

## CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE BOWL QUESTIONS

The Catechism of the Catholic Church - by Fr. Jacob Koether, St. Joseph Church, Yoakum, TX

1. Can we know the existence of God by our reason?
  - a. No, It is a pure gift of faith.
  - b. It depends on whether we are in the state of grace.
  - c. We can only know God if other people tell us about Him.
  - d. Yes we can know that God exists by our reason.

**Answer: D)** “The world, and man, attest that they contain within themselves neither their first principle nor their final end, but rather that they participate in Being itself, which alone is without origin or end. Thus, in different ways, man can come to know that there exists a reality which is the first cause and final end of all things, reality ‘that everyone calls “God.”” **CCC 34**

2. Can the Church err in questions of faith?
  - a. The Church cannot err in questions of faith.
  - b. Yes, if the majority of the Church decides to follow a particular errant doctrine.
  - c. The Church is not concerned with questions of faith.
  - d. The Church errs in questions of morals.

**Answer: A)** “The whole body of the faithful... cannot err in matters of belief. This characteristic is shown in the supernatural appreciation of faith (*sensus fidei*) on the part of the whole people, when, ‘from the bishops to the last of the faithful’, they manifest a universal consent in matters of faith and morals.” **CCC 92**

3. What are the two distinct modes to transmit God’s Revelation?
  - a. The writings of the Church Fathers and Church’s customs
  - b. Scripture and Tradition
  - c. Tradition and the witness of the saints
  - d. The example of Jesus and the authority of the Pope

**Answer: B)** “Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture, then, are bound closely together and communicate one with the other. For both of them, flowing out from the same divine well-spring, come together in some fashion to form one thing and move towards the same goal.’ Each of them makes present and fruitful in the Church the mystery of Christ, who promised to remain with his one ‘always, to the close of the age.’ ‘*Sacred Scripture* is the speech of God as it is put down in writing... And [Holy] *Tradition* transmits in its entirety the

Word of God which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and Holy Spirit.” **CCC 80-81**

4. What is the first and most basic mystery of Christian faith and life?

- a. The Eucharist
- b. The Paschal Mystery
- c. The Resurrection
- d. The Trinity

**Answer: D)** “The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life.” **CCC 234**

5. How many natures does the Trinity have?

- a. Two natures – human and divine.
- b. Three divine natures.
- c. One divine nature.
- d. All of the above

**Answer: C)** “The Church uses the term ‘substance’ (rendered also at times by ‘essence’ or ‘nature’) to designate the divine being by its unity... *The Trinity is One.*” **CCC 252-253**

6. Does the Trinity share a divine nature between the three Persons?

- a. The Trinity does not share a divine nature. Each Person is God whole and entire.
- b. The Father is divine and the other Persons participate in His divinity.
- c. Each Person is partly divine.
- d. A & C.

**Answer: A)** “The divine persons do not share the one divinity among themselves but each of them is God whole and entire.” **CCC 253**

7. The divine persons are really distinct from each other because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. They interact with us in different ways.
- b. We have three persons.
- c. They each have a different intellect and will.
- d. The divine persons are distinct in their relations of origin.

**Answer: D)** “*The divine persons are really distinct from one another... They are distinct from one another in their relations of origin: ‘It is the Father who generates, the Son who is begotten, and the Holy Spirit who proceeds.’*” **CCC 254**

8. Why was the world created?

- a. So that humans could experience the joy of existing.
- b. For the glory of God.
- c. So that God could reveal Himself to humans.
- d. So that God could have a place to build His Church.

**Answer: B)** “Scripture and Tradition never cease to teach and celebrate this fundamental truth: ‘The world was made for the glory of God.’ St. Bonaventure explains that God created all things ‘not to increase his glory, but to show it forth and communicate it,’ for God has no other reason for creating than his love and goodness.” **CCC 293**

9. What are angels?

- a. Souls of the dead who have made it to heaven.
- b. God’s messengers and heavenly workers.
- c. Purely spiritual beings with an intellect and a will
- d. B & C

**Answer: D)** “St. Augustine says: “Angel” is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is “spirit;” if you seek the name of their office, it is “angel”: from what they are, “spirit,” from what they do, “angel.” With their whole beings the angels are *servants* and messengers of God. Because they ‘always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven’ they are the ‘mighty one who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word.’ **CCC 329-330**

10. The primary purpose and aim of catechesis is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Teach children to memorize all of the doctrines of the faith.
- b. Prepare people to defend the faith.
- c. Put people in communion with Jesus Christ.
- d. Help people understand the deposit of the faith.

**Answer: C)** “ ‘At the heart of catechesis we find, in essence, a Person, the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, the only Son from the Father... who suffered and died for us and who now, after rising, is living with us forever.’ To catechize is ‘to reveal in the Person of Christ the whole of God’s eternal design reaching fulfillment in that Person. It is to seek to understand the meaning of Christ’s actions and words and of the signs worked by him.’ Catechesis aims at putting ‘people... in communion... with Jesus Christ: only

he can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.” **CCC 426**

11. How many genders are there?

- a. One, we are members of one human race.
- b. Two, God created us male and female.
- c. Three, God created us male, female, and bisexual.
- d. Gender cannot be defined and is based on how we feel.

**Answer: B)** “Man and woman have been *created*, which is to say, *willed* by God: on the one hand, in perfect equality as human persons; on the other, in their respective beings as man and woman. ‘Being man’ or ‘being woman’ is a reality which is good and willed by God.” **CCC 369:**

12. What does the name ‘Jesus’ mean?

- a. God saves.
- b. He is the Lord.
- c. Who is like unto God.
- d. God with us.

**Answer: A)** “Jesus means in Hebrew: ‘God saves.’” **CCC 430**

13. What is the Immaculate Conception?

- a. Jesus conceived without sin.
- b. John the Baptist miraculously conceived.
- c. Mary conceived without sin.
- d. Isaac miraculously conceived.

**Answer: C)** “The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.” **CCC 491**

14. The word “church” means \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. What a specific community of disciples calls itself.
- b. A group of people.
- c. The building where disciples worship.
- d. The people/assembly chosen and called by God for His purposes.

**Answer: D)** “The word ‘Church’ (Latin *ecclesia*, from the Greek *ek-ka-lein*, to ‘call out of’) means a convocation or assembly. It designates the

assemblies of the people, usually for a religious purpose... In the Church, God is 'calling together' his people from all the ends of the earth. **CCC 751**

15. Which sacrament imprints an indelible mark on the soul?

- a. Reconciliation
- b. Matrimony
- c. Confirmation
- d. Anointing of the Sick

**Answer: C)** "Like Baptism which it completes, Confirmation is given only once, for it too imprints on the soul an *indelible spiritual mark*, the 'character,' which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of his Spirit by clothing him with power from on high so that he may be his witness." **CCC 1304**

16. The Church is called holy because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. All her members are sinless.
- b. Of the Bible.
- c. Of her origin and source of life
- d. Of His Holiness, the Pope

**Answer: C)** "The Church is holy: the Most Holy God is her author; Christ, her bridegroom, gave himself up to make her holy; the Spirit of holiness gives her life. Since she still includes sinners, she is 'the sinless one made up of sinners.' Her holiness shines in the saints; in Mary she is already all-holy." **CCC 867**

17. The Church's primary mission is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Invite all to share in the mystery of the communion of the Trinity
- b. Eradicate poverty
- c. Feed all of those who suffer from hunger
- d. Teach everyone all the doctrines of the faith

**Answer: A)** "The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church, which is the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. This joint mission henceforth brings Christ's faithful to share in his communion with the Father in the Holy Spirit... [In] her whole being and in all her members, the Church is sent to announce, bear witness, make present, and spread the mystery of the communion of the Holy Trinity." **CCC 737-738**

18. Which of the following is not a theological virtue?

- a. Faith
- b. Wisdom
- c. Hope
- d. Love

**Answer: B)** “There are three theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity.”  
**CCC 1813**

19. A serious reason to miss Mass on Sundays is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Traveling and vacation
- b. Hunting or fishing
- c. Illness or the care of infants
- d. Sports activities for one’s child

**Answer: C)** “The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.” **CCC 2181**

20. \_\_\_\_\_ can receive the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

- a. The elderly
- b. Those at the moment of death
- c. The sick
- d. All of the above

**Answer: D)** “The Anointing of the Sick ‘is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death... If a sick person who received this anointing recovers his health, he can in the case of another grave illness receive this sacrament again. If during the same illness the person’s condition becomes more serious, the sacrament may be repeated. It is fitting to receive the Anointing of the Sick just prior to a serious operation. The same holds for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced.”  
**CCC 1514-1515**