

# A Short Catechism

*Wherein the Chief Principles of Religion are  
Taught in the Words of the Sacred Scriptures  
Themselves*

BENJAMIN STINTON

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NORTH PASS PRESS

2026

## **A Short Catechism**

Published by NORTH PASS PRESS, 2026

Originally published 1730.

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Printed in the United States of America.

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## The Preface

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The Holy Scriptures being the only infallible rule of faith and practice, 'tis but reasonable we should give that the preference to all human schemes, and the systems drawn up by fallible men. And because the chief doctrines and duties of religion are scattered up and down in the sacred writings, in volumes of history and treatises written on special occasions; the following essay is a collection of such passages as do contain the most necessary and useful truths, without any human additions or interpretations. And since 'tis found by experience, that those things, which are first fixed in the mind and memory of children, do make the deepest and most lasting impressions; what can we better or more safely recommend to them, than the Word of God itself?

We have but one instance in the New Testament of a person trained up by Christian parents: And all the account it gives us of his education, is, *That from a child he had known the Holy Scriptures*. And that this was both a safe and sufficient instruction, appears by the Apostle's assuring him, that these were able to *make him wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus*.

If we think fit to make use of other helps and to teach our children the explications and decisions of learned men, or societies of Christians; is it not however most proper and rational, that the text should go before the comment, and the rule itself be learned before deductions from it?

I must freely own (with a late judicious writer<sup>1</sup>) “That I have never found the Christian faith better explained in any system or creed, than in the Holy Scriptures: And how should it possibly be otherwise? Are not the Scriptures the Word of God? Were not the authors of the sacred books divinely inspired? Did they not design to be understood? And can we speak of Divine truths in fitter language than infinite wisdom devised?”

If it be objected, that even this catechism being but a collection of some parts of the Holy Scripture, may be called into question, as not teaching the whole truth, or all that is essential to true faith and godliness; ‘tis certain however, that it teacheth nothing but truth, which is more than can be safely asserted of any other form of instruction: And it does not in the least discourage, but promote the reading and study of the whole Word of God. We must be content, in this imperfect state, to advance in the knowledge of divine things by degrees; and whatever in other catechisms is thought to be a necessary and useful truth, may, if there be express Scripture for it be put into one of this form; if there be not, ‘tis but reasonable to reject it. Did we all more closely adhere to the Holy Scriptures, and pay less regard to human creeds and confessions, there would be ground to hope for more love and union among Protestants, and less of those contentions and party-struggles found among us, which have been, if not occasioned, yet increased and maintained by teaching other rules of faith and practice than the Holy Scriptures.

If any man *therefore* teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus

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<sup>1</sup>Stevenson’s *Whole Faith and Duty of a Christian. Pref.*

Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing; but doubting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth: 1 Tim. 6:3.

BENJ. STINTON.

# A Short Catechism

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**Q 1. How came this world at first into being?**

A. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Genesis 1:1) He spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. (Psalm 33:9)

**Q 2. What time was taken for the creation of the world, and that great variety of creatures which are in it?**

A. In six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is. (Exodus 20:11)

**Q 3. Are there any more gods than one?**

A. The Lord our God is one Lord. (Deut. 6:4) For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many) but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things. (1 Cor. 8:5-6)

**Q 4. What kind of being is God?**

A. God is a spirit. (John 4:24)

**Q 5. What are we to learn from God's being a spirit?**

A. That they who worship him, must worship him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

**Q 6. What are the perfections or attributes of God, which should engage all reasonable creatures to worship and serve him?**

A. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts, the whole earth is full of his glory. (Isaiah 6:3) Great *also* is our Lord, and of great power; his understanding is infinite. (Psalm 147:5) Justice and judgment are the habitation of his throne. (Psalm 89:14) *And* He is the Lord, the Lord God merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. (Exodus 34:6-7) Unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. (1 Tim. 1:17)

**Q 7. How doth God make known his being and perfections unto his creatures?**

A. The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead. (Rom. 1:20) *For* the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handy-work; day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. (Psalm 19:1-3)

**Q 8. Hath God any other way discovered himself, and his will unto men, than by his works of creation and providence?**

A. We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place:— for the prophecy, came not of old time by the will of man, but holy men of

God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.  
(2 Peter 1:19-21)

**Q 9. Have we any later revelation of God's will than the writings of the Old Testament?**

A. God, who at sundry times, and in divers manners, spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath, in these last days, spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things. (Heb. 1:1-2)

**Q 10. What account do the Holy Scriptures give us of the first formation of mankind?**

A. That the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. (Gen. 2:7)

**Q 11. How was the woman formed?**

A. The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof: and the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. (Gen. 2:21-22)

**Q 12. What was the state and condition of man at his first creation?**

A. God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over

every living thing that moveth upon the earth. (Gen. 1:27-28)

**Q 13. Was there any positive law given to man in his state of innocency?**

A. The Lord God commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die. (Gen. 2:16-17)

**Q 14. Did man continue in that holy and happy state wherein he was created?**

A. No; when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. (Genesis 3:6)

**Q 15. What immediate punishment did God inflict on the first parents of mankind for this disobedience?**

A. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrows, and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children: and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake, in sorrow thou shalt eat of it all the days of thy life: Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee:— in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the

ground, for out of it wast thou taken: Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. (Genesis 3:16-18)

**Q 16. Did this sin and punishment of the first parents of mankind affect their posterity, as well as themselves?**

A. By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. (Romans 5:12)

**Q 17. What is sin?**

A. Sin is the transgression of the law. (1 John 3:4)

**Q 18. What is the punishment justly due to those who commit sin?**

A. The wages of sin is death; *therefore* the soul that sinneth it shall die; *and* cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them. (Rom. 6:23) (Ezek. 18:4) (Gal. 3:10)

**Q 19. Have all men, as well as our first parents, transgressed the law of God, and thereby become liable to the curse and death therein threatened?**

A. Both Jews and Gentiles, they are all under sin: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; there is none righteous, no not one. Therefore, by the deeds of the law, shall no flesh be justified in his sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:9, 20, 23)

**Q 20. Has God left all mankind to perish in that state of sin and misery into which they have brought themselves?**

A. No; for God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

**Q 21. Has God then an only Son, who is eternal, and possessed of Divine perfections?**

A. In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God: the same was in the beginning with God; all things were made by him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. (John 1:1-3) Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high. (Heb. 1:3)

**Q 22. What condition did this Son of God put himself into, in order to his becoming the Saviour of men?**

A. Forasmuch as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he likewise himself took part of the same; being made of a woman, made under the law. (Heb. 2:14) (Gal. 4:4)

**Q 23. How was Christ conceived, and born into this world?**

A. The birth of Jesus was on this wise: Whenas his mother Mary was espoused unto Joseph, (before they came together) she was found with child of the Holy Ghost — This was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name

Immanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us.  
(Matthew 1:18-23)

**Q 24. Is this Jesus the promised Messiah, and only Saviour of men?**

A. We have found him of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets did write; Jesus of Nazareth the son of Joseph. (John 1:45) To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive the remission of sins. (Acts 10:43) Neither is their salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

**Q 25. What did Christ do, when he was in this world, towards the salvation of mankind?**

A. He taught the people in the Temple, and preached the gospel. (Luke 20:1) He went about doing good, leaving us an example that we should follow his steps; who did no sin, neither was any guile found in his mouth. (Acts 10:38) (1 Peter 2:21-22) Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering, and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour: For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. (Ephesians 5:2) (Romans 5:6)

**Q 26. To what kind of death did our blessed Saviour submit himself for our redemption?**

A. Being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (Phil. 2:8)

**Q 27. What became of our blessed Saviour after his crucifixion?**

A. He was buried, and he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures: and he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: after that he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once: To whom also he shewed himself alive, after his passion, by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. (1 Corinthians 15:4-6) (Acts 1:3) (Mark 16:19)

**Q 28. Of what advantage is it to us that our Saviour is set down at the right hand of God?**

A. If any man sin we have an advocate with the father, Jesus Christ the righteous: Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. (1 John 2:1) (Hebrews 7:25)

**Q 29. What are the qualifications of those that shall be pardoned and saved by Jesus Christ?**

A. He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them, shall have mercy. (Proverbs 28:13) He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned. (Mark 16:16) And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all that obey him. (Hebrews 5:9)

**Q 30. Are these things required of men, as what they are able to perform of themselves, and by their own power?**

A. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God: for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his own good pleasure. (2 Corinthians 3:5) (Philippians 2:13)

**Q 31. What rule must we have regard to in our faith and obedience?**

A. To the law, and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. (Isaiah 8:20)

**Q 32. Is the written word of God a perfect rule for our faith and practice, without any human inventions or unwritten traditions?**

A. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**Q 33. Is it the right of all persons to read the scriptures, and judge for themselves in matters of religion?**

A. Jesus said unto the people, And why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right? Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me. And the Bereans were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind,

and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so; wherefore many of them believed. (Luke 12:57) (John 5:39) (Acts 17:11-12)

**Q 34. What is the sum of the moral law?**

A. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind: This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

**Q 35. What is that moral good which the Lord requires of man, and which he formerly preferred before offerings and sacrifices?**

A. He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (Micah 6:8)

**Q 36. Which is the summary of the Gospel, or chief articles of the christian faith?**

A. Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. (1 Timothy 3:15-16)

**Q 37. What was the commission that our Saviour gave to his disciples, when he sent them forth to preach the Gospel after his resurrection?**

A. Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth; Go yet

therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. (Matthew 28:19-20)

**Q 38. What may we gather from the use of those three sacred names in the administration of baptism?**

A. That there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one. (1 John 5:7)

**Q 39. What did the apostles require of those that were to be baptized?**

A. Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38) And Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. (Acts 8:37)

**Q 40. What was the profession of faith that then went before baptism?**

A. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37)

**Q 41. Doth baptism, and the blessing thereof, belong to those that descend from christian parents, being pious, as well as converts to Christianity from other religions?**

A. Yes; for the promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. (Acts 2:39)

**Q 42. What is it in baptism that renders it of any spiritual advantage to those that receive it?**

A. Not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, by the resurrection of Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 3:21)

**Q 43. What is the obligation that christians are brought under by their baptism?**

A. So many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized unto his death: therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:3-4)

**Q 44. What was the practice of the primitive christians after they had been baptized?**

A. They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

**Q 45. What are the principles of the doctrine of Christ?**

A. Repentance from dead works, and faith towards God; the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands; and of the resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. (Hebrews 6:1-2)

**Q 46. What is it to continue steadfastly in the christian fellowship of the saints?**

A. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another. (Hebrews 10:25)

**Q 47. When, and for what purposes, was the Lord's Supper instituted?**

A. The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks he brake it, and said, Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as yet eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

**Q 48. What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper?**

A. Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup; for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. (1 Corinthians 11:28-29)

**Q 49. Of what spiritual benefit and advantage is this ordinance to them that rightly receive it?**

A. The cup of blessing, which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:16)

**Q 50. On what day of the week did the primitive christians use to meet together for the ministry of the word and sacraments?**

A. The first day of the week, when the doors were shut, where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the

Jews, came Jesus, and stood in the midst, and said unto them, Peace be unto you. (John 20:19) And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them. (Acts 20:7)

**Q 51. What are the duties required by the Gospel with respect to the life and conversation?**

A. The grace of God, that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men; teaching us, that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godlily in this present world. (Titus 2:11-12)

**Q 52. Are there not several duties which we owe to one another, according to our different circumstances and relations?**

A. Yes. Render therefore to all their dues; Tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour. (Romans 13:7) Owe no man any thing, but to love one another; for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. (Romans 13:8)

**Q 53. What are the duties required of children towards their parents?**

A. Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honour thy father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise) that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. (Ephesians 6:1-3)

**Q 54. What are the duties of husbands towards their wives?**

A. Husbands love your wives, and be not bitter against them. (Colossians 3:19) He that loveth his wife, loveth himself; for no man ever yet hated his own flesh, but nourished and cherished it, even as the Lord the church. (Ephesians 5:28-29)

**Q 55. What are the duties of wives to their husbands?**

A. Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord; for the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church. (Ephesians 5:22-23)

**Q 56. What are the duties required of servants toward their masters?**

A. Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters, according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart as unto Christ: Not with eye-service, as menpleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service as to the Lord, and not to men; knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. (Ephesians 6:5-8)

**Q 57. What are the duties of subjects toward their governors?**

A. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be to the King as supreme, or unto governors as to them that are sent by him, for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well. (1 Peter 2:13-14)

**Q 58. What are the duties required of private christians towards their elders and teachers?**

A. Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine; and let him that is taught the word, communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. (1 Timothy 5:17-18) (Galatians 6:6)

**Q 59. What is the general rule to be observed through the whole of our carriage one towards another?**

A. Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets. (Matthew 7:12)

**Q 60. What benefits do they receive in this life, who believe in Christ, and obey the Gospel?**

A. As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. (John 1:12) And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. (Acts 13:39) And being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. By whom also we have access into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Romans 5:1-2)

**Q 61. What do the Scriptures teach us concerning a future state?**

A. That there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. (Acts 24:15)

**Q 62. What shall follow after the resurrection of the dead?**

A. We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done

in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

**Q 63. What will be the sentence then passed upon the righteous?**

A. Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. (Matthew 25:34)

**Q 64. What will be the doom denounced against the wicked?**

A. Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:41)  
So these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. (Matthew 25:46)

# The Ten Commandments

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And God spake all these words, saying I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
4. Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy: Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.

5. Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. (Exodus 20)

## The Lord's Prayer

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Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name:  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is  
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive  
us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the  
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.  
(Matthew 6)

## The Creed commonly called the Apostles' Creed

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I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker 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, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

# The Sum of this Catechism

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That God created the world, by the word of his power, in the space of six days.

That there is but one true God; who is a Spirit, and to be worshipped in spirit and truth.

That the attributes of God are holiness, power, wisdom, justice, mercy, goodness, truth, eternity, immortality, and invisibility.

That God makes himself know to his creatures by his works of creation and providence, and by his word contained in the Old Testament and the New.

That God formed the body of man out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into him a living soul, and made the woman of a rib taken from the man; and both male and female were created in the image of God, and had dominion over the creatures.

That God gave to man a positive law, which he breaking, did thereby bring sorrows and death upon himself and all his posterity; sin, the transgression of the law, being justly punished with death; and all men have since been guilty of actual transgressions, and so have personally brought themselves under the curse.

That God hath, in mercy to miserable men, sent his only begotten Son to save them; which Son had an eternal existence with God, and is the express image of his person.

That this Son of God, in order to save men, took upon him human nature, was born of a virgin, and appeared by the fulfillment of prophecy to be the true Messiah, and only Saviour of men.

That when he was in this world, he endeavoured the salvation of men by his doctrine, by his example, and by his sacrifice, which was his suffering death on the cross.

That after his death and burial, he rose again the third day, ascended up into Heaven, and there sits at the right hand of God, our advocate and intercessor.

That he requires of all, that would be saved by him, repentance, faith, and obedience; which things we are only able to perform by Divine assistance.

That the only rule of our faith and obedience is the word of God; which rule is perfect, and to be used by all persons.

That the sum of the moral law is to love God and our neighbour; and the sum of the Gospel, to know and believe in Jesus Christ.

That the first and initiatory ordinance of the christian religion is baptism, which is to be administered in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to denote three, and yet one: That baptism was first administered to converts as had repented, and believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; afterwards to the descendants of christians, being regenerate.

That the main thing to be regarded in baptism, is the answer of a good conscience; and all that receive it are obliged to walk in newness of life, and to continue in the faith and fellowship of the gospel.

That the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ, to be kept as a memorial of his death till he comes again; and, when received upon due examination of ourselves, is the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

That the primitive christians held their assemblies, for the ministry of the word and ordinances, on the first day of the week.

That the Gospel requires men to live soberly, righteously and godlily, and to discharge the several duties they owe to one another: As,

Children to honour their parents, servants to be obedient to their masters, women to submit themselves to their husbands, men to love their wives, private christians to respect and support their ministers, subjects to obey their governors; and in general, to do unto all as they would they should do unto them.

That the privileges of such as believe and obey the Gospel, are, in this life, adoption, justification, peace with God, free access to the throne of grace, and a joyful hope of future glory.

That there will be a resurrection of the dead, and after that, a general judgment, from whence the righteous shall go into everlasting life, and the wicked into everlasting punishment.

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FINIS.