

Lesson 1: The Purpose of Man's Existence

1. Who made us?

God made us.

2. Who is God?

God is the Supreme Being who made all things.

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.

Lesson 2: God and His Perfections

1. What do we mean when we say that God is the Supreme Being?
When we say that God is the Supreme Being we mean that He is above all creatures.

2. 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 that He always remains the same.

3. What do we mean when we say that 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.

4. 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.

5. Does God see us?
God sees us and watches over us with loving care.

6. 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.

Lesson 3: Unity and Trinity of God

1. Is there only one God?

Yes, there is only one God.

2. How many Persons are there in God?

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

3. What do we mean by the Blessed Trinity?

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

Lesson 4: Creation and the Angels

1. 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.

2. Which are the chief creatures of God?

The chief creatures of God are angels and men.

3. What are angels?

Angels are created spirits, without bodies.

4. Did all the angels remain faithful to God?

Not all the angels remained faithful to God; some of them sinned.

5. What happened to the angels who remained faithful to God?

The angels who remained faithful to God entered into the eternal happiness of heaven, and these are called good angels.

6. How do the good angels help us?

The good angels help us by praying for us, by acting as messengers from God to us, and by serving as our guardian angels.

7. What happened to the angels who did not remain faithful to God?

The angels who did not remain faithful to God were cast into hell, and these are called bad angels, or devils.

Lesson 5: The Creation and the Fall of Man

1. What is man?

Man is a creature composed of body and soul, and made to the image and likeness of God.

2. Who were the first man and woman?

The first man and woman were Adam and Eve.

3. What commandment did God give Adam and Eve?

God gave Adam and Eve the commandment not to eat of the fruit of a certain tree that grew in the Garden of Paradise.

4. Did Adam and Eve obey the commandment of God?

Adam and Eve did not obey the commandment of God, but ate of the forbidden fruit.

5. What happened to Adam and Eve on account of their sin?

On account of their sin Adam and Eve lost sanctifying grace and the right to heaven, and were driven from the Garden of Paradise.

6. What has happened to us on account of the sin of Adam?

On account of the sin of Adam we come into the world without grace, and we inherit his punishment.

7. What is this sin in us called?

This sin in us is called original sin.

8. Was any human person ever free from original sin?

The Blessed Virgin Mary was free from original sin, and this favor is called her Immaculate Conception.

Lesson 6: Actual Sin

1. Is original sin the only kind of sin?

Original sin is not the only kind of sin; there is another kind, called actual sin, which we ourselves commit.

2. What is actual sin?

Actual sin is any willful thought, desire, word, action, or omission forbidden by the law of God.

3. How many kinds of actual sin are there?

There are two kinds of actual sin: mortal sin and venial sin.

4. What is mortal sin?

Mortal sin is a grievous offense against the law of God.

5. Why is this sin called mortal?

This sin is called mortal because it takes away the life of the soul.

6. What three things are necessary to make a mortal sin?

To make a sin mortal these three things are necessary:

First, the thought, desire, word, action or omission must be seriously wrong or considered seriously wrong;

Second, the sinner must know it is seriously wrong;

Third, the sinner must fully consent to it.

7. What is venial sin?

Venial sin is a less serious offense against the law of God.

8. How can a sin be venial?

A sin can be venial in two ways:

First, when the evil done is not seriously wrong;

Second, when the evil done is seriously wrong, but the sinner sincerely believes it is only slightly wrong, or does not give full consent to it.

Lesson 7: The Incarnation

1. Did God abandon man after Adam fell into sin?

God did not abandon man after Adam fell into sin, but promised to send into the world a Savior to free man from his sins and to reopen to him the gates of heaven.

2. Who is the savior of all men?

The Savior of all men is Jesus Christ.

3. What is the chief teaching of the Catholic Church about Jesus Christ?

The chief teaching of the Catholic Church about Jesus Christ is that He is God made man.

4. Is Jesus Christ more than one Person?

No, Jesus Christ is only one Person; and that Person is the second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

5. How many natures has Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ has two natures: the nature of God and the nature of man.

6. When was Christ born?

Christ was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Christmas Day, in Bethlehem, more than two thousand years ago.

Lesson 8: The Redemption

1. What is meant by the Redemption?

By the Redemption is meant that Jesus Christ offered His sufferings and death to God in satisfaction for the sins of men.

2. What do we learn from the sufferings and death of Christ?

From the sufferings and death of Christ we learn God's love for man and the evil of sin.

3. What do we mean when we say in the Apostles' Creed, that Christ descended into hell?

When we say that Christ descended into hell we mean that, after He died, the soul of Christ descended into a place or state of rest, called limbo, where the souls of the just were waiting for Him.

4. When did Christ rise from the dead?

Christ rose from the dead, glorious and immortal, on Easter Sunday, the third day after His death.

5. When did Christ ascend into heaven?

Christ ascended, body and soul, into heaven on Ascension Day, forty days after his Resurrection.

6. What do we mean when we say that Christ sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty?

When we say that Christ sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, we mean that Our Lord as God is equal to the Father, and that as man He has the highest place in heaven, next to God.

7. What do we mean when we say that Christ will come to judge the living and the dead?

When we say that Christ will come to judge the living and the dead, we mean that on the last day Our Lord will come to judge everyone who has ever lived in this world.

Lesson 9: The Holy Ghost and Grace

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God and the third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

2. What does the Holy Spirit do for the salvation of mankind?

The Holy spirit sanctifies souls through the gift of grace.

3. How many kinds of grace are there?

There are two kinds of grace: sanctifying grace and actual grace.

4. What does sanctifying grace do for us?

Sanctifying grace:

First, makes us holy and pleasing to God;

Second, makes us adopted children of God;

Third, makes us temples of the Holy Spirit;

Fourth, gives us the right to heaven.

5. What is actual grace?

Actual grace is a supernatural help of God which enlightens our mind and strengthens our will to do good and to avoid evil.

6. What are the principal ways of obtaining grace?

The principal ways of obtaining grace are prayer and the sacraments, especially Holy Eucharist.

Lesson 10: The Virtues and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. What are the chief powers that are given to us with sanctifying grace?

The chief powers that are given to us with sanctifying grace are the three theological virtues and the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

2. What are the three theological virtues?

The three theological virtues are faith, hope, and charity.

3. What is faith?

Faith is the virtue by which we firmly believe on the word of God all the truths He has revealed.

5. What is hope?

Hope is the virtue by which we firmly trust that God will give us eternal happiness and the means to obtain it.

6. What is charity?

Charity is the virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.

7. Which are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

Lesson 11: The Catholic Church

1. What is the Church?

The Church is the congregation of all baptized persons united in the same true faith, the same sacrifice, and the same sacraments, under the Holy Father, the Pope.

2. Why did Jesus Christ found the Church?

Jesus Christ founded the Church to bring all men to eternal salvation.

3. To whom did Christ give the power to teach, to sanctify, and to rule the members of His Church?

Christ gave the power to teach, to sanctify, and to rule the members of His Church to the apostles, the first bishops of the Church.

4. Who are the successors of the apostles?

The successors of the apostles are the bishops of the Church.

5. Did Christ give special power in His Church to any one of the apostles?

Christ gave special power in His Church to Saint Peter by making him the head of the apostles and the chief teacher and ruler of the entire Church.

6. Who is the successor of Saint Peter?

The successor of Saint Peter is the Holy Father, the Bishop of Rome.

7. Who helps the bishops in the care of souls?

The priests, especially parish priests, help the bishops in the care of souls.

Lesson 12: The Marks of the Church

1. Which is the one true Church established by Christ?

The one true Church established by Christ is the Catholic Church.

2. How do we know that the Catholic Church is the one true Church established by Christ?

We know that the Catholic Church is the one true Church established by Christ because it alone has the marks of the true Church.

3. What are the chief marks of the Church?

The chief marks of the Church are four: It is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

4. Are all obliged to belong to the Catholic Church in order to be saved?

All are obliged to belong to the Catholic Church, in some way, in order to be saved.

Lesson 13: The Communion of Saints and the Forgiveness of Sins

1. What is meant by “the communion of saints” in the Apostles’ Creed?
By “the communion of saints” is meant the union of the faithful on earth, the blessed in heaven, and the souls in purgatory, with Christ as their Head.
2. What is meant in the Apostles’ Creed by “the forgiveness of sins”?
By “the forgiveness of sins” in the Apostles’ Creed is meant that God has given to the Church, through Jesus Christ, the power to forgive sins.

Lesson 14: The Resurrection and Life Everlasting

1. What is meant by “the resurrection of the body”?

By “the resurrection of the body” is meant that at the end of the world the bodies of all men will rise from the earth and be united again to their souls, nevermore to be separated.

2. Has the body of any human person ever been taken into heaven?

By the special favor of her Assumption, the body of the Blessed Virgin Mary was raised from the dead and taken into heaven.

3. What is the judgment called which will be passed on all men immediately after the general resurrection?

The judgment which will be passed on all men immediately after the general resurrection is called the general judgment.

4. What is the judgment called which will be passed on each one of us immediately after death?

The judgment which will be passed on each one of us immediately after death is called the particular judgment.

5. What are the rewards or punishments appointed for men after the particular judgment?

The rewards or punishments appointed for men after the particular judgment are heaven, purgatory, or hell.

6. What is meant by the word “Amen” with which we end the Apostles’ Creed?

By the word “Amen” with which we end the Apostles’ Creed, is meant “So it is” or “So be it.”

Lesson 15: The Two Great Commandments

1. Besides believing what God has revealed, what else must we do to be saved?

Besides believing what God has revealed, we must keep His law.

2. Which are the two great commandments that contain the whole law of God?

The two great commandments that contain the whole law of God are: First, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind, and with thy whole strength;

Second, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

3. What must we do to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves?

To love God, our neighbor, and ourselves we must keep the commandments of God and of the Church.

Lesson 16: The First Commandment

1. What is the first commandment of God?

The first commandment of God is: I am the Lord thy god; thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.

2. What are we commanded by the first commandment?

By the first commandment we are commanded to offer to God alone the supreme worship that is due Him.

3. How do we worship God?

We worship God by acts of faith, hope, and charity, and by adoring Him and praying to Him.

4. How does a Catholic sin against faith?

A Catholic sins against faith by not believing what God has revealed, and by taking part in non-Catholic worship.

5. What are the sins against hope?

The sins against hope are presumption and despair.

6. What are the sins against charity?

The chief sins against charity are hatred of God and of our neighbor, envy, sloth, and scandal.

Lesson 17: Honoring Saints, Relics, and Images

1. Does the first commandment forbid us to honor the saints in heaven?

The first commandment does not forbid us to honor the saints in heaven, as long as we do not give them the honor that belongs to God alone.

2. When we pray to the saints what do we ask them to do?

When we pray to the saints we ask them to offer their prayers to God for us.

3. Do we pray to the crucifix or to the images of Christ and of the saints?

We do not pray to the crucifix or to the images of Christ and of the saints, but to the persons of whom they remind us.

Lesson 18: Second Commandment

1. What is the second commandment of God?

The second commandment of God is: Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

2. What are we commanded by the second commandment?

By the second commandment we are commanded always to speak with reverence of God, of the saints, and of holy things.

3. What is meant by taking God's name in vain?

By taking God's name in vain is meant that the name of God or the holy name of Jesus Christ is used without reverence.

4. What is cursing?

Cursing is the calling down of some evil on a person, place, or thing.

Lesson 18: Third Commandment

1. What is the third commandment of God?

The third commandment of God is: Remember thou keep holy the Lord's day.

2. What are we commanded by the third commandment?

By the third commandment we are commanded to worship God in a special manner on Sunday, the Lord's day.

3. How does the Church command us to worship God on Sunday?

The Church commands us to worship God on Sunday by assisting at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

4. What is forbidden by the third commandment of God?

By the third commandment of God all unnecessary servile work on Sunday is forbidden.

5. What is servile work?

Servile work is that which requires labor of body rather than of mind.

Lesson 19: Fourth Commandment

1. What is the fourth commandment of God?

The fourth commandment of God is: Honor thy father and thy mother.

2. What are we commanded by the fourth commandment?

By the fourth commandment we are commanded to respect and love our parents, to obey them in all that is not sinful, and to help them when they are in need.

3. What does the fourth commandment forbid?

The fourth commandment forbids disrespect, unkindness, and disobedience to our parents and lawful superiors.

Lesson 19: The Fifth Commandment

1. What is the fifth commandment of God?

The fifth commandment of God is: Thou shalt not kill.

2. What are we commanded by the fifth commandment?

By the fifth commandment we are commanded to take proper care of our own spiritual and bodily wellbeing and that of our neighbor.

3. What does the fifth commandment forbid?

The fifth commandment forbids murder and suicide, and also fighting, anger, hatred, revenge, drunkenness, reckless driving, and bad example.

Lesson 20: The Sixth Commandment

1. What is the sixth commandment of God?

The sixth commandment of God is: Thou shalt not commit adultery.

2. What are we commanded by the sixth commandment?

By the sixth commandment we are commanded to be pure and modest in our behavior.

3. What does the sixth commandment forbid?

The sixth commandment forbids all impurity and immodesty in words, looks, and actions, whether alone or with others.

Lesson 20: The Seventh Commandment

1. What is the seventh commandment of God?

The seventh commandment of God is: Thou shalt not steal.

2. What are we commanded by the seventh commandment of God?

By the seventh commandment of God we are commanded to respect what belongs to others.

3. What does the seventh commandment forbid?

The seventh commandment forbids all dishonesty such as stealing, cheating, unjust keeping of what belongs to others, and unjust damage to the property of others.

4. Are we obliged to restore to the owner stolen goods, or their value?

We are obliged to restore to the owner stolen goods, or their value, whenever we are able.

Lesson 20: The Eighth Commandment

1. What is the eighth commandment of God?

The eighth commandment of God is: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

2. What are we commanded by the eighth commandment?

By the eighth commandment we are commanded to speak the truth in all things.

3. What does the eighth commandment forbid?

The eighth commandment forbids lies and harming the name of another.

Lesson 20: The Ninth and Tenth Commandments

1. What is the ninth commandment of God?

The ninth commandment of God is: thou shalt not covet they neighbor's wife.

2. What are we commanded by the ninth commandment?

By the ninth commandment we are commanded to be pure in thought and in desire.

3. What is forbidden by the ninth commandment?

The ninth commandment forbids all thoughts and desires contrary to chastity.

4. What is the tenth commandment of God?

The tenth commandment of God is: Thou shalt not covet they neighbor's goods.

5. What does the tenth commandment forbid?

The tenth commandment forbids all desire to take or to keep unjustly what belongs to others, and also forbids envy at their success.

Lesson 21: The Commandments of the Church

1. Which are the chief commandments, or laws, of the Church?

The chief commandments, or laws, of the church are these six:

To assist at Mass on all Sundays and holydays of obligations.

To fast and to abstain on the days appointed.

To confess our sins at least once a year.

To receive Holy Communion during the Easter time.

To contribute to the support of the Church.

To observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage.

2. What sin does a Catholic commit who through his own fault misses Mass on a Sunday or holyday of obligation?

A Catholic who through his own fault misses mass on a Sunday or holyday of obligation commits a mortal sin.

3. Which are the holydays of obligation in the United States?

The holydays of obligation in the United States are these six: Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Ascension Thursday, All Saints' Day, and Immaculate Conception.

4. What else does the church oblige us to do on holydays of obligation?

The Church obliges us to abstain from servile work on holydays of obligation, just as on Sundays, as far as we are able.

5. What is a fast day?

A fast day is a day on which only one full meal is allowed; but in the morning and evening some food may be taken, the quantity and quality of which are determined by the local custom.

6. What is a day of abstinence?

A day of abstinence is a day on which we are not allowed the use of meat.

7. Who are obliged to observe the abstinence days of the Church?

All baptized persons who have reached the use of reason and passed their fourteenth birthday are obliged to observe the abstinence days of the church, unless excuse or dispensed.

Lesson 22: The 4th-6th Commandments of the Church

1. What is meant by the commandment to confess our sins at least once a year?

By the commandment to confess our sins at least once a year is meant that we are strictly obliged to make a good confession within the year, if we have a mortal sin to confess.

2. What sin does a Catholic commit who neglects to receive Holy Communion worthily during the Easter time?

A Catholic who neglects to receive Holy Communion worthily during the Easter time commits a mortal sin.

3. What is meant by the commandment to contribute to the support of the Church?

By the commandment to contribute to the support of the church is meant that each of us must help to pay the expenses of the Church.

4. What is the ordinary law of the church to be observed at the wedding of a Catholic?

The ordinary law of the Church to be observed at the wedding of a Catholic is this: A Catholic can be married only in the presence of an authorized priest and two witnesses.

Lesson 23: The Sacraments

138. What is a sacrament?

A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace.

139. How many sacraments are there?

There are seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

140. Do the sacraments give sanctifying grace?

The sacraments do give sanctifying grace.

141. Does each of the sacraments also give a special grace?

Each of the sacraments also gives a special grace, called sacramental grace.

142. Do the sacraments always give grace?

The sacraments always give grace if we receive them properly.

143. Why are Baptism and Penance called sacraments of the dead?

Baptism and Penance are called sacraments of the dead because their chief purpose is to give the life of grace to souls dead through sin.

144. Why are Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony called sacraments of the living?

Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony are called sacraments of the living because their chief purpose is to give more grace to souls already alive through grace.

145. What sin does he commit who knowingly receives a sacrament of the living in mortal sin?

He who knowingly receives a sacrament of the living in mortal sin commits a mortal sin of sacrilege.

146. Why can Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders be received only once?

Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders can be received only once because they imprint on the soul a spiritual mark which lasts forever.

Lesson 24: Baptism

147. What is Baptism?

Baptism is the sacrament that gives our souls the new life of grace by which we become children of God.

148. What sins does Baptism take away?

Baptism takes away original sin; and also actual sins, if there be any, and all the punishment due to them.

149. Who can administer Baptism?

The priest is the usual minister of Baptism, but if there is danger that someone will die without Baptism, anyone else may and should baptize.

150. How would you give Baptism?

I would give Baptism by pouring ordinary water on the forehead of the person to be baptized, saying while pouring it: "I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Lesson 25: Confirmation

151. What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the sacrament through which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way and enables us to profess our faith as strong and perfect Christians and soldiers of Jesus Christ.

152. Who is the usual minister of Confirmation?

The bishop is the usual minister of Confirmation.

153. Why should all Catholics be confirmed?

All Catholics should be confirmed in order to be strengthened against the dangers to salvation and to be prepared better to defend their Catholic faith.

Lesson 26: Holy Eucharist

154. What is the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is a sacrament and a sacrifice. In the Holy Eucharist, under the appearances of bread and wine, the Lord Christ is contained, offered, and received.

155. When did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist?

Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, the night before He died.

156. What happened at the Last Supper when Our Lord said: "This is My body...this is My blood"?

When Our Lord said, "This is My body," the bread was changed into His body; and when He said, "This is My blood," the wine was changed into His blood.

157. Did anything of the bread and wine remain after they had been changed into Our Lord's body and blood?

After the bread and wine had been changed into Our Lord's body and blood, there remained only the appearances of bread and wine.

158. What do we mean by the appearances of bread and wine?

By the appearances of bread and wine we mean their color, taste, weight, and shape.

159. When did Christ give His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood?

Christ gave His priests the power to change bread and wine into His body and blood when He said to the apostles at the Last Supper: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

Lesson 27: The Sacrifice of the Mass

160. What is the Mass?

The Mass is the sacrifice of the New Law in which Christ, through the priest, offers himself to God in an unbloody manner under the appearance of bread and wine.

161. Is the Mass the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the cross?

The Mass is the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the cross.

162. Is there any difference between the sacrifice of the cross and the Sacrifice of the Mass?

The manner in which the sacrifice is offered is different. On the cross Christ physically shed His blood and was physically slain, while in the Mass there is no physical shedding of blood nor physical death.

Lesson 28: Holy Communion

163. What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is the receiving of Jesus Christ in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

164. What is necessary to receive Holy Communion worthily?

To receive Holy Communion worthily it is necessary to be free from mortal sin, to have a right intention, and to obey the Church's laws on fasting before Holy Communion. But if a Catholic is in danger of death or is trying to protect the Blessed Sacrament from insult, no fast is required before receiving the Holy Eucharist.

165. Does he who knowingly receives Holy Communion in mortal sin receive the body and blood of Christ and His Graces?

He who knowingly receives Holy Communion in mortal sin receives the body and blood of Christ; but he does not receive His graces, and commits a grave sin of sacrilege.

166. How must we fast before Holy Communion?

Before Holy Communion we must fast by not taking any food or drink for one hour, except water, which may be taken at any time.

167. How should we prepare ourselves for Holy Communion?

We should prepare ourselves for Holy Communion by thinking of Our Divine Redeemer, whom we are about to receive, and by making fervent acts of faith, hope, love and contrition.

168. What should we do after Holy Communion?

After Holy Communion we should spend some time adoring Our Lord, thanking Him, renewing our promises of love and of obedience to Him, and asking Him for blessings for ourselves and others.

169. Why is it well to receive Holy Communion often, even daily?

It is well to receive Holy Communion often, even daily, because this close union with Jesus Christ is the greatest aid to a holy life.

Lesson 29: Penance

170. What is the sacrament of Penance?

Penance is the sacrament by which sins committed after baptism are forgiven.

171. What must we do to receive the sacrament of Penance worthily?

To receive the sacrament of Penance worthily we must: first, examine our conscience; second, be sorry for our sins; third, make up our minds not to sin again; fourth, confess our sins to the priest; fifth, be willing to do the penance the priest gives us.

172. What is an examination of conscience?

An examination of conscience is a sincere effort to call to mind all the sins we have committed since our last confession.

173. What should we do before our examination of conscience?

Before our examination of conscience we should ask God's help to know our sins and to confess them with sincere sorrow.

174. How can we make a good examination of conscience?

We can make a good examination of conscience by calling to mind the commandments of God and of the Church, and by asking ourselves how we may have sinned with regard to them.

Lesson 30A: Contrition

175. What is contrition?

Contrition is sincere sorrow for having offended God, and hatred for the sins we have committed, with a firm purpose of sinning no more.

176. Why should we have contrition for mortal sin?

We should have contrition for mortal sin because it is the greatest of all evils, gravely offends God, keeps us out of heaven, and condemns us forever to hell.

177. Why should we have contrition for venial sin?

We should have contrition for venial sin because it is displeasing to God, merits temporal punishment, and may lead to mortal sin.

178. How many kinds of contrition are there?

There are two kinds of contrition: perfect contrition and imperfect contrition.

Lesson 30B: Contrition

179. When is our contrition perfect?

Our contrition is perfect when we are sorry for our sins because sin offends God, whom we love above all things for his own sake.

180. When is our contrition imperfect?

Our contrition is imperfect when we are sorry for our sins because they are hateful in themselves or because we fear God's punishment.

181. To receive the sacrament of Penance worthily, what kind of contrition is sufficient?

To receive the sacrament of Penance worthily, imperfect contrition is sufficient.

182. What should we do if we commit a mortal sin?

If we commit a mortal sin, we should make an act of perfect contrition at once and go to confession as soon as we can.

183. May we receive Holy Communion after committing a mortal sin if we merely make an act of perfect contrition?

We may not receive Holy Communion after committing a mortal sin if we merely make an act of perfect contrition; one who has sinned grievously must go to confession before receiving Holy Communion.

Lesson 31: Confession

184. What is confession?

Confession is telling our sins to a priest to obtain forgiveness.

185. Is it necessary to confess every sin?

It is necessary to confess every mortal sin which has not yet been confessed and forgiven; it is not necessary to confess our venial sins, but it is better to do so.

186. What are we to do if without our fault we forget to confess a mortal sin?

If without our fault, we forget to confess a mortal sin, we may receive Holy Communion, because the sin is forgiven; but we must tell the sin if it again comes to our mind.

187. What must a person do who has knowingly kept back a mortal sin in confession?

A person who has knowingly kept back a mortal sin in confession must confess that he has made a bad confession, tell the sin he has kept back, mention the sacraments he has received since that time, and confess all other mortal sins he has committed since his last good confession.

Lesson 32A: Making a Good Confession

188. Before entering the confessional, how should we prepare ourselves for a good confession?

Before entering the confessional, we should prepare ourselves for a good confession by taking time to examine our conscience, to have sorrow for our sins, and to make up our minds not to commit them again.

189. How should we begin our confession?

We should begin our confession in this manner: Entering the confessional, we kneel, and making the sign of the cross say to the priest: "Bless me Father, for I have sinned"; and then we tell how long it has been since our last confession.

190. After telling the time of our last confession, what do we confess?
After telling the time of our last confession, if we have committed any mortal sins since that time we must confess them, and also any that we have forgotten to tell in past confessions, telling the nature and number of each; we may also confess any venial sins we wish to mention.

191. What should we do if we cannot remember the exact number of our mortal sins?

If we cannot remember the exact number of our mortal sins, we should tell the number as nearly as possible, or say how often we have committed the sins in a day, a week, a month, or a year.

192. What should we do when we have committed no mortal sin since our last confession?

When we have committed no mortal sin since our last confession, we should confess our venial sins or some sin told in a past confession, for which we are again sorry.

Lesson 32B: Making a Good Confession

193. How should we end our confession?

We should end our confession by saying; "I am sorry for these and all the sins of my past life, especially for ..."; and then it is well to tell one or several of the sins which we have previously confessed and for which we are particularly sorry.

194. What should we do after confessing our sins?

After confessing our sins, we should answer truthfully any question the priest asks, and accept the penance he gives us.

195. What should we do when the priest is giving us absolution?

When the priest is giving us absolution, we should say from our heart the act of contrition in a tone to be heard by him.

196. What should we do after leaving the confessional?

After leaving the confessional we should return thanks to God for the sacrament we have received, and do our penance.

Lesson 33: Indulgences

197. What is an indulgence?

An indulgence is the taking away of the temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven.

198. How many kinds of indulgences are there?

There are two kinds of indulgences, plenary and partial.

199. What is a plenary indulgence?

A plenary indulgence is the remission of part of the temporal punishment due to our sins.

200. What is a partial indulgence?

A partial indulgence is the remission of part of the temporal punishment due to our sins.

201. What must we do to gain an indulgence for ourselves?

To gain an indulgence for ourselves we must be in the state of grace, desire to gain the indulgence, and perform the works required.

Lesson 34: Anointing of the Sick

202. What is the Anointing of the Sick?

Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament which gives health and strength to the soul and sometimes to the body when we are in at least probable danger of death.

203. What is Holy Orders?

Holy Orders is the sacrament through which men become bishops, priests, and other ministers of the Church.

Lesson 35: Matrimony

204. What is the sacrament of Matrimony?

Matrimony is the sacrament by which a baptized man and a baptized woman bind themselves for life in a lawful marriage and receive the grace to discharge their duties.

Lesson 36: Sacramentals

205. What are sacramentals?

Sacramentals are holy things or actions of which the Church makes use to obtain for us from God spiritual and temporal favors.

206. Which are the sacramentals most used by Catholics?

The sacramentals most used by Catholics are: holy water, blessed candles, ashes, palms, crucifixes, medals, rosaries, scapulars, and images of Our Lord, the Blessed Virgin, and the saints.

Lesson 37: Prayer

207. What is prayer?

Prayer is the lifting up of our minds and hearts to God.

208. Why do we pray?

We pray: first, to adore God; second, to thank Him for His favors; third, to obtain, from Him the pardon of our sins and the remission of their punishment; fourth, to ask graces and blessings for ourselves and others.

209. For whom should we pray?

We should pray especially for ourselves, for our parents, relatives, friends, and enemies, for sinners, for the souls in purgatory, for the Pope, bishops, and priests of the Church, and for the officials of our country.

210. Why do we not always obtain what we pray for?

We do not always obtain what we pray for, either because we have not prayed properly or because God sees that what we are asking for would not be good for us.

211. May we use our own words in praying to God?

We may use our own words in praying to God, and it is well to do so often.

212. How do we usually begin and end our prayers?

We usually begin and end our prayers with the sign of the cross.

The States and Capitals

Alabama - Montgomery

Alaska - Juneau

Arizona - Phoenix

Arkansas - Little Rock

California - Sacramento

Colorado - Denver

Connecticut - Hartford

Delaware - Dover

Florida - Tallahassee

Georgia - Atlanta

Hawaii - Honolulu

Idaho - Boise

Illinois - Springfield

Indiana - Indianapolis

Iowa - Des Moines

Kansas - Topeka

Kentucky - Frankfort

Louisiana - Baton Rouge

Maine - Augusta

Maryland - Annapolis

Massachusetts - Boston

Michigan - Lansing

Minnesota - St. Paul

Mississippi - Jackson

Missouri - Jefferson City

Montana - Helena

Nebraska - Lincoln

Nevada - Carson City

New Hampshire - Concord

New Jersey - Trenton

New Mexico - Santa Fe

New York - Albany

North Carolina - Raleigh

North Dakota - Bismarck

Ohio - Columbus

Oklahoma - Oklahoma City

Oregon - Salem

Pennsylvania - Harrisburg

Rhode Island - Providence

South Carolina - Columbia

South Dakota - Pierre

Tennessee - Nashville

Texas - Austin

Utah - Salt Lake City

Vermont - Montpelier

Virginia - Richmond

Washington - Olympia

West Virginia - Charleston

Wisconsin - Madison

Wyoming - Cheyenne

1620 Pilgrims arrive at Plymouth

1776 Declaration of Independence

1787 Constitution

1812 War of 1812

1849 Gold Rush

1861 Beginning of Civil War

1865 End of Civil War

1914 Beginning of WWI

1918 End of WWI

1941 Beginning of WWII

1945 End of WWII

1950 Korean War

1957 Sputnik

1963 Vietnam War

1969 Man on the Moon

Largest States by Population

California - 34 million - 55 electoral votes
Texas - 21 million - 34 electoral votes
New York - 19 million - 31 electoral votes
Florida - 16 million - 27 electoral votes
Illinois - 12 million - 21 electoral votes
Pennsylvania - 12 million - 21 electoral votes
Ohio - 11 million - 20 electoral votes
Michigan - 10 million - 17 electoral votes

Mountain Ranges - Highest Peak - Height

Sierra Nevada Range - Mount Whitney - 14,494
Rocky Mountains - Mount Elbert - 14,433
Cascade Range - Mount Rainier - 14,410
Appalachian Mountains - Mount Mitchell - 6,684
Ozark Range - Magazine Mountain - 2,753

Important Rivers - Length

Mississippi River - 2348 mi.
Missouri River - 2315 mi.
Colorado River - 1450 mi.
Ohio River - 1306 mi.
Columbia River - 1232 mi.
James River - 340 mi.

Can you locate all of these states, rivers, and mountain ranges on a map?

Rain

By Robert Louis Stevenson

The rain is raining all around,
It falls on field and tree,
It rains on the umbrellas here,
And on the ships at sea.

Bed in Summer

By Robert Louis Stevenson

In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
The birds still hopping on the tree,
Or hear the grown-up people's feet
Still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
When all the sky is clear and blue,
And I should like so much to play,
To have to go to bed by day?

The Cow

By Robert Louis Stevenson

The friendly cow all red and white,
I love with all my heart:
She gives me cream with all her might,
To eat with apple-tart.

She wanders lowing here and there,
And yet she cannot stray,
All in the pleasant open air,
The pleasant light of day;

And blown by all the winds that pass
And wet with all the showers,
She walks among the meadow grass
And eats the meadow flowers.

The Moon

by Robert Louis Stevenson

The moon has a face like the clock in the hall;
She shines on thieves on the garden wall,
On streets and fields and harbour quays,
And birdies asleep in the forks of the trees.

The squalling cat and the squeaking mouse,
The howling dog by the door of the house,
The bat that lies in bed at noon,
All love to be out by the light of the moon.

But all of the things that belong to the day
Cuddle to sleep to be out of her way;
And flowers and children close their eyes
Till up in the morning the sun shall arise.

At the Sea-side

By Robert Louis Stevenson

WHEN I was down beside the sea
A wooden spade they gave to me
To dig the sandy shore.

My holes were empty like a cup.
In every hole the sea came up,
Till it could come no more.

My Shadow

By Robert Louis Stevenson

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head;
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.

The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow—
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an india-rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,
And can only make a fool of me in every sort of way.
He stays so close beside me, he's a coward you can see;
I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me!

One morning, very early, before the sun was up,
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup;
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head,
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

The Little Turtle

By Vashel Lindsay

There was a little turtle.
He lived in a box.
He swam in a puddle.
He climbed on the rocks.

He snapped at a mosquito.
He snapped at a flea.
He snapped at a minnow.
And he snapped at me.

He caught the mosquito.
He caught the flea.
He caught the minnow.
But he didn't catch me.

Windy Nights

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Whenever the moon and stars are set,
Whenever the wind is high,
All night long in the dark and wet,
A man goes riding by.
Late in the night when the fires are out,
Why does he gallop and gallop about?

Whenever the trees are crying aloud,
And ships are tossed at sea,
By, on the highway, low and loud,
By at the gallop goes he.
By at the gallop he goes, and then
By he comes back at the gallop again.

The Wind

by Robert Louis Stevenson

I saw you toss the kites on high
And blow the birds about the sky;
And all around I heard you pass,
Like ladies' skirts across the grass--

O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all--

O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?

O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

Foreign Lands

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Up into the cherry tree
Who should climb but little me?
I held the trunk with both my hands
And looked abroad in foreign lands.

I saw the next door garden lie,
Adorned with flowers, before my eye,
And many pleasant places more
That I had never seen before.

I saw the dimpling river pass
And be the sky's blue looking-glass;
The dusty roads go up and down
With people tramping in to town.

If I could find a higher tree
Farther and farther I should see,
To where the grown-up river slips
Into the sea among the ships,

To where the road on either hand
Lead onward into fairy land,
Where all the children dine at five,
And all the playthings come alive.

Where Go the Boats?

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Dark brown is the river,
Golden is the sand.
It flows along for ever,
With trees on either hand.

Green leaves a-floating,
Castles of the foam,
Boats of mine a-boating -
Where will all come home?

On goes the river
And out past the mill,
Away down the valley,
Away down the hill.

Away down the river,
A hundred miles or more,
Other little children
Shall bring my boats ashore.

The Land of Counterpane

By Robert Louis Stevenson

When I was sick and lay a-bed,
I had two pillows at my head,
And all my toys beside me lay,
To keep me happy all the day.

And sometimes for an hour or so
I watched my leaden soldiers go,
With different uniforms and drills,
Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

And sometimes sent my ships in fleets
All up and down among the sheets;
Or brought my trees and houses out,
And planted cities all about.

I was the giant great and still
That sits upon the pillow-hill,
And sees before him, dale and plain,
The pleasant land of counterpane.

The Swing

by Robert Louis Stevenson

How do you like to go up in a swing,
Up in the air so blue?
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing
Ever a child can do!

Up in the air and over the wall,
Till I can see so wide,
River and trees and cattle and all
Over the countryside--

Till I look down on the garden green,
Down on the roof so brown--
Up in the air I go flying again,
Up in the air and down!

The Owl and the Pussycat

By Edward Lear

The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea green boat,
They took some honey, and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
'O lovely Pussy! O Pussy my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!'

Pussy said to the Owl, 'You elegant fowl!
How charmingly sweet you sing!
O let us be married! too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?'
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the Bong-tree grows
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood
With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.

'Dear pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling
Your ring?' Said the Piggy, 'I will.'
So they took it away, and were married next day
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.
They dined on mince, and slices of quince,
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,
They danced by the light of the moon,
The moon,
The moon,
They danced by the light of the moon.

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
BY ROBERT FROST

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Psalm 100

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.
Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him.
We are his people, the sheep of his flock.
Go within his gates, giving thanks.
Enter his temple with songs of praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.
Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

The Duel

By Eugene Field

The gingham dog and the calico cat
Side by side on the table sat;
'T was half-past twelve, and (what do you think!)
Nor one nor t' other had slept a wink!
The old Dutch clock and the Chinese plate
Appeared to know as sure as fate
There was going to be a terrible spat.
(I was n't there; I simply state
What was told to me by the Chinese plate!)

The gingham dog went "Bow-wow-wow!"
And the calico cat replied "Mee-ow!"
The air was littered, an hour or so,
With bits of gingham and calico,
While the old Dutch clock in the chimney-place
Up with its hands before its face,
For it always dreaded a family row!
(Now mind: I 'm only telling you
What the old Dutch clock declares is true!)

The Chinese plate looked very blue,
And wailed, "Oh, dear! what shall we do!"
But the gingham dog and the calico cat
Wallowed this way and tumbled that,
Employing every tooth and claw
In the awfulest way you ever saw---
And, oh! how the gingham and calico flew!
(Don't fancy I exaggerate---
I got my news from the Chinese plate!)

Next morning, where the two had sat
They found no trace of dog or cat;
And some folks think unto this day
That burglars stole that pair away!
But the truth about the cat and pup
Is this: they ate each other up!
Now what do you really think of that!
(The old Dutch clock it told me so,
And that is how I came to know.)

The Land of Story-books
by Robert Louis Stevenson

At evening when the lamp is lit,
Around the fire my parents sit;
They sit at home and talk and sing,
And do not play at anything.

Now, with my little gun, I crawl
All in the dark along the wall,
And follow round the forest track
Away behind the sofa back.

There, in the night, where none can spy,
All in my hunter's camp I lie,
And play at books that I have read
Till it is time to go to bed.

These are the hills, these are the woods,
These are my starry solitudes;
And there the river by whose brink
The roaring lions come to drink.

I see the others far away
As if in firelit camp they lay,
And I, like to an Indian scout,
Around their party prowled about.

So, when my nurse comes in for me,
Home I return across the sea,
And go to bed with backward looks
At my dear land of Story-books.

The Song of Mr Toad

by Kenneth Grahame

The world has held great Heroes,
As history-books have showed;
But never a name to go down to fame
Compared with that of Toad

The clever men at Oxford
Know all that there is to be knowed.
But they none of them knew one half as much
As intelligent Mr Toad!

The animals sat in the Ark and cried,
Their tears in torrents flowed.
Who was it said, "There's land ahead?"
Encouraging Mr Toad!

The Army all saluted
As they marched along the road.
Was it the King? Or Kitchener?
No. It was Mr Toad!

The Queen and her Ladies-in-waiting
Sat at the window and sewed.
She cried, "Look! who's that handsome man?"
They answered, "Mr Toad."

The Flag Goes By

By Henry Holcomb Bennett

HATS off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!

The colors before us fly;
but more than the flag is passing by.

Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State:
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips;

Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverend awe;

Sign of a nation, great and strong
To ward her people from foreign wrong:
Pride and glory and honor,—all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

The Children's Hour

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Between the dark and the daylight,
When the night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,
That is known as the Children's Hour.

I hear in the chamber above me
The patter of little feet,
The sound of a door that is opened,
And voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight,
Descending the broad hall stair,
Grave Alice, and laughing Allegra,
And Edith with golden hair.

A whisper, and then a silence:
Yet I know by their merry eyes
They are plotting and planning together
To take me by surprise.

A sudden rush from the stairway,
A sudden raid from the hall!
By three doors left unguarded
They enter my castle wall!

They climb up into my turret
O'er the arms and back of my chair;
If I try to escape, they surround me;
They seem to be everywhere.

They almost devour me with kisses,
Their arms about me entwine,
Till I think of the Bishop of Bingen
In his Mouse-Tower on the Rhine!

Do you think, O blue-eyed banditti,
Because you have scaled the wall,
Such an old mustache as I am
Is not a match for you all!

I have you fast in my fortress,
And will not let you depart,
But put you down into the dungeon
In the round-tower of my heart.

And there will I keep you forever,
Yes, forever and a day,
Till the walls shall crumble to ruin,
And moulder in dust away!

The Village Blacksmith

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

UNDER a spreading chestnut tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and long,
His face is like the tan;
His brow is wet with honest sweat,
He earns whate'er he can,
And looks the whole world in the face,
For he owes not any man.

Week in, week out, from morn till night,
You can hear his bellows blow;
You can hear him swing his heavy sledge
With measured beat and slow,
Like a sexton ringing the village bell,
When the evening sun is low.

And children coming home from school
Look in at the open door;
They love to see the flaming forge,
And hear the bellows roar,
And watch the burning sparks that fly
Like chaff from a threshing-floor.

He goes on Sunday to the church,
And sits among his boys;
He hears the parson pray and preach,
He hears his daughter's voice,
Singing in the village choir,
And it makes his heart rejoice.

It sounds to him like her mother's voice,
Singing in Paradise!
He needs must think of her once more,
How in the grave she lies;
And with his hard, rough hand he wipes
A tear out of his eyes.

Toiling,—rejoicing,—sorrowing,
Onward through life he goes;
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou hast taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortunes must be wrought;
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought!

Preamble to the Constitution

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

AMERICA FOR ME
by Henry Van Dyke

'TIS fine to see the Old World, and travel up and down
Among the famous palaces and cities of renown,
To admire the crumbly castles and the statues of the kings,—
But now I think I've had enough of antiquated things.

So it's home again, and home again, America for me!
My heart is turning home again, and there I long to be,
In the land of youth and freedom beyond the ocean bars,
Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars!

Oh, London is a man's town, there's power in the air;
And Paris is a woman's town, with flowers in her hair;
And it's sweet to dream in Venice, and it's great to study Rome;
But when it comes to living there is no place like home.

I like the German fir-woods, in green battalions drilled;
I like the gardens of Versailles with flashing fountains filled;
But, oh, to take your hand, my dear, and ramble for a day
In the friendly western woodland where Nature has her way!

I know that Europe's wonderful, yet something seems to lack:
The Past is too much with her, and the people looking back.
But the glory of the Present is to make the Future free,—
We love our land for what she is and what she is to be.

Oh, it's home again, and home again, America for me!
I want a ship that's westward bound to plough the rolling sea,
To the blessed Land of Room Enough beyond the ocean bars,
Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars

Sea Fever

By John Masefield

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way, where the wind's like a whetted
knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

Christmas Everywhere

By Phillips Brooks

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where cornfields stand sunny and bright.
Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,
Broods o're brave men in the thick of the fight;
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all;
No palace too great, no cottage too small.

Columbus

By Joaquin Miller

BEHIND him lay the gray Azores,
Behind the Gates of Hercules;
Before him not the ghost of shores,
Before him only shoreless seas.
The good mate said: "Now must we pray,
For lo! the very stars are gone.
Brave Admiral, speak, what shall I say?"
"Why, say, 'Sail on! sail on! and on!'"

"My men grow mutinous day by day;
My men grow ghastly wan and weak."
The stout mate thought of home; a spray
Of salt wave washed his swarthy cheek.
"What shall I say, brave Admiral, say,
If we sight naught but seas at dawn?"
"Why, you shall say at break of day,
'Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!'"

They sailed and sailed, as winds might blow,
Until at last the blanched mate said:
"Why, now not even God would know
Should I and all my men fall dead.
These very winds forget their way,
For God from these dread seas is gone.
Now speak, brave Admiral, speak and say"—
He said: "Sail on! sail on! and on!"

They sailed. They sailed. Then spake the mate:

“This mad sea shows his teeth to-night.

He curls his lip, he lies in wait,

With lifted teeth, as if to bite!

Brave Admiral, say but one good word:

What shall we do when hope is gone?”

The words leapt like a leaping sword:

“Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!”

Then, pale and worn, he kept his deck,
And peered through darkness. Ah, that night

Of all dark nights! And then a speck—

A light! A light! A light! A light!

It grew, a starlit flag unfurled!

It grew to be Time’s burst of dawn.

He gained a world; he gave that world

Its grandest lesson: “On! sail on!”

Spring

By Alfred Lord Tennyson

Dip down upon the northern shore,
O sweet new-year delaying long;
Thou doest expectant nature wrong;
Delaying long, delay no more.

What stays thee from the clouded noons,
Thy sweetness from its proper place?
Can trouble live with April days,
Or sadness in the summer moons?

Bring orchis, bring the foxglove spire,
The little speedwell's darling blue,
Deep tulips dash'd with fiery dew,
Laburnums, dropping-wells of fire.

O thou, new-year, delaying long,
Delayest the sorrow in my blood,
That longs to burst a frozen bud
And flood a fresher throat with [song](#).

Recitation Notebook