



“... the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6)

Living in God's Church

“LIVING MY RELIGION SERIES” BOOK 6

CONTAINING SELECTED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
FROM THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM No. 2
OFFICIAL REVISED CONFRATERNITY EDITION
WITH EXPLANATIONS AND BIBLE STORIES

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OUR LADY OF VICTORY SCHOOL

LEPANTO PRESS

421 S. Lochsa St.

Post Falls ID 83854

www.olvs.org

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PAX

Dedicated to the memory of
Fr. John of the Cross, OSB
Birth: March 20, 1957; Death: June 29, 2002

IMPRIMATUR FOR CATECHISM TEXT

Paterson, July 18, 1941, for Baltimore Catechism No. 2.
Nihil obstat: Henry J. ZOLZER, *Censor Librorum.*
Imprimatur: ✠ THOMAS H. McLAUGHLIN, *Bishop of Paterson.*

IMPRIMATUR FOR ALL OTHER TEXT AND PICTURES

New York, August 15, 1948.
Nihil obstat: JOHN M. A. FEARNs, S.T.D., *Censor Librorum.*
Imprimatur: FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN, *Archbishop of New York.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Living in God's Church is offered as a solution of the vital problem: How shall we so lead a child to the knowledge of his Christian heritage that he will learn to love and to appreciate what it means to belong to Christ's Mystical Body?

This textbook is the result of several 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. Bede Babo, O.S.B., Rev. John J. Murphy, of the Diocese of Kansas City; also Sister Mary Perpetua, O.P., Upper Montclair, N.J.; Sister M. Josepha, Sisters of Charity, Halifax; Mother Francis Regis, O.S.U., New York; 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 6, "Living in God's Church," are chosen from the REVISED BALTIMORE CATECHISM, No. 2.

In accordance with the motivation-theme of the series, the statements from the No. 2 Catechism were chosen because they bring out the fundamental idea of Living in God's Church which is the special theme of Book 6.

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. 2 are printed in bold type.

The 227 Questions and Answers chosen are: Nos. 4, 5, 6, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 168, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 304, 306, 307, 310, 311, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 412, 419, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 479.

The Questions and Answers of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2 which are developed in Book 6, "Living in God's Church" of the "Living My Religion" series, begin the work of the series on

the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2. The remaining Questions and Answers of the Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2 will be covered in grades 7 and 8.

Throughout the book the terms *Holy Ghost* and *Holy Spirit* are employed synonymously as pertaining to the third Person of the Holy Trinity. The official Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2 uses *Holy Ghost*, but the New Testament quotations, taken from the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Edition of the Challoner-Rheims version, employ the term *Holy Spirit*.

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, wherever 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 references.

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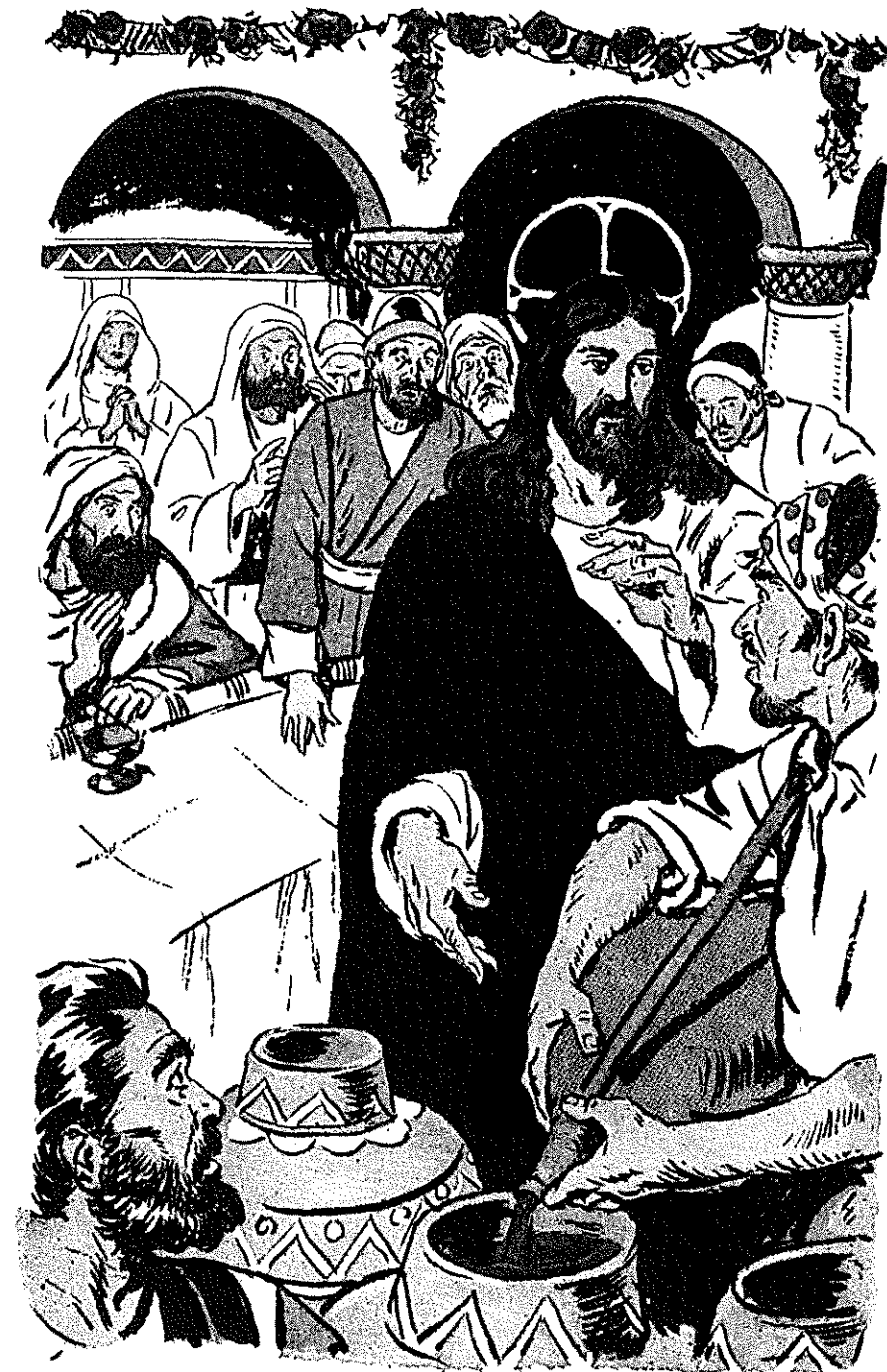
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UNIT I

OUR GOAL: ETERNAL HAPPINESS

Jesus Shows Us the Way to Happiness
The Wise Men Find Happiness
Jesus Goes about His Father's Business
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The Marriage Feast at Cana
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A marriage took place at Cana of Galilee (*John 2:1*)

UNIT I

OUR GOAL: ETERNAL HAPPINESS

IT WAS a quiet, warm day in September. Many people were enjoying the sunny air in the park that faced Saint Peter's church: young mothers with babies and small children, old folks, business men taking a brief rest. All were of interest to Father Potter as he walked through the park on his return from a visit to the sick.

Father liked this park because it was a change from the city street. Even when the sun was high, the lake in the center gave a hint of coolness. The path took him in and out among his people and gave him a chance for a friendly word with each. Looking from a spot in the park just beyond the lake, he especially liked the view of the buildings of Saint Peter's parish.

First, he could see the graceful spire with its golden cross high above the trees. Then, as he moved along, he could glimpse through the foliage the great doors of the church; one of them was always open as if inviting everybody to visit Christ the King. And then, he could see the red brick rectory on this side of the church. On the other side, was the new school that he had opened just two years before. Beside it, was a large playground. And beyond that, hidden behind some trees, was the convent for the Sisters.

As Father Potter came nearer the buildings, he could hear the steady hum of children's voices, which told of a busy and happy school. He looked at his watch. He had ten minutes to spare before his instruction period, so he paused for a brief visit to Our Lord in the church.

But Father Potter was always on time. Just as the bell rang for the two o'clock period, he was opening the door of the sixth-grade classroom to a cheerful, "Good afternoon, Father!"

"I have just come from a visit to our sick friend, little Johnny," said Father Potter by way of greeting. "He is as happy as ever even though he suffers so much."

The boys and girls looked puzzled.

Father smiled in his kindly way and explained his odd statement. "You know what pleasure is, I am sure. You don't seem to know what happiness is. Pleasure means satisfying your senses: looking at agreeable sights, listening to musical sounds, tasting sweets, smelling roses, touching velvet. Happiness is more than that, deeper than that. Happiness is being at rest inside, in your mind.

"Johnny is very happy, full of joy. He told me that he gives all his pain each day to God in union with the Mass. He knows that in this way his suffering is joined to the sufferings of Jesus and helps to bring happiness to the world.

"He is doing a great thing. He really is living in God's Church. The greatest thing in the Church is the Mass. Even though Johnny cannot come to Mass he is united with it. He is very, very happy. He knows God better now, loves Him more, and tries to do all he can to please God. The doctor has told our little friend that he may not live long. He wants to be happy now and to continue to be happy forever in heaven."

Questions for Thoughtful Boys and Girls

- 1) Do you like Father Potter? Why?
- 2) Does he remind you of a priest you know well? Why?
- 3) Where did Father Potter go before class? Why?
- 4) The subject of Father Potter's talks to the Sixth Grade will be "Living in God's Church." Why do you think he began with the story of "Little Johnny"?
- 5) What is the difference between pleasure and happiness?
- 6) What must we do to gain happiness now?
- 7) What must we do to gain happiness in heaven?

Points for Class Discussion

- 1) How can we make this year's lessons in our holy religion help us to be happy now and in heaven?
- 2) Is there somebody like Little Johnny near us? Can we do anything to make him happy?

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.

JESUS SHOWS US THE WAY TO HAPPINESS

"Father Potter," asked one of the boys, "please, tell us more about Johnny, won't you? Who told him the secret of being happy?"

"I did, of course," smiled Father. "That is the work of a priest, to tell his people that the way of Jesus is the way to happiness.

"You know that Our Lord said: 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me' (*John 14:6*).

"Our Lord said this while He was on earth. Afterward, when He had ascended into heaven, He did not leave us without help. No, He sent us the Holy Spirit to be in our hearts and to be in the teaching Church. In this way Jesus would continue to teach us and to bring to our minds all the truths He had taught to the apostles.

"Remember the story of Bethlehem and the song of the angels: Glory be to God and peace to men (*Luke 2:14*). That is God's own theme song. In it He tells us that the happiness of heaven is glory. That means that God is known and loved in heaven. Men on earth have peace when they give God glory here, when they know Him and love Him and serve Him.

"No wonder the shepherds were happy when they heard that great secret. They hurried to the manger and found Jesus with His mother and Joseph. No wonder they returned to their work, glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard. The shepherds were the first human beings, with the exception of Mary and Joseph, to know and to love Jesus—the Way.

"God sent his angels to tell the shepherds. Now, He sends the message through His Church. The work of the Church is to teach us to give glory to God and to have true peace in our minds and hearts."

Bible Stories

John 14:1-9 . . . Jesus Tells Us the Way.

Luke 2:8-20 . . . What the Shepherds Saw.

Questions for Thoughtful Boys and Girls

- 1) What is the secret of real happiness?
- 2) Why were the shepherds happy? The angels? Mary and Joseph?
- 3) How can we be happy now and forever?
- 4) Who teaches us the secret of happiness?
- 5) Why do knowing, loving, and serving God bring happiness?
- 6) From whom do we learn to know, love, and serve God?

Points for Class Discussion

- 1) How can we help each other to know more about Our Lord?
- 2) Will earnest prayer help us to love Him better?

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.

THE WISE MEN FIND HAPPINESS

"Everybody everywhere looks for happiness," Father Potter went on, "and God in His goodness desires all men to find it. Take the Wise Men, for example. They saw a star in the East and came to adore Jesus. Think of their joy, then and now.

"When the Wise Men found Our Lord, they gave Him gifts. Giving gifts is a real part of the joy of being happy. When we find peace in our hearts, when we are happy inside, we want to do something about it. We want to give something we prize to the one who made us happy. The Wise Men gave Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We give Him our prayers of adoration, contrition, petition and thanksgiving. We do this at Mass."

"No wonder Johnny thinks about the Mass when he gives God his pains and aches," said Robert thoughtfully. "He copies what the Wise Men did."

Lively Jane was almost jumping into the aisle. "But, but, he is alone so much; doesn't he mind that?"

Father Potter smiled. "Well, Johnny has two brothers and a sister to play with him. When they are not there, he reads or he makes toy airplanes for his friends. Then, too, he spends a good deal of time thinking about God.

"He likes especially to think about the hidden life of Jesus. His favorite is: The Finding of Jesus in the Temple (*Luke 2:42-52*.) He says it tells him so much about happiness. Mary and Joseph were sad when they lost Jesus, but they continued to look for Him until they found Him. Then Our Lord told them something important—the secret of happiness. He said: 'Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?' (*Luke 2:49*).

"Doing what God wants us to do is the secret of happiness. The Wise Men learned it. Mary and Joseph learned it. Johnny is learning it. Ask Jesus to teach it to you."

Questions for Thoughtful Boys and Girls

- 1) How many people are looking for happiness? Do they always look in the right place? Do they always find it?
- 2) Where did the Wise Men find happiness?
- 3) Why did they give Our Lord those gifts? Do we copy what the Wise Men did? How? When? Why?
- 4) Where did Mary and Joseph find happiness?
- 5) What is the secret of real happiness?

Bible Stories

Matthew 2: 1-12... The Wise Men.

Matthew 2:13-15... The Flight into Egypt.

Matthew 2:19-23... The Return to Nazareth.

Luke 2:41-52... The Child Jesus in the Temple.

Points for Class Discussion

- 1) Could we make a poster which would remind us to be Wise Men?
- 2) Would three minutes of mental prayer help us?
- 3) Which would be the more helpful: three minutes before class or three minutes after class?

Mental Prayer

Here is a simple way to make mental prayer. Choose the Bible story which seems to you to have the most about the secret of happiness—the one that appeals most to you. Make a little picture in your mind of what happened. Make it as real as you can. Then talk to Our Lord very quietly in your heart for three minutes.

JESUS GOES ABOUT HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS

"Well, you look like a lot of busy boys and girls today," said Father Potter the next time he came to class.

"Yes, Father, what you told us the last time has helped us," smiled Sister. "Will someone tell Father what we mean?"

"May I," begged Harry; then, as Father nodded his head, he went on, "You told us that 'Doing what God wants us to do is the secret of happiness.' We read the Temple story in Saint Luke's Gospel and found out that 'Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and grace before God and men. He went



down to Nazareth and was subject to them' (Luke 2:52). We voted to do something to be like Him. The whole class decided, but each one for himself, too, that we would do our daily work as well as we could. We named our room Nazareth, after Our Lord's birthplace. Sister suggested it. Isn't that a good idea, Father?"

"It surely is," Father replied. "Now, today I am going to begin what will take a little while to do. I am going to tell you about Our Lord's public life. Of course, not everything. Sister will help you to read other things in the Bible History or even in the Gospel itself. I shall only point out a few things that happened in those three short years before Jesus died."

JESUS CALLS HIS FIRST FOLLOWERS

"Our Lord did not come as a surprise into the world. His coming had been foretold for ages. God sent a warning in prophecies. These prophecies made the people aware that God would come. It made them yearn for His coming. It even made them count the days and the years. And just before He came away from Nazareth to preach and to work miracles, He had someone prepare the people for His coming. This was Our Lord's own cousin, John; he was called 'the Baptist' because when he turned people away from sin, he asked them to go through a baptism to show that they meant it.

"One day as John was talking with two of his disciples, Jesus passed by along the path by the Jordan River. John pointed to Him and said: 'Behold the lamb of God!' (*John 1:36*). Then the two disciples followed Jesus.

"These two men were the first to become disciples of Jesus. We call them the apostles, Andrew and John. Andrew found his own brother Simon and brought him to Our Lord, and Jesus afterwards gave Simon a new name, Peter, the Rock. Then came Philip and Nathanael. They went and saw where Jesus lived. And they stayed with Him. They were attracted to Him because He was happy and full of joy. They understood what it meant to live all for God."

Word Study

Look up these words carefully.

myrrh	Peter	John the Evangelist
eternal	prophet	Elizabeth
prophecy	Philip	Zachary
David	Andrew	John the Baptist

Bible Stories

Psalms 21: 7-9 } ... David's Prophecy of the Passion.
Psalms 21: 14-19 }
John 1: 35-51 } ... The First Disciples of Our Lord.

Questions for Thoughtful Boys and Girls

- 1) Who was David? What did he prophesy?
- 2) Who was John the Baptist? Why was he called the Baptist?
- 3) Was the baptism of John a real sacrament?
- 4) Which of the apostles had his name changed by Our Lord?
- 5) Who was the son of Zachary and Elizabeth?
- 6) Where did John the Evangelist meet Our Lord?
- 7) Which apostle came from the same town as Peter and Andrew?
- 8) Which apostle said, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

THE MARRIAGE FEAST AT CANA

"It was these disciples who went with Jesus to the marriage at Cana. The Mother of Jesus had been invited and He had been asked, too. So, His first followers had the privilege of being present at the first miracle.

"They shared in the thrill of those present when the chief steward tasted the water after it had become wine at the word of Jesus. The Gospel says, 'He manifested his glory and his disciples believed in him' (*John 2:11*). Remember what the angels sang about "glory"? Jesus in His public life will do many things to bring people to give glory to God, to praise the Father. From the beginning, His disciples and all the people see that He does not seek His own glory."

Bible Story

John 2:1-12... The Marriage Feast at Cana.

Points for Class Discussion

- 1) Why do we dislike people who are always seeking their own glory?
- 2) How can we learn to be meek and humble?
- 3) Would being unselfish and kind help us?

THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

"Jesus came to seek and to save what was lost. He said so Himself, as Saint Luke tells us (*Luke 19:10*). It is plain that, from the early days of His public life to the end, He desired all to live the happy way. So we shall often find Him with those who are sad and lonely.

"One day He sat weary at a well in Samaria. His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. At noon, a woman came all alone to get water. This was strange because in that country the women used to go out to the well together in the morning and in the evening. This woman was leading a bad life.

"But Our Lord wished to give her His grace, the life He would win by His death on Calvary. He began to speak to her, asking her for a drink of water. She was surprised to hear anyone speak to her. When He had her attention He began to tell her about "living water," a symbol for "grace." She was a person who loved life and pleasure, and this attracted her. But Jesus began to change her. When He mentioned some secrets about her bad life, and when He told her that He was the Messiah, she was amazed.

"She is a good example of how happy you can be when you learn the truth about God. She at once became one of the first followers of the Gospel. Leaving her water-jar she returned to the town and said to the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me all that I have ever done. Can he be the Christ?' (*John 4:29*).

Many of the townspeople believed in Jesus because of the word of the woman. Far more believed because of His word. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of what thou hast said, for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this is in truth the Saviour of the world" (*John 4:42*). The woman and the people of Samaria were very happy to know Jesus, the way to happiness.

Bible Story

John 4:1-42...The Samaritan Woman.

Points for Mental Prayer

Imagine that you are sitting on the edge of Jacob's well talking to Jesus. Ask Him honestly what your worst fault is. Then promise Him that you will do your best to correct that fault.

JESUS AT THE TEMPLE

" 'I do always the things that please my Father,' said Our Lord. This was evident one day when He went up to the Temple and found men selling oxen, sheep, and doves. He saw money-changers at their tables, acting as if God's holy temple were a common market-place.

"Then Jesus, 'making a kind of whip of cords, drove them all out of the temple, also the sheep and oxen, and he poured out the money of the changers and overturned the tables. And to them who were selling doves he said: "Take these things away, and do not make the house of my Father a house of business'" (*John 2:15, 16*).

"The Jews wanted to know what right Jesus had to do this. In answer, He told them in a secret way about the Resurrection. He said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." They did not understand because they thought He meant the stone temple, but He meant His own body. One day they would crucify Him, and He would rise on the third day.

"Our Lord showed great reverence for the temple where the sacrifices of the Old Law were offered. We must show great respect for the church where Mass, the sacrifice of the New Law, is offered."

Bible Stories

Exodus 12: 1- 6...The Paschal Lamb, a Sacrifice of the Old Law.

III Kings 18:21-39...Elias Offers a Sacrifice of the Old Law.

Matthew 26:26-28...The Mass, Sacrifice of the New Law.

John 2:13-22...The Cleansing of the Temple.

Points for Class Discussion

- 1) Is our reverence in church what it should be, considering that we are Catholic boys and girls in Sixth Grade?
- 2) Would a non-Catholic watching us at Mass realize that we really believe that the Mass is the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the Cross?

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

"One day, a happy crowd of people listened to Jesus as He gave them the laws of His kingdom. Today we call these laws the Beatitudes.

"In the East, the people are used to hearing the wise sayings of their philosophers. Some of these proverbs seem good but are not entirely true. But the people who listened to Jesus knew that His sayings were true. They said that He spoke 'as one having authority and not as the Scribes' (*Mark 1:22*). The voice of Jesus was like sweet music as they heard Him say:

- 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 'Blessed are the meek,
for they shall possess the earth.
- 'Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
- 'Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice,
for they shall be satisfied.
- 'Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.
- 'Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they shall see God.
- 'Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
- 'Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' "

(*Matt. 5:3-10*)



"The word 'blessed' means 'happy.'" As you hear these rules of happiness that fell from the lips of Jesus long ago, try to think of them as the disciples did. The people had been made miserable by all the lies that the devil had told them down the ages, from the great lie he told to Eve to his last whispered temptation. Now they were happy because Jesus told them the truth and filled them with new joy and hope. It was good to know Jesus. It was a joy to follow Him.

"It is no wonder that at the end of this first year of His public life the crowd followed after Him. Saint Matthew writes, "There followed Him a large crowd from Galilee and Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan' (*Matt. 4:25*).

"Jesus knew how to draw men to Himself. He 'went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people. And his fame spread into all Syria; and they brought to him all those suffering from various diseases and torments, those possessed, and lunatics, and paralytics, and he cured them'" (*Matt. 4:25*).

Bible Stories

Matthew 8: 1- 4... Jesus Cures a Leper.

Luke 7: 1-10... The Centurion's Servant.

Matthew 8:14-15... Peter's Mother-in-law.

Matthew 9: 9-13... The Call of Matthew.

Activity

Commit the Beatitudes to memory.

THE SECOND YEAR OF THE PUBLIC LIFE

"Sometimes you hear of boys and girls who are so excited that they forget to eat. It happens sometimes with grown-ups, too. More than once, those who followed Our Lord did not eat. Perhaps, they even neglected to bring food with them, as they went from place to place after Him. They were so hungry for the Truth, that they forgot how hungry their bodies were.

"Our Lord was always kind to people, and thoughtful of them. We are not surprised when we read in the sixth chapter of Saint John that He worked a miracle to give them food. 'Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?' he said to try Philip, for he himself knew what he would do. The bread would be provided by the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (*John 6:13*).

"One part of this miracle story is of special interest to young boys. One of Our Lord's disciples, Andrew, said to Him, "There is a young boy here who has five barley loaves

and two fishes' (*John 6:9*). It was this food that Our Lord used as a beginning for the wonderful thing that He did. Even nowadays young boys ought to feel proud that Our Lord, in His own charming way, let Himself depend on a boy's lunch basket!

"Jesus took the loaves, Saint John tells us, and when He had given thanks, distributed them to those around, and likewise the fishes as much as they wished. When all had finished, they gathered up fragments to fill twelve baskets. This miracle made the large crowd anxious to make Jesus their king. But He fled again to the mountain, Himself alone.

"The people were determined to find Him. They looked around at the boats, and finally decided to cross the little sea. And sure enough, they found Him on the other side. They asked Him, very simply, 'Rabbi, when didst thou come here?' (*John 6:25*). He understood them well, so He said quietly to them, that they had followed Him chiefly because He gave them food.

"'Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for that which endures unto life everlasting, which the Son of Man will give you. . . . Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. . . . I am the living bread that has come down from heaven . . . for the life of the world' (*John 6:27-52*).

"They said to Him, 'Lord, give us always this bread' (*John 6:34*). This pleased Jesus very much and He went on to tell them of the great Gift He would give, the Holy Eucharist.

"'I am the bread of life. . . . If anyone eat of this bread he shall live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world' (*John 6:48-52*).

"Some of them were surprised at this, and many of them turned back and no longer went about with Him. But He did