufferings.

We call these sufferings His Passion.



BEFORE CONFESSION
 'THIN K ABOUT THE PASSION

Our sins made Jesus suffer .

He suffered in our place.

We should have been on the Cross. He did not commit the sins; we **did**. But He loves us.

He wanted to suffer for our sins.

When we see His hands and feet nailed, we will be sorry we did that to Him.

When we see His bleeding Body, we will make up our mind not to sin again.

When we see His face, we will want to tell our sins to the priest.

When we see His eyes, we will want to say our penance.

DID I COMMIT ANY OF THESE SINS?

- Did I miss Mass on purpose on a Sunday or Holy Day? (*How many times*)
- Was I late for Mass on Sunday through my own fault? (*.....times*)
- Did I laugh or talk in church? (*.....times*)
- Was I disobedient to others? (*..... times*)
- Did I talk back to them? (*.....times*)
- Did I fight with someone? (*..... times*)
- Did I use angry words? (*..... times*)
- Did I try to get even with someone?
(*.....times*)
- Did I use bad words? (*..... times*)
- Did I steal something? (*..... times*)
- Did I tell any lies? (*.....times*)
- Was I unkind to others? (*.....times*)
- Did I call anyone bad names? (*..... times*)
- Was I mean to others? (*..... times*)
- Did I tease someone unkindly? (*..... times*)
- Did I eat meat on Friday on purpose?
(*..... times*)

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

1. What sacrament heals our sick souls?
2. What medicine does it use?
3. If we ever have big sins, will Our Lord forgive us?
4. Is He angry with us?
5. What is the best way to get ready for confession?

LESSON 10

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD CONFESSION

46 . How do you make your confession?

I make my confession in this way:

1. I go into the confessional and kneel.
2. I make the sign of the cross and say: "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned."
3. I say: "This is my first confession" (or, "It has been one week, or one month, since my last confession").
4. I confess my sins.
5. I listen to what the priest tells me.
6. I say the act of contrition loud enough for the priest to hear me.



The Priest Takes Christ's Place

Remember you are talking to Our Lord.
Do not be afraid. Tell the truth.
Tell all the sins you can remember.
Do not leave out any sin on purpose.
If you forget to tell a sin, God forgives you.
Listen carefully to the priest.
Say your Act of Contrition from your heart .

47. What do you do after leaving the confessional?

After leaving the confessional, I say the penance the priest has given me and thank God for forgiving my sins.



Thanksgiving After Confession

Look at the crucifix again.
Thank Our Lord for His sufferings.
Thank Him for curing your sins.
Say your penance from your heart.
Ask Jesus to help you to be better.



CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

1. What is the first thing you say in confession?
2. What do you say about your last confession?
3. What do you do next?
4. What do you do after the priest gives you your penance?

**PRAYER
BEFORE CONFESSION**

**COME, HOLY SPIRIT,
give me Your light
to see my sins,
and give me Your help
to be sorry for them.
Show me why I sinned.
Help me never again
to sin on purpose.**

**PRAYER
AFTER CONFESSION**

**MY JESUS, I thank You
for washing away my sins
in Your Precious Blood.
Help me to accept my cross
each day and not to hurt
You.
I love You with my whole
heart and soul.**

SIGNS OR SYMBOLS OF CHRIST I SEE IN CHURCH

t
I I J H I S

A cross should remind me that Our Lord died on the Cross for me.

The letters "I H S" mean JESUS in Greek. This was a language used when Jesus was on earth.

The letters "P" and "X", placed one over the other, mean CHRIST in Greek.

Next time you are in church, see how many of these symbols you can find.

