



Living for God

"LIVING MY RELIGION SERIES" • BOOK 4

CONTAINING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
FROM
THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM No. 1
OFFICIAL REVISED CONFRATERNITY EDITION
WITH
EXPLANATIONS AND BIBLE STORIES

by

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Lepanto Press

P. O. Box 819

Post Falls, Idaho 83877

www.olvs.org

Reprint of 1947 Edition - No Revisions Made

Dedicated to the memory of
Reverend Father Harry Marchosky
December 8, 1923 – December 11, 2007
Ordained May 6, 1952
Please pray for the repose of his soul.

IMPRIMATUR FOR CATECHISM TEXT

Paterson, August 6, 1941, for Baltimore Catechism No. 1.

Nihil obstat: HENRY J. ZOLZER, *Censor Librorum.*

Imprimatur: ✠ THOMAS H. McLAUGHLIN, *Bishop of Paterson.*

IMPRIMATUR FOR ALL OTHER TEXT AND PICTURES

New York, March 31, 1947.

Nihil obstat: JOHN M. A. PEARNES, S.T.D., *Censor Librorum.*

Imprimatur: FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN, *Archbishop of New York.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Living for God is offered as a solution of the vital problem: How shall we so lead a child to the knowledge and love of God that he will determine to serve Him faithfully throughout his life?

This textbook is the result of two years of labor, consultation, testing and revision. During these years of labor, many persons have contributed to the success of the project by their counsel, suggestions, criticism and encouragement.

In view of this, the collaborating authors wish to express their gratitude and deep appreciation of all assistance received, and especially to thank His Excellency The Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, D.D., Archbishop of Denver; Rev. Louis J. Puhl, S.J., Rev. Joseph L. Lilly, C.M., Rev. Hubert Newell, Rev. Ferdinand C. Falque, Rev. Bede Babo, O.S.B., Rev. George M. Dennerle, Rev. Austin F. Munich, Rev. Felix N. Pitt, Ph.D.; also Reverend Mother M. Edwarda, Superior General of the Sisters of Loretto; Sister M. Olivette, S.L., Sister M. Francisca, S.L., Sister M. Urban, S.L., Sister Aloysia Marie, S.L., Sister M. Rebecca, S.L.

A WORD TO THE TEACHER

The motivation-theme of the "Living My Religion" series of textbooks in religion is: *I live in the faith of the Son of God.* (Gal. II, 20.)

The statements (Questions and Answers) of Christian Doctrine for Book 4, "Living for God," are chosen from THE REVISED BALTIMORE CATECHISM, No. 1.

In accordance with the motivation-theme of the series, the statements from the No. 1 Catechism were chosen because they bring out the fundamental idea of Living for God which is the special theme of Book IV.

The Catechism Questions and Answers are given in their logical place within the explanatory text of this book. To facilitate their use for review and other purposes they are also given in their numerical order at the end of this book under the title "Truths I Shall Remember."

Complete Questions and Answers from the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 are printed in bold type.

The 134 Questions and Answers chosen are: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 147, 150, 151, 154, 160, 163, 170, 171, 175, 182, 183, 184, 202, 203, 204, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214.

The remaining Questions and Answers of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 will be developed in Book 5 "Living Through God's Gifts" of the "Living My Religion" series. Thus the entire content of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 will have been covered in grades 3, 4 and 5.

The prayers that should be known by children of this grade are given at the end of the book. A selection of indulgenced ejaculations has been added.

The usual list of difficult words giving merely the word, has been replaced by a *List of Important Words*. This *List* gives not only the pronunciation and the grammatical definition for each word but, whenever practical and suited, includes information of a doctrinal, scriptural, biographical or geographical character.

Finally the Index of Contents presents the Unit and topical subject-matter with page reference.

THE AUTHORS

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UNIT I GOD OUR FATHER

Our Father in Heaven

God is Eternal

God is All-Good

God is All-Knowing

God is Almighty

God is All-Present

God is the Creator

God is the Supreme Being



UNIT I GOD OUR FATHER

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

The apostles loved God and wanted to learn more and more about Him. One day Jesus said to them:

“Look at the birds of the air: they do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you of much more value than they?”

“See how the lilies of the field grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more you!”

“Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or, ‘What shall we drink?’ or, ‘What shall we put on?’; for your Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be given you besides.”

There is only one God. He is the Holy One to whom we speak when we say:

“Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.”

Adam taught his children to worship the one true God; but, little by little, men wandered into faraway lands and forgot almost all that Adam had said.

Those people began to imagine that “the fire or the wind or the swift air or the circle of the stars or the sun and moon were gods that rule the world.” In this way men began to worship false gods.

Sometimes a man cut down a small tree to make bowls, platters, and other useful things. Then he picked up the crooked, knotty stick that was left; and, perhaps just for fun, he carved it until it looked like a queer little man or a long-toothed dog. By and by, somebody would call this bit of wood a god and pray to it. In this way men began to worship idols.

But, even in those pagan lands, there were wise men who knew better. When they saw the gold and purple glory of the sunrise they said to themselves:

“Someone must have made all this beauty.

“Someone, some wise and holy One, must have made the sun, moon, stars, earth, fire, water, grass, flowers, grain, fruits, fish, birds, ants, elephants, horses, sheep, and everything else, except Himself.

“Before He made the first thing, He must have been living alone; so there must be one, only one, great Maker of all things.

“Look at the mountains with their huge rocks tossed up so high! Hear the thunder rolling far away behind the clouds! See the lightning as it leaps down to rip an oak! What power the great Maker shows! He is the Strong One.

“But see how the rain and the sunshine help the earth to grow food for us! The Strong One must be thinking of us. How good He is! He is our Father in heaven.”

Wise men knew that there is only one God. They called Him by many names, such as the Maker of all things, the Strong One, the Most High, and even the name which Jesus loved to use, “Our Father in heaven.”

Those men learned other truths about God. Any person who thinks about the world can learn something about the One who made it.

There are some truths which people cannot find out just by studying things which they see or hear or feel, for God is a spirit. He cannot be seen with bodily eyes or heard with bodily ears or felt with bodily hands.

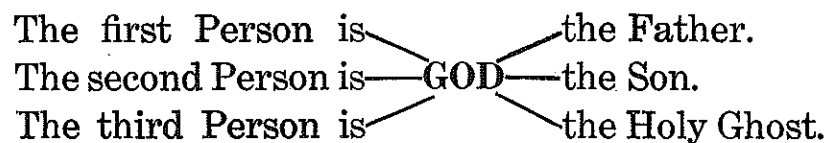
Yet people must learn these holy truths or they cannot know, love, and serve God as they should. Jesus Christ taught these truths to the apostles long ago; and, since then, all Catholics have believed them firmly.

The most important of these truths is the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity. We can learn a little about this wonderful truth now; but we shall never understand it clearly until we see God, face to face, in heaven.

The word "trinity" means three in one and one in three.

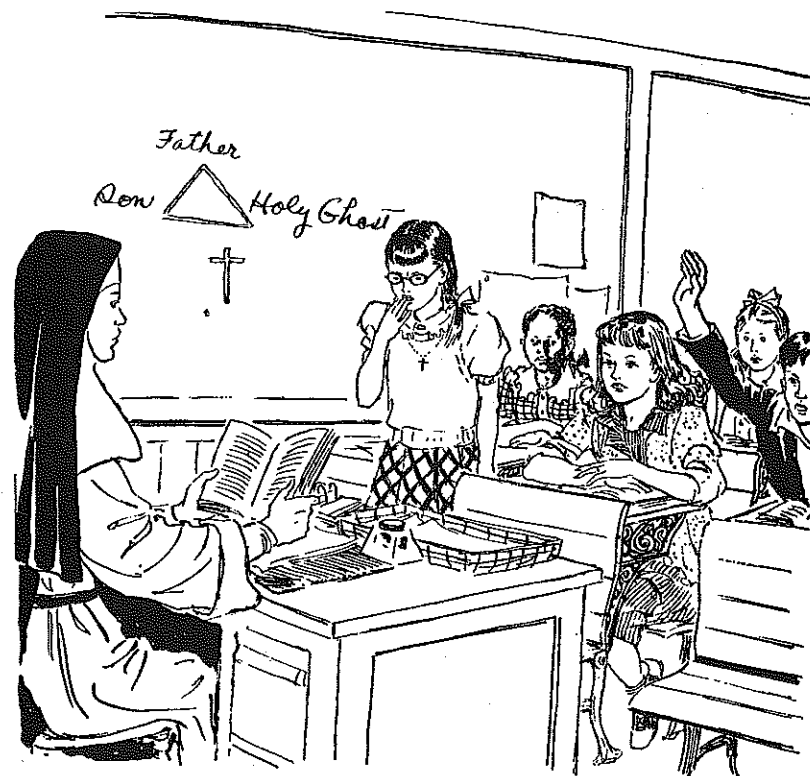
There is only one God.

There are three Divine Persons in one God.



The Blessed Trinity is one and the same God in three Divine Persons.

God the Son was made man and was named Jesus.



One day the apostle Philip said to Jesus: "Lord, show us the Father."

Jesus answered: "Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me?"

"Philip, he who sees Me sees also the Father.

"I am in the Father and the Father in Me."

We may learn many things about the Father by looking at His Son, Jesus Christ; and many things about the Holy Ghost, because Father, Son and Holy Ghost are one and the same God.

The more we know and love God the Son, the more we shall know and love the Blessed Trinity.

Our Lord often spoke of the Holy One who made us and cares with fatherly kindness for every man, woman, and child in the wide world.

When He called the Holy One "Our Father in heaven," Jesus was speaking of the Blessed Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

So we are really praying to the Blessed Trinity—one God in three Divine Persons—when we say:

"Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name."

Is there only one God?

Yes, there is only one God.

How many Persons are there in God?

In God there are three Divine Persons—
the Father,
the Son, and
the Holy Ghost.

What do we mean by the Blessed Trinity?

By the Blessed Trinity we mean
one and the same God
in three Divine Persons.

EXERCISES AND TESTS

The more you know about God, the more you will love Him. The more you love God, the more you will serve Him. The more you serve God, the more joy He will give you in heaven.

These exercises and tests will help you to learn more about God if you make good use of them.

Under the word "Exercise" you will find words to study or facts to learn.

You will find the words in the List of Important Words at the end of the book. They are arranged under the letters of the alphabet. Look under "A" for words beginning with "a," under "B" for words beginning with "b," and so on.

Find the words and read what is said about them. Then try the test. If you can fill the blanks in the test correctly, you know the words well enough for a fourth-grade pupil. If you are not sure which word fits in the blank, go back and find out. Then try the test again. Keep on in that way until you are sure you are right. That is the way to learn.

The facts are important truths which every Catholic should know.

Study the facts, then try the test. If you are not sure of an answer, study the fact or facts again. Keep on studying the facts and testing yourself until you are sure you know every one.

EXERCISE II

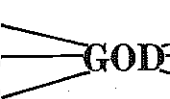


Study these facts, then try Test II. If you are not sure of an answer, study the fact or facts again. Keep on studying the facts and testing yourself until you are sure you know every one. This is a good way to learn your religion so well that you will never forget it.

The word "trinity" means three in one and one in three.

The Blessed Trinity means one and the same God in three Divine Persons.

There is only one God.

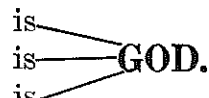

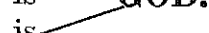
There are three Divine Persons in one God.

The first Person is  the Father.
The second Person is  the Son.
The third Person is  the Holy Ghost.

There are three Divine Persons in one God.

There is only one God.

Each Divine Person is God.

The Father is  **GOD.**
The Son is 
The Holy Ghost is 

The three Divine Persons are one God.

The three Divine Persons are the same God.







TEST II

A.

1. What does the word "trinity" mean?
2. What does "the Blessed Trinity" mean?
3. How many Gods are there?
4. How many Divine Persons are there in one God?
5. Who is the first Divine Person?
6. Who is the second Divine Person?
7. Who is the third Divine Person?
8. Are the three Divine Persons one God?
9. Are the three Divine Persons the same God?
10. Is the Father God? Is the Son God? Is the Holy Ghost God?

B.

Put the correct word in each blank.

1. The Person is  the Father.
The Person is  the Son.
The Person is  the Holy Ghost.
2. The Father is 
The Son is 
The Holy Ghost is 
3. The three Divine Persons are God.
The three Divine Persons are the God.

GOD IS ETERNAL

Eternal means always living—no beginning of life—no end of life—always, always living.

Angels were living before there were any people on the earth, even before there was any earth. Angels will be living when the world is not here any more. Their life will have no end because God made them to live forever. They are not eternal, for they had a beginning.

God is eternal—no one but God.

God had no beginning. He was always living. God is living now. He will live forever. God never changes. He is always the same.

Before the mountains were made,
Before the earth and the world were formed,
From the forever and ever of long ago
To the forever and ever that's coming for me;
Thou art my God,
My Lord, my hope, my love,
My own eternal King.

What do we mean

when we say that God is eternal?

When we say that God is eternal we mean that

He always was and always will be,
and always remains the same.

GOD IS ALL-GOOD

Count all the people you really love. Why do you love them? Are they good to you? Do they give you good gifts?

Every bit of goodness in every good person and in every good thing comes from God.

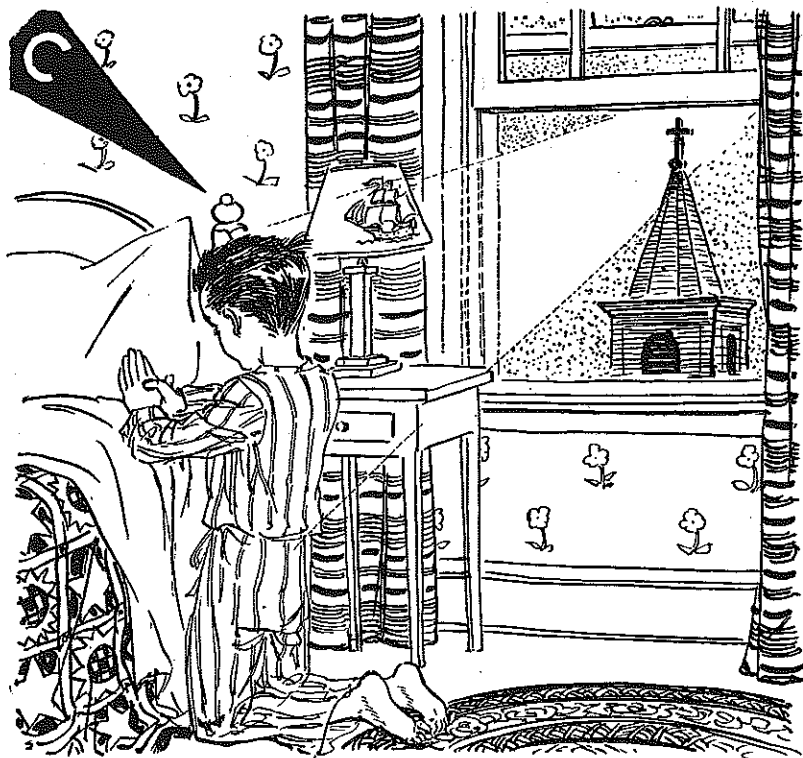
Did you ever see a ray of sunshine catch in a raindrop and sparkle there? That tiny flash of golden light came from the sun. The raindrop could never have had any sunshine at all if the sun had not shared its light.

We could never have anything good if God did not share His goodness with us. He is always letting His goodness spread and spread.

Every good person and every good thing have a share—large or small—of God's goodness. No matter how much goodness they may have, it is very small beside His goodness.

God's goodness has no end. He is all-good.

No matter where we may be in this world, no matter what is happening to us, God sees it all. He knows all about it. He is waiting to help us to act as children of the good God should and to help us, through His Church, to win our share of the good things of heaven.



God's love shines on us always. He sees us and watches over us with loving care.

* Who is all-good?

God is all-good, Goodness itself,
and from His fatherly love
every good comes to us.

Does God see us?

God sees us and
watches over us with loving care.

* Cf. Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2, Q. 14.

GOD IS ALL-KNOWING

How much does God know? Let us think.

When God was living alone in the forever and forever of long ago, He knew all about Himself; that is, He knew the whole of the truth about one God in three Divine Persons.

Even then, even before the first star began to twinkle, God knew all about everything in this world or in any other world. He knew all about every angel, every man and woman and child, every animal and bird and ant, every tree and plant and seed, every mountain and river and speck of dust that ever was or will be.

We have to learn things one by one. But God is not like us. He knows everything there is to know and He knows it all at once. God never has to learn because He always knows, and He never forgets.

God knows all our secrets.

He knows our secret thoughts. Sometimes we can hide a thought from Father, from Mother, or even from our dearest friend; but we can never hide a thought from God. He knows every tiny wish we ever had to love Him and to be good. If we have ever planned to do wrong, He knows.

God knows our secret words. If the words we whisper to somebody are kind or jolly or good in any way, He knows. If they are not, He knows.

God knows our secret actions. He sees what we do when we think we are alone. If those actions are good and honest, He knows. If they are not, He knows.

God is the All-knowing One. He knows all things.

**What do we mean
when we say God is all-knowing?**

When we say that God is all-knowing
we mean that He knows all things,
past,
present and
future,
even our most secret thoughts,
words, and
actions.

GOD IS ALMIGHTY

The Apostles' Creed begins with these words: "I believe in God the Father Almighty." If we really believe this great truth

our hearts will be full of joy no matter what may happen.

Our Father in Heaven is all-good. Yes, and He is almighty, too. He can do all those good things He wills to do for us. Nobody can stop Him.

God is not like us:

If we want to make anything, we try to make it. Perhaps we can; perhaps we cannot. If we want to do anything, we try to do it. Perhaps we do it; perhaps we do not.

God is almighty:

He willed to have angels. There were none. He said: "Live, spirits!" At once thousands and thousands of glorious angels were before Him, singing for joy and thanking Him for letting them live.

God willed to have light. He did not need it for Himself, but we were going to need it as soon as He made us, because we cannot see in the dark. There was no light—no light at all—just black nothingness. He said: "Let there be light!" At once, light was glowing and gleaming everywhere.

"The Lord spoke, and they were made. He commanded, and they were created."

God can do all things; that is, He can do everything which is wise, right, good, holy and worthy to be done by the Lord of all.

God's power is absolutely perfect, so He cannot do evil.

God cannot make a mistake because He knows all things.

God cannot tell a lie because He is all-truth, Truth itself.

God cannot sin. He cannot do anything that is the least bit wrong because He is all-good and all-holy. He is Holiness itself.

God cannot die because He is the living God, Life itself. He was; He is; and He will always be the Lord of Life, the Most High, the Almighty. King David made this song for Him:

“Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord strong and mighty,
The Lord mighty in battle.
Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord of Hosts,
He is the King of Glory.”

What do we mean

when we say that God is almighty?

When we say that God is almighty
we mean that He can do all things.

GOD IS ALL-PRESENT

We are present, now, right here in this place; but we are not present in a house a mile away. We can be in only one place at a time. We cannot be everywhere at once.

But God is not like us. He can be present, everywhere at once. He always is present, everywhere at once.

No matter where we may go, we are never alone. Our heavenly Father is always with us. He is always watching over us with loving care.

If we fly in an airplane up into the very highest part of the sky, God is there.

If we sink in a submarine down into the deepest depths of the sea, God is there.

If we sail to the North where ice mountains float under the midnight sun, God is there.

If we travel to the South where tigers slip through the jungles, God is there.

Always and always, our loving Father is there. God is everywhere.

What do we mean

when we say that God is all-present?

When we say that God is all-present
we mean that He is everywhere.

GOD IS THE CREATOR

Create means: make something from nothing.

We can make but we cannot create. For example, we can make a boat if we have boards or something else that will float; but we cannot make a boat from nothing at all.

God made the angels from nothing.

God made the sun, moon, stars, and this earth from nothing at all.

A thousand years ago, where were you? Where was I?

Our bodies are made of many things which have been here since the world was made. Long ago God created all those things.

Our souls were nowhere; they were nothing. When it was time for us to live, God created our souls.

God is the Creator of heaven and earth because He made all things from nothing.

**What do we mean
when we say that God is the Creator
of heaven and earth?**

When we say that God is the Creator of heaven and earth we mean that He made all things from nothing.

EXERCISE III

Find these in the List of Important Words at the end of the book.

David	eternal	create
bodily	hallowed	Creator
divine	almighty	creature

TEST III

Copy neatly on a sheet of paper and place the correct word in each blank.

1. To means to make a thing from nothing.
2. Anything that was created is called a
3. Everything that God has made is called a
4. Everything is a except God Himself.
5. God is the
6. killed the giant Goliath.
7. was a soldier, a captain; and, later on, he was the King of the Holy Land.
8. loved God, and he made many beautiful songs to sing for God in His holy temple.
9. means set aside for some holy use.
10. means lasting forever and ever.
11. means of God or belonging to God.
12. means able to do all things.
13. The eyes that belong to our body are eyes.
14. God can do all things. He is
15. God always was living. He is living now. He will live on and on forever and ever. God is

EXERCISE IV

Study the facts and then test yourself until you are sure you know them well.

1. God is Our Father in Heaven.
2. God is Our Creator.
Find "Creator" in the List of Important Words.
3. God is eternal. Find "eternal" in the same list.
4. In this world fathers are always older than their sons. This is not true about God, for God is not like us. Each Divine Person has always lived, lives now, and will live forever. There is no difference in their ages. All three are eternal.
5. The Father is eternal because He is
The Son is eternal because He is
The Holy Ghost is eternal because He is **GOD.**
6. God is all-good.
The Father is all-good because He is
The Holy Ghost is all-good because He is
The Son is all-good because He is **GOD.**
7. God is almighty; He can do all things.
The Father is almighty
because He is
The Son is almighty
because He is
The Holy Ghost is almighty
because He is **GOD.**
8. God knows all things.
The Father knows all things
because He is
The Son knows all things
because He is
The Holy Ghost knows all things
because He is **GOD.**

9. God is everywhere.
The Father is everywhere
because He is
The Son is everywhere
because He is
The Holy Ghost is everywhere
because He is **GOD.**

TEST IV

1. Who is Our Father in heaven?
2. What does "Creator" mean?
3. Who is our Creator?
4. What does "eternal" mean? Who is eternal?
5. Is the Father eternal? Why?
Is the Son eternal? Why?
Is the Holy Ghost eternal? Why?
6. Who is all-good?
Why is the Father all-good?
Why is the Son all-good?
Why is the Holy Ghost all-good?
7. Who can do all things?
Is the Father almighty? Why?
Is the Son almighty? Why?
Is the Holy Ghost almighty? Why?
8. Who knows all things?
Why does the Father know all things?
Why does the Son know all things?
Why does the Holy Ghost know all things?
9. Where is God?
Is the Father everywhere? Why?
Is the Son everywhere? Why?
Is the Holy Ghost everywhere? Why?