

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Catechism is divided into a Prologue and Four Parts.

It is beneficial for all catechists to read the Prologue (#1–25).

Part 1. The Profession of Faith (#26–1065)

Addresses the relationship of God to humanity, Scripture, and the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds.

Section One: I Believe –We Believe

Section Two: The Profession of the Catholic Faith–The Creed

Part 2. The Celebration of Christian Mystery (#1066–1690)

Deals with Liturgy, Sacraments and Sacramentals.

Section One: The Sacramental Economy

Section Two: The Seven Sacraments of the Church

Part 3. Life in Christ (#1691–2557)

Covers the topics of Vocation, Morality, Virtue, Sin, and Social Justice.

Section One: Man's Vocation: Life in the Spirit

Section Two: The Ten Commandments

Part 4. Christian Prayer (#2558–2865)

Deals with Prayer Traditions, Expressions of Prayer and specifically the Lord's Prayer.

Section One: Prayer and the Christian Life

Section Two: The Lord's Prayer

Each Part is divided into Sections, Chapters, Articles and Paragraphs.

Each Paragraph is numbered in sequence from #1 through #2865.

At the end of each Chapter there is a section entitled “**In Brief**” which is a synopsis of the material covered in the chapter.

Italicized Cross Reference numbers appear in the margins and direct the reader to other parts of the Catechism for further information on that specific topic.

Some paragraphs contain selections from various documents from Catholic tradition which are footnoted at the bottom of the page. A helpful list of **abbreviations** appears after the Index near the end of the Catechism.

The **Index** presents major topics in boldface type that are addressed in the text. More specific teachings are listed beneath the major topics followed by paragraph references.

All references to Scripture and Church documents can be found in the **Index of Citations**.

A **Glossary** of important doctrinal terms concludes the Catechism, but is found only in the second (green) edition.