

CHAPTER 1 — Discipleship for Today

Faith Concepts:

- Vatican I began a deep reflection on what it means to be Church.
- Vatican II brought a new breath of fresh air into the Church.
- As a result of Vatican II, the Church emphasizes even more the importance of being disciples in the world.

Sacred Scripture: John 13:34-35 (Law of Love)

Disciple Power: wisdom

Faith Vocabulary: aggiornamento, charisms, constitutions

Catholics Believe: Word of God: Scripture and Tradition

The Church Follows Jesus: Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Thomas Aquinas

Prayer: Prayer of Blessed Pope John XXIII

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 670-671, 798-800, 820-821, 827, 1428, 1928-1942, 2003, 2425-2426, 2832

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 21-23, 133-134, 403-404

CHAPTER 3 — The Mystery of the Church

Faith Concepts:

- The Church is Mystery, a communion of God and humanity; both visible and invisible.
- We are the Body of Christ, who are called to be the hands, feet, and heart of Christ to others.
- God is fully present within the Church, through the Holy Spirit.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 5:11-12 (Blessed are the persecuted.); Mark 6:34-44 (Miracles of Loaves and Fish); John 6:48-50 (Jesus is the Bread of Life.); 1 Corinthians 3: 16 (Temple of God); 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27 (One Body of Christ);

Disciple Power: prayerfulness

Faith Vocabulary: mystery of faith, Sacrament

Catholics Believe: Mystical Body of Christ subsists in the Roman Catholic Church

The Church Follows Jesus: Saint Bridget of Sweden

Prayer: Prayer of the Faithful

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 85-90, 751-757, 787-801, 811-865, 888-892

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 111-123

CHAPTER 5 — People of Prayer

Faith Concepts:

- Prayer is an essential aspect of Christian living.
- When we pray, the Holy Spirit moves us and guides us to communicate.
- Vocal, meditation, and contemplation are the three main expressions of prayer.

Sacred Scripture: Luke 1:38 (Mary's fiat); Romans 8:14-15, 26 (The Spirit intercedes for us through prayer.)

Disciple Power: piety

Faith Vocabulary: contemplation, meditation, vocal prayer

Catholics Believe: Saint John of the Cross' dark night of the soul in prayer

The Church Follows Jesus: Sacred Music, Marian Devotion

Prayer: Based on Magnificat

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 1174-1178, 2652-2660, 2700-2719

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 461-495

CHAPTER 2 — The People of God

Faith Concepts:

- The Church is the sacrament of God's love for the whole world.
- The Church is first and foremost a pilgrim people called together by God to become one in Jesus Christ.
- These are four states of life: single, married, consecrated, and ordained.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 20:25-28 (Leaders are to be servants.); John 20:11-16 (Appearance to Mary Magdalene); 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (Different kinds of spiritual gifts)

Disciple Power: generosity

Faith Vocabulary: consecrated life, laity, ordained ministry

Catholics Believe: Pilgrim Church

The Church Follows Jesus: Caritas Internationalis

Prayer: Prayer for Vocations

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 751, 758-776, 781-786, 871-913, 1555-1571

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 116-117

CHAPTER 4 — The Marks of the Church

Faith Concepts:

- The Four Marks of the Church are traits that make the Church unique.
- The Catholic Church works for unity among all peoples, especially among Christians.
- The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church.

Sacred Scripture: John 17:21 (So that they may all be one.); John 21:24 (John testifies to the truth of the Gospel.)

Disciple Power: integrity

Faith Vocabulary: apostolic succession, ecumenism, infallibility, Magisterium

Catholics Believe: Salvation through the grace of Jesus Christ

The Church Follows Jesus: USCCB, HUGS Truck Ministry

Prayer: Based on Psalm 84

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 813-822, 823-829, 830-835, 857-865

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 125-139

CHAPTER 6 — Prayer of the Church

Faith Concepts:

- Praying with the Church is an essential part our lives.
- Jesus is our greatest teacher in how to pray.
- Popular devotion and sacred images enrich the lives of Catholics.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 26:39 (Jesus prays in the garden); 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 (Pray without ceasing)

Disciple Power: obedience

Faith Vocabulary: icons, liturgy, rites

Catholics Believe: Doctrine of the Assumption; The ability to pray is a gift from the Holy Spirit

The Church Follows Jesus: Prayer before a Crucifix

Prayer: 1077-1109, 1145-1206, 2558-2619

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 1077-1109, 1145-1206, 2558-2619

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 461-495

CHAPTER 7 — History of the Sacraments

Faith Concepts:

- Throughout the centuries, the Church's understanding of the Sacraments has developed.
- Some of the ways in which we celebrate the Sacraments have changed according to the needs of the faithful.
- The Sacraments of Christian Initiation celebrate full communion into the Church.

Sacred Scripture: Ruth 1:16 (Your people shall be my people.)

Disciple Power: humility

Faith Vocabulary: apostates, Christendom, mendicant

Catholics Believe: Order of the Mass

The Church Follows Jesus: Saint Francis de Sales, Saint Teresa of Jesus

Prayer: Based on Psalm 8:4-10

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 26, 298, 817-822, 2493-2498

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 166-179

CHAPTER 9 — Baptism and Confirmation

Faith Concepts:

- Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist are the Sacraments of Christian Initiation.
- Through Baptism, we belong to Christ.
- Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit strengthens us in a mature faith.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 16:24-27 (Conditions of discipleship); Mark 4:1-9 (Parable of the Sower); Luke 4:16-22 (Rejection at Nazareth)

Disciple Power: joy

Faith Vocabulary: Baptism, Confirmation, Sacraments of Christian Initiation

Catholics Believe: Baptismal white garment

The Church Follows Jesus: Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Saint Paul Miiki

Prayer: Profession of Faith

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 1210-1212, 1229-1245, 1262-1270, 1286-1311

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 168, 183, 215, 186-191, 201-221

CHAPTER 11 — Sacraments of Healing

Faith Concepts:

- The Sacraments of Healing are Anointing of the Sick and Penance and Reconciliation.
- The Church reaches out to all who are suffering with illness and the effects of old age through the Anointing of the Sick.
- Each of us can experience God's healing grace in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 16:19 (Keys to the Kingdom); John 20:21-23 (Whose sins you forgive are forgiven.)

Disciple Power: mercy

Faith Vocabulary: conversion, free will, seal of confession

Catholics Believe: concupiscence

The Church Follows Jesus: Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Returning Catholics

Prayer: The Jesus Prayer

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 547-553, 1420-1470, 1499-1525

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 233-247, 249-259

CHAPTER 8 — Give Thanks to the Lord

Faith Concepts:

- The Mass is our worship to God the Father, with the Son, through the Holy Spirit.
- The Seven Sacraments are the means by which Christ shares grace with us.
- The liturgical year is the cycle of seasons and feasts the Church celebrates each year.

Sacred Scripture: Psalm 119:105 (God is the center of our lives.)

Disciple Power: prudence

Faith Vocabulary: grace, liturgical year

Catholics Believe: sacramentals

The Church Follows Jesus: Pope Gregory the Great, Pope Benedict XVI

Prayer: Prayer of Praise

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 1113-1144, 1153-1155, 1163-1173

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 165-179

CHAPTER 10 — The Eucharist

Faith Concepts:

- The Mass is our celebration of thanksgiving to God for all he has done for us.
- The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's life.
- Holy Communion is our spiritual nourishment, helping us to have compassion and gratitude.

Sacred Scripture: Matthew 18:19-20 (Gathered in Jesus' name); Luke 22:19-20 (Institution of the Eucharist)

Disciple Power: compassion

Faith Vocabulary: Eucharist, memorial, sacrifice

Catholics Believe: Altar as both a place of sacrifice and a table for gathering

The Church Follows Jesus: Bread for the World

Prayer: Based on Prayer of St. Patrick

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 1324-1327, 1330-1334, 1337-1340, 1356-1381, 1390

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 213-232

CHAPTER 12 — Sacraments of Service

Faith Concepts:

- The Sacraments at the Service of Communion are Matrimony and Holy Orders.
- The man and woman who celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony become a living sign of God's fidelity.
- Holy Orders consecrates men who are called to serve, teach, and lead members of the Church.

Sacred Scripture: Genesis 2:24 (Man and woman to be partners); Matthew 19:6 (What God has joined, no one should separate.)

Disciple Power: service

Faith Vocabulary: celibacy, conjugal act

Catholics Believe: annulment

The Church Follows Jesus: LAMP Ministries

Prayer: The Beatitudes

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): 358, 825, 871-873, 898, 931, 1533-1589, 1700

U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA): pp. 261-275, 277-292