

CATECHESIS 6 SECOND QUARTER

LESSON 1: THE PEOPLE OF GOD (Scripture Text)

CONCEPT NOTES:

Through faith we become God's children united with Christ. This happened in our baptism.

By nature we are clad in the garb of Adam. This garb Paul likes to call "the old man." Before we can become the children of God this old man must be put off. The garment of Adam must come off like soiled clothes. God clothes us with the righteousness of Christ by means of Baptism. With this change of garments a new birth, a new life stirs in us. New affections toward God spring up in the heart. New determinations affect our will. All this is to put on Christ according to the Gospel. When we have put on the robe of the righteousness of Christ we must put on also the mantle of the imitation of Christ.

<http://goulablogger.wordpress.com/2009/06/13/galatians-chapter-326-29-48-20-antique-commentary-quotes/>

LESSON 1: THE PEOPLE OF GOD (Church Teaching)

CONCEPT NOTES:

Seven Characteristics of God's People (CCC 782)

The People of God are not the property of any one people group
Membership comes from faith in Christ and Baptism, not from physical birth
This People is messianic; Christ shares with them his anointing of the Spirit
Their dignity is to be children of God because God's Spirit dwells within
Their law is to love others as Christ loved them (Jn 13:34)
Their mission is to be the "light of the world," a hope for the whole human race
Their destiny is the Kingdom of God, in time and eternity

The Three Offices of Christ (CCC 783-786)

Since Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king, every member has these three offices and carries their responsibilities.

By Baptism believers are consecrated into a "holy priesthood" (Heb 5:1-5).

They share in Christ's prophetic office by adhering unflinchingly to the truths given to the saints. They share in Christ's royal office by serving the poor and the suffering. "The sign of the cross makes kings of all those reborn in Christ and the anointing of the Spirit consecrates them as priests" (Pope Leo the Great).

http://www.catholicity.com/catechism/the_people_of_god.html

LESSON 1: THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Practicing the Faith/ Sharing the Faith

CONCEPT NOTES:

The Church is made up of people of different races, living and the dead who believe in Jesus. We show our love for God by loving others.

The Holy Spirit guides the Church.

After Jesus' resurrection, He sent the Holy Spirit to watch over the Church. The Holy Spirit helps the faithful and heroic individuals to make the Church flourish.

Jesus Christ (anointed, Messiah) is the Head of the People of God. Due to the same anointing, the Holy Spirit, flows from the Head into the body-the Church.

The Church as People of God is called to participate in the priestly, kingly and prophetic mission of Christ:

Priestly- we faithfully and joyfully participate in the celebrations of the Church especially the Eucharist.

Prophetic- we are called to give witness to the love of Christ through faithful proclamation of our faith, and

Kingly- we courageously respond to the call to serve and act to the needs of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

LESSON 2: THE MYSTICAL BODY OF CHRIST

Scripture Text

THE UNITY OF CHRIST'S MYSTICAL BODY

A Summary of 1 Corinthians 12:12-30.

St. Paul illustrates how the different members of the Church, with their various gifts are all one, as parts of the one mystical body of which Christ is the head. As the human body is one, in spite of its various members, and as its vital spirit is one, although manifesting itself differently through different members, so it is with the mystical body of Christ, of which He is the Head and His Holy Spirit the soul. If, therefore, all the spiritual gifts possessed by the different members of the Church come from the same divine source and are intended for the same lofty purpose, which is the good of the Church, those who have the more humble gifts ought to be contented, not envying

those who are more highly endowed ; and, contrariwise, those who have been more especially favored must not look down upon their less fortunate brethren.

<http://thedivinelamp.wordpress.com/2011/01/18/father-callan-on-1-corinthians-1212-30/>

LESSON 2: MYSTICAL BODY OF CHRIST

Church Teaching

CONCEPT NOTES:

The Body of Jesus is another scriptural image of the Church. Jesus formed His first community of disciples, lived and shared His life with them, revealed the secrets of the Kingdom and gave them a share in His life and mission. He was so intimate with them and promised to keep His intimacy forever. He said "Abide in me and I in you...I am the Vine and you, are the branches." (John 15: 4-5)

Our faith tells us that the Church is the Body of Christ with Jesus as the Head and the faithful are the members of the body.

Within Christ's Body, the Church though many are one. This means that there are many members with different gifts or charisms, these do not destroy their unity. They live in unity amidst diversity. This is one characteristic of the Church as the Body of Jesus.

LESSON 2: THE MYSTICAL BODY OF CHRIST

Practicing the Faith

CONCEPT NOTES:

When we are baptized we become members of the Body of Jesus., the Church. We are the branches in the Church who will continue to grow in our intimacy with Christ, our Vine through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist is Jesus who gives Himself as our spiritual food.

As members of Jesus' Body, we continue to listen and follow His teachings, We keep His commandments especially the love for the poor. We must live in harmony with one another. We must treat one another with equality. We must be responsive with the promptings of the Holy Spirit in showing our love and concern for one another. We encourage one another to live our Christian life to the full and with joy as we journey to the Father.

LESSON 3: THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scripture Text

The Scripture tells us how Jesus became angry at the people who made his Father's house a market place. The temple is the house of God and the house of prayer where the believers gather together. It should be respected and be treated with reverence.

Jesus compared His body to a temple. According to Him, after it had been destroyed, He will build it again in three days. What he was talking about here was His death and resurrection which the Jewish authorities couldn't understand.

LESSON 3: THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **Church Teaching**

THE CHURCH IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

CCC 797 "What the soul is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to the Body of Christ, which is the Church." "To this Spirit of Christ, as an invisible principle, is to be ascribed the fact that all the parts of the body are joined one with the other and with their exalted head; for the whole Spirit of Christ is in the head, the whole Spirit is in the body, and the whole Spirit is in each of the members." The Holy Spirit makes the Church "the temple of the living God"

CCC 798 The Holy Spirit is "the principle of every vital and truly saving action in each part of the Body." He works in many ways to build up the whole Body in charity:

- by God's Word "which is able to build you up";
- by Baptism, through which he forms Christ's Body;
- by the sacraments, which give growth and healing to Christ's members;
- by "the grace of the apostles, which holds first place among his gifts";
- by the virtues, which make us act according to what is good;
- finally, by the many special graces (called "charisms"), by which he makes the faithful "fit and ready to undertake various tasks and offices for the renewal and building up of the Church."

LESSON 3: THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **Practicing the Faith**

CONCEPT NOTES:

As baptized Christians, we become embodied spirit. The Holy Spirit in us, whom we received in Baptism move us to love and proclaim the truth, to show Jesus to others by our words and actions, to serve and to help unite the members of the Church. In short, the Holy Spirit moves us to live a truly Christian life.

The Scripture tells us how Jesus became angry at the people who made his Father's house a market place. The temple is the house of God and the house of prayer where the believers gather together. It should be respected and be treated with reverence.

Jesus compared His body to a temple. According to Him, after it had been destroyed, He will build it again in three days. What he was talking about here was His death and resurrection which the Jewish authorities couldn't understand.

The Scripture tells us how Jesus became angry at the people who made his Father's house a market place. The temple is the house of God and the house of prayer where the believers gather together. It should be respected and be treated with reverence.

Jesus compared His body to a temple. According to Him, after it had been destroyed, He will build it again in three days. What he was talking about here was His death and resurrection which the Jewish authorities couldn't understand.

LESSON 4: COMMUNITY OF FAMILIES **Scripture Text**

CONCEPT NOTES:

The Holy Family consists of the Child Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and Saint Joseph. The importance of the Holy Family's example of faith and love is essential for families. The Holy Family was holy because they always sought to do God's will. Every family that wants to be holy is called to do the same."

LESSON 4: COMMUNITY OF FAMILIES **Church Teaching**

CONCEPT NOTES:

CCC 2204-2206 The Christian family is "the domestic church." The New Testament shows that it has singular importance in the Church (Eph 5:21-6:4).

CCC 2207-2208 The family is the original cell of social life. The stability of family relationships constitute the foundations of a society. The family is the community where children learn moral values and a correct use of their freedom. This initiates them into society.

Because of the family's overwhelming importance, society must strengthen marriage and family. Civil authorities have a grave duty "to acknowledge the true nature of marriage and the family and to promote domestic prosperity" (Second Vatican Council).

LESSON 4: COMMUNITY OF FAMILIES

Practicing/Sharing the Faith

CONCEPT NOTES:

Family members must live together in peace and harmony. To achieve this, each member of the family must be aware of the duties and responsibilities.

Duties of Children to their Parents(CCC 2214-2218)

1. Children (whether minors or adults) must honor their parents because of God's fatherhood. This respect must be nourished by a natural affection born from their common bond.
2. A child should obey his parents in all that they ask. Pupils should obey the directions of their teachers and others entrusted with their care.
3. Grown children must give parents whatever material and moral support they need in their old age and illness.
4. Children contribute to their parents' growth and holiness. All must love one another and forgive one another

The Primordial Parental Responsibility (CCC 2221-2222)

1. The parents' right and duty to educate children is primordial and inalienable. Parents must see their children as children of God and educate them in God's law.
2. Parents fulfill this duty by creating a home filled with tenderness, respect, and fidelity, in which the virtues of self-denial and sound judgment are taught.
3. By the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the grace to evangelize their children. They must initiate them into the mysteries of faith and associate them with the life of the Church. A good family supports the children's faith throughout their life.
4. At first, parents take care of the physical and spiritual needs of young children. Later, the parents must educate them to the right use of reason and freedom

SPECIAL LESSON: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AUGUST 15

CONCEPT NOTES:

The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven.

Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. This is called the Immaculate Conception. Because of Mary's role in God's

plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all.

Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all.

<http://www.loyolapress.com/assumption-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-august-15.htm>

SPECIAL LESSON: THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY September 8

CONCEPT NOTES:

Mary was born to be the mother of the Savior of the world, the spiritual mother of all men, and the holiest of God's creatures. Because of her Son's infinite merits, she was conceived and born immaculate and full of grace. Through her, Queen of heaven and of earth, all grace is given to men. Through her, by the will of the Trinity, the unbelieving receive the gift of faith; the afflicted are tendered the works of mercy; and the members of Christ grow in likeness of their Head. In Mary all human nature is exalted.

We rejoice that the Mother of God is our Mother, too. Let us often call upon the Blessed Virgin as "Cause of our joy", one of the most beautiful titles in her litany.

SPECIAL LESSON: DEVOTIONS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Basis for Marian Devotion

Marian devotion takes its origin and effectivity from Christ, finding its complete expression in Christ, and leading through Christ in the Spirit to the Father. Every authentic development of Christian worship is necessarily followed a fitting increase of veneration for the Mother of the Lord.

CFC 1537

Mary has by grace been excelled above all angels and persons as the most holy Mother of God who was involved in the mysteries of Christ. Hence the Church appropriately honors her with special reverence.

Second Vatican Council

Some Marian Devotions:

1. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary- its image is that of a heart surrounded by a crown of flowers and pierced by a sword. A flame burns at the top of the heart and light emanates around the heart
2. Memorare-implores Mary's help with an utter and absolute trust and surrender

3. Our Lady of Guadalupe-replica of the image of the Blessed Virgin appeared on the cloak of Blessed Juan Diego, a Mexican peasant in 1531
4. The Holy Rosary- most popular Marian devotion that tells about the lives of Jesus and the Blessed Mother
5. The Miraculous Medal- from the vision of St. Catherine Laboure, she was asked by the blessed Mother to wear a medal struck in her honor and that all who will wear them will receive special graces.

SPECIAL LESSON: THE HOLY ROSARY

CONCEPT NOTES:

We meditate on the mysteries of the rosary by using our imagination to picture the mystery occurring right in front to us. Then we keep this image fresh in our minds as we say the Hail Mary prayers. As we meditate we repeat our prayers, as Jesus did (Mt.26: 44). In the Rosary, we basically say, "Jesus and Mary, I love you" over again and again. As we do, we grow in our love of God.

SPECIAL LESSON: FEAST OF SAINT LORENZO RUIZ September 28

CONCEPT NOTES:

St. Lorenzo Ruiz is the first Filipino saint. He showed his love for Christ until his death. He said, " I am ready to die for Christ. If I have a thousand lives I will give all of them to Him."