



# Living through God's Gifts

“LIVING MY RELIGION SERIES” BOOK 5

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

by

*Very Rev. Msgr. W. R. Kelly, LL.D.*

FORMERLY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

and

*Rev. Edmund J. Goebel, Ph.D.*

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

in association with

*Rt. Rev. Msgr. M. A. Schumacher, M.A., Litt.D.*

AUTHOR OF “I TEACH CATECHISM”



LEPANTO PRESS

421 SOUTH LOCHSA STREET

POST FALLS, IDAHO 83854

WWW.OLVS.ORG

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, September 8, 1947.

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Living through God's Gifts 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 learn to appreciate and to use properly the gifts, natural and supernatural, which God has given to him?

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 Rev. Louis J. Puhl, S.J., Rev. Bede Babo, O.S.B., Rev. Felix N. Pitt, Ph.D., Rev. John J. Murphy; also Sister Mary Pascaline, S.S.N.D., Ph.D., Sister Mary Perpetua, O.P., Sister M. Josepha, Sisters of Charity, Halifax; Mother Francis Regis, O.S.U.; Sisters of Mercy, Chicago Province; and the Sisters of Loretto, Nerinx, Kentucky.

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 5, "Living through God's Gifts," 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 through God's Gifts which is the special theme of Book 5.

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 from the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 are printed in bold type.**

The 102 Questions and Answers chosen are: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 87, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214.

The Questions and Answers of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 which are developed in Book 5 "Living through God's Gifts" of the "Living My Religion" series, complete the work of the series on the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1. Thus the entire content of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 1 is 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 Outline of Contents presents the Unit and topical subject-matter with page reference.

### THE AUTHORS

## CONTENTS

Unit	Page
I God Created All Things .....	3
II Actual Sin .....	21
III God's Friendship through the Holy Ghost ..	39
IV The Sacraments .....	73
V Baptism .....	91
VI Confirmation .....	109
VII The Holy Eucharist .....	127
VIII The Commandments of God ( <i>Review Unit</i> )	161
IX Penance .....	195
X Temporal Punishment and Indulgences....	213
XI Extreme Unction .....	219
XII Holy Orders .....	231
XIII The Sacrament of Matrimony .....	239
XIV The Sacramentals .....	249
XV Prayer .....	267
XVI Life and God's Gifts ( <i>Review Unit</i> ) .....	285

## COLORED ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
Jesus at Jacob's Well ( <i>John 4:6 seq.</i> ) .....	2
Jesus writes upon the ground ( <i>John 8:8</i> ) .....	20
The Descent of the Holy Ghost ( <i>Acts 2:1-4</i> ) .....	38
"Power went forth from Him" ( <i>Luke 6:19</i> ) .....	72
Jesus and Nicodemus ( <i>John 3:1-5</i> ) .....	90
Jesus blesses the little children ( <i>Luke 18:15-17</i> ) ..	108
"And their eyes were opened" ( <i>Luke 24:30</i> ) .....	126
Jesus preaching ( <i>Matthew 22:37-40</i> ) .....	160
The Crucifixion of Our Saviour .....	194
"Whatsoever thou shalt loose" ( <i>Matthew 16:19</i> )..	212
Jesus calls Peter and Andrew ( <i>Mark 4:19</i> ) .....	230
The man who was deaf and dumb ( <i>Mark 7:32-35</i> )	248
Jesus at prayer .....	266
The Last Supper .....	284

## UNIT I

### GOD CREATED ALL THINGS

What Creation Is  
Why God Created All Things  
The Story of Creation  
God, the Supreme Being



## UNIT I

### GOD CREATED ALL THINGS

Everything except God had a beginning. The angels and man, the heavens and the whole world had a beginning. Forever and forever God was alone. There was nothing besides Himself. There were no angels, no people, no world. God was infinitely happy without them. Then, one day, thousands of years ago, He “created all things in the heavens and on earth.” Colossians 1:16

Because God created all things, all things belong to Him. The angels belong to Him, people belong to Him, and everything we see in the world belongs to Him.

God created all things for His glory—the heavens, the earth, and all that the heavens and earth contain. “All things were made through him and without him was made nothing that has been made.” John 1:3

We are God’s children. He is our heavenly Father. The whole world has been created for us. “Let us make man to our image and likeness,” He said, “and let him have the right to rule over the fishes of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over all living creatures that move upon the earth.” Genesis 1:26

We are able to know God’s great power, wisdom and goodness from all the things which He has made. The world is a big picture-book which tells us of God. The more we look at the world, the more we learn of Him. “Look upon heaven and earth and all that is in them; and consider that God made them out of nothing, and mankind also.” 2 Machabees 7:28

## WHAT CREATION IS

On the desert sands of Egypt at the entrance to the valley of the River Nile, the Great Sphinx stands like a huge guard overlooking all the countryside. It was cut out of a solid rock nearly 3000 years before the birth of Christ. It has the body and the paws of a lion, but its head is like that of a man. Centuries have gone by, yet it still stands, gazing silently toward the east. It is called one of the wonders of the world.

The Great Sphinx was made by man. It was built by one of the kings of Egypt and placed before his tomb as a monument to his name. Wind, rains, and storms have beaten against it, but it remains today, as ever before, to remind us of the great builders of the past.

The Sphinx is only one of the great things made by man. If we compare it with the many great things made by God, it is not so unusual. God did not use one thing to make another, as we do. Whatever He has made, He made out of nothing. Whatever we make, is made out of things created by God.

Perhaps it would help you to understand better the meaning of "create" if you made a little altar for your room. Before you can begin to make this altar, you must have certain things. You must have wood, paper, nails, tacks, pins or paste. It is the same with anything you might wish to build. You cannot even plan to make something out of nothing. Only God can make things out of nothing. Only God can create.

Now think of all the wonderful things you see in the world. Look up into the sky. See the sun, the moon, and the stars. Look at the things about you. See the



trees, the flowers, the grass, the birds, the animals. In the beginning all these were made out of nothing. Think of it! In the beginning, before God created the world and everything in it, there was nothing. There was no land, no water, no sky, no air. There were no angels; there were no people. When God planned all these things to be, He merely wished them to be; and by His almighty power, everything was made. Because God made heaven and earth and all things out of nothing, He is called the Creator.

It is as impossible for the world to make itself as it is for any tool or machine to make itself. Consider for

a moment an airplane, an automobile, a radio, a camera, a telephone, a watch, or the thousands of other things which you see or read about each day. No one would believe that an airplane, an automobile, a watch or anything else could make itself. No, the only thing to say is that each was made by someone who knew what he was doing, and who knew also the purpose for which each thing was made.

Long ago Father Athanasius Kircher, who loved to study about the stars, the sun, and the moon, had a friend who would not believe that there is a God. He wondered what he could do to help his friend to believe in God. Then, one day, he had a big globe-map made and placed in his room. A short time afterward his friend came to visit him. At once the man noticed the globe. He was curious and wanted to know all about it. He then asked who made it. The priest told him it had made itself. His friend laughed at such a foolish statement. "That globe could not make itself," he said. "Someone must have made it." Father Kircher answered: "My good friend, it would be much easier for a little globe like that to make itself, than for the great globe on which we live to make itself."

**1. Who made us?**

God made us.

**2. Who is God?**

God is the Supreme Being who made all things.

## WHY GOD CREATED ALL THINGS

More than anything else, young Robert wanted to know about God. He wanted to know why God made the world and all things in it. He wanted to know the story and the purpose of creation.

"Why did God make the world so beautiful?" he suddenly asked.

"Robert," his mother replied, "God made the world so beautiful to show us His glory. He loves us very much and He wishes us to praise, love, and honor Him. He wishes us to be happy, too. Everything that He has created has been made for our happiness."

"Why did God fill the heavens with lights?" he asked.

"My son," she answered, "He made the stars and the moon to light the night, and the sun to warm and light the earth. Then He called the light Day and the darkness Night."

And looking about, Robert continued: "Why did God make the trees and the flowers and everything we see in the country?"

"Out of goodness, He made all those things for us," she said. "He made the beasts of the fields, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, for us, too."

"But, mother, God did not need all those things."

"I know He didn't," she replied, "but He created heaven and earth and all things because He loved us. Also, He made us for a special purpose. He made us to love Him and to work for Him on earth, and then to live with Him always in heaven."

Robert stood silent for a moment. He was thinking of another question.



“Mother,” he said, “if God made us and all things, then everything belongs to Him.”

“Yes,” she said slowly, “you belong to God, I belong to God, your father belongs to God, your little brothers and sisters belong to God.”

“Because we belong to God we must always do what He wishes. He has given us laws to obey. ‘If you love me,’ Christ said, ‘keep my commandments.’” John 14:15

Finally Robert said: “Shall I see Him in heaven?”

“Robert, my boy, we cannot reach heaven without working to please God in this world. We must not only learn about God and keep His commandments, but we must pray every day and receive the sacraments often. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, teaches us

through His Church what we must do to know, love and serve God. And the chief truths which Christ teaches us through the Church,” his mother continued, “are contained in the Apostles’ Creed.”

**3. Why did God make us?**

God made us to show forth His goodness and to share with us His everlasting happiness in heaven.

**4. What must we do to gain the happiness of heaven?**

To gain the happiness of heaven we must know, love, and serve God in this world.

**5. From whom do we learn to know, love and serve God?**

We learn to know, love, and serve God from Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who teaches us through the Catholic Church.

**6. Where do we find the chief truths taught by Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church?**

We find the chief truths taught by Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church in the Apostles’ Creed.

**7. Say the Apostles’ Creed.**

I believe 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.