

SAINT JOSEPH
BALTIMORE CATECHISM

**THE TRUTHS OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH
CLEARLY EXPLAINED AND ILLUSTRATED**

**With Bible Readings, Study Helps
and Mass Prayers**

●
OFFICIAL REVISED EDITION

No. 1

Explained by
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**CATHOLIC BOOK PUBLISHING CORP.
NEW JERSEY**

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PRAYERS FOR EVERY DAY

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. *(Partial Indulgence)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FATHER, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE HAIL MARY

HAIL MARY, full of grace! The Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. *(Partial Indulgence)*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

IBELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen. *(Partial Indulgence)*

THE CONFITEOR

ICONFESS to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; there-



The sheep of Jesus follow Him to heaven

1. THE PURPOSE OF MAN'S EXISTENCE

We read in the Holy Bible:

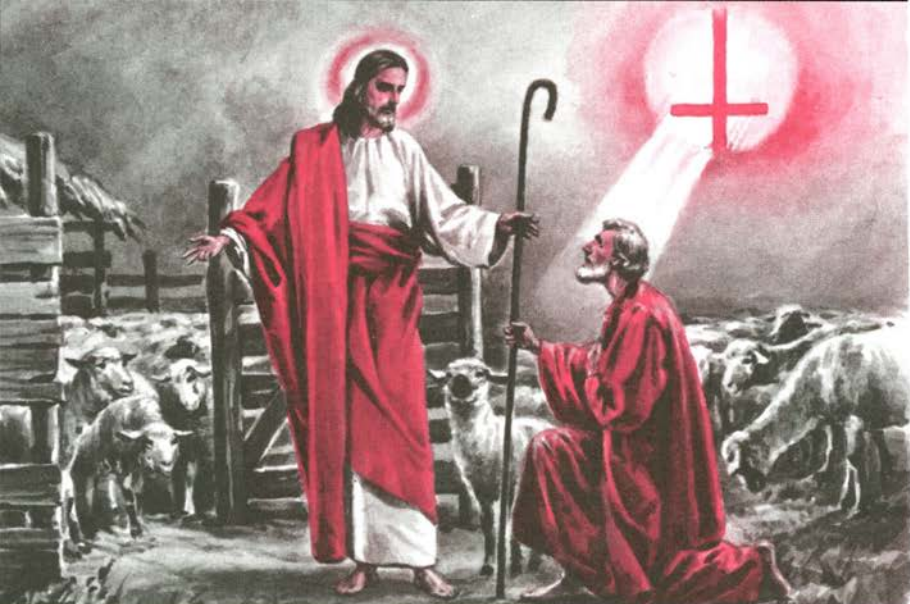
"I am the Good Shepherd, and I know Mine and Mine know Me" (John 10, 14).

"He who enters by the door is shepherd of the sheep. To this man the gatekeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them forth . . . , and the sheep follow him because they know his voice" (John 10, 2-4).

EXPLANATION

Jesus leads us to Heaven

God made us to live with Him in His happy home in heaven. So He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to lead



Our Lord gave Peter charge of His sheep and said that Peter would die for them too

11. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

“I believe in . . . the Holy Catholic Church . . .”

We read in the Holy Bible:

“I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep” (John 10, 11).

“Jesus said to Simon Peter . . . ‘Do you love Me?’ And he [Peter] said to Him, ‘Lord, you know all things. You know that I love You.’ He [Jesus] said to him, ‘Feed My sheep’” (John 21, 15-17).

EXPLANATION

Jesus our Good Shepherd

The Church is the sheepfold of Christ, our Good Shepherd. In the Church, Christ teaches His sheep, He feeds them, He heals their wounds, He guides them to heaven.



The sheep are those who love as the Good Samaritan did in helping the wounded man.

The goats are those who refuse to love as the rich man did in not feeding Lazarus.

15. THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

1st Commandment: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind, and with thy whole strength.

2nd Commandment: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

We read in the Holy Bible:

"But when the Son of Man shall come in His majesty, . . . He will separate them one from another as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats . . . Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, blessed of My Father . . . for I was hungry and you gave Me to eat; . . . thirsty and you gave Me to drink; . . . a stranger and you took Me in; naked and you covered Me; sick and you visited Me; . . . in prison and you came to Me . . .



At the Last Supper Jesus gave us the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to continue the Sacrifice of the Cross

27. THE SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

We read in the Holy Bible:

"And when the hour had come, He reclined at table, and the twelve apostles with Him. And He said to them, 'I have greatly desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer . . .'

"And having taken bread, He gave thanks and broke, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My Body, which is being given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In like manner He took also the cup after the supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My Blood, which shall be shed for you'" (Luke 22, 14-15, 19-20).