

Learning by Heart: Grade 6

Scripture verses are taken from the New King James Version (© Thomas Nelson) and the 1986 translation of Luther's Small Catechism (© CPH). (Passages marked with an asterisk * follow the text of the United Bible Societies' 3rd ed.) 08/01

Daily Prayers

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Used at the beginning of devotions while making the sign of the cross. The sign of the cross reminds us that in our baptism we were joined to Jesus, who died on the cross for our sins.)

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Asking A Blessing

The eyes of all look to You [O Lord], And You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. He gives food to all flesh; He gives to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry. He delights not in the strength of the horse. He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord takes

pleasure in those that fear Him, in those that hope in His mercy.

We thank You, Lord God, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for all Your benefits, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Books Of The Bible

Old Testament

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| | <i>Major Prophets</i> |
| | I-sai'ah |
| | Jer-e-mi'ah |
| | Lam-en-ta'tions |
| | E-ze'kiel |
| | Dan'iel |
| | <i>Minor Prophets</i> |
| | Ho-se'a |
| | Jo'el |
| | A'mos |
| | O-ba-di'ah |
| | Jo'nah |
| | Mi'cah |
| | Na'hum |
| | Ha-bak'kuk |
| | Zeph-a-ni'ah |
| | Hag'gai |
| | Zech-a-ri'ah |
| | Mal'a-chi |
| | <i>Poetic Books</i> |
| | Job |
| | Psalms |
| | Proverbs |
| | Ec-cle-si-as'tes |
| | Song of Songs (or Song of Solomon) |

Books Of The New Testament

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Historical Books</i> | 2 Thes-sa-lo'nians |
| Mat'thew | 1 Tim'o-thy |
| Mark | 2 Tim'o-thy |
| Luke | Ti'tus |
| John | Phi-le'mon |
| Acts | He'brews |
| Ro'mans | James |
| 1 Cor-in'thi-ans | 1 Pe'ter |
| 2 Cor-in'thi-ans | 2 Pe'ter |
| Ga-la'tians | 1 John |
| E-phe'sians | 2 John |
| Phi-lip'pi-ans | 3 John |
| Co-los'sians | Jude |
| 1 Thes-sa-lo'nians | |
| <i>Prophetic Book</i> | |
| Rev-e-la'tion | |

The Bible

1 Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

2 Psa 1:1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

3 Psa 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

4 John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

5 John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

6 Rom 3:20 For by the law is the knowledge of sin.

The Ten Commandments

First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.
What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

7 Gen 17:1 I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.

8 Mat 4:10 You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.

9 Mat 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

10 Rom 13:10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

11 Psa 50:15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

12 Prov 18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

13 Mat 1:21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.

14 2 Tim 2:19 Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity.*

Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

15 Mat 12:8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.*

16 Luke 11:28 Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!

Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

17 Prov 23:22 Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.

Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

18 Gen 9:6 Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.

19 Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one

another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

20 1 John 3:15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

21 Prov 20:22 Do not say, "I will recompense evil"; Wait for the LORD, and He will save you.

Sixth Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

22 Gen 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

23 Psa 101:3 I will set nothing wicked before my eyes.

24 Mat 5:28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

25 Mal 2:16 For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce.

26 1 Cor 6:18 Flee sexual immorality.

The Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

27 Psa 37:21 The wicked borrows and does not repay, But the righteous shows mercy and gives.

28 2 Th 3:10 If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation,

but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

29 James 4:11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren.

30 1 Pet 4:8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."

The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

31 1 Tim 6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

32 Psa 37:4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

33 Phil 2:4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

The Close Of The Commandments

What does God say about all these commandments?
He says: "For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments" (Exodus 20:5-6).

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything

against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

34 Gen 8:21 I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth.

35 Psa 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

36 Mat 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

37 John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

38 Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

39 James 2:10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

The Creed

40 Psa 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

41 Psa 118:1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

42 Mal 3:6 For I am the LORD, I do not change.

43 Mat 19:26 With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

44 Heb 3:4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.

The First Article (Creation)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all

my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this he does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

45 Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

46 Psa 31:15 My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, And from those who persecute me.

47 Psa 37:5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

48 Psa 36:6 O LORD, You preserve man and beast.

49 Psa 103:13 As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

50 Jer 1:5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.

51 Rom 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

52 Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

The Second Article (Redemption)

[I believe] 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

53 John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

54 Psa 31:1 In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in Your righteousness.

54 Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

56 Rom 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

57 Gal 4:4-5 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

58 1 Tim 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.

59 1 Tim 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.

60 Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

61 1 John 1:7 The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

62 John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

63 John 11:26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

64 Rom 4:25 [Christ] was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

Third Article (Sanctification)

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

65 John 8:31-32 If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

66 John 20:21 As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

67 Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

68 1 Cor 6:11 But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

69 1 Cor 10:31 Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

70 1 Cor 12:3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

71 2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

72 Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

73 Titus 3:5 He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit

74 Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him.

75 John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

76 Mat 21:22 And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

77 Luke 11:13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

78 John 14:13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

79 John 14:14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.*

80 John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.*

81 Rom 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself

makes intercession with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

82 1 Th 5:16-18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The Introduction

Our Father who art in heaven. What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

83 Mat 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

84 Luke 1:37 For with God nothing will be impossible.

85 2 Cor 6:18 I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.

86 Eph 4:6 [There is] one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all.*

87 Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

88 1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

First Petition

Hallowed by Thy name. What does this mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy? God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father.

89 Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

90 John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

91 Eph 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called.

Second Petition

Thy Kingdom come.

What does this mean?

The Kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

How does God's Kingdom come?

God's Kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

92 Isa 55:11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

93 Phil 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

94 Mat 9:38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

Third Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done? God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

95 1 Tim 2:4 God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

96 John 6:40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

97 Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

98 Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

99 Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

100 1 Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality.

The Fourth Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputations, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

101 Mat 5:45 For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

102 Acts 17:28 For in Him we live and move and have our being.

103 Psa 91:15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be

with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.

104 Psa 145:15-61 The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing.

105 Prov 30:8-9 Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food allotted to me; Lest I be full and deny You, And say, "Who is the LORD?" Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.

106 Mat 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

107 Mat 6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Fifth Petition

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

108 Psa 130:3 If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.

109 Psa 19:12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults.

110 Prov 28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

111 Gen 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant.

Sixth Petition

And lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean? God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

112 Prov 1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

113 Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

114 1 Tim 6:8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

115 2 Th 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

116 Acts 14:22 We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.

117 2 Cor 12:9a And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

118 2 Cor 12:9b Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

The Conclusion

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

119 Psa 50:15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

120 Psa 103:2-3 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases.

121 Prov 15:29 The LORD is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

122 1 Tim 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Mat 28.19)

123 Mat 18:6 But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

124 John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

125 John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

126 Mat 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

127 Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

128 Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

129 Acts 22:16 Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

130 Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no baptism. But with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

"He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying" (Titus 3:5-8).

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new

man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom 6:4).

131 Luke 9:23 If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

132 Eph 4:22 Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.

Confession

What is confession?

Confession has two parts: First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Which are these?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

133 Psa 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

134 Prov 28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

135 Mat 9:2 He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."

136 Luke 10:16 He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.

137 James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.*

138 1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

139 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

What is the Office of the Keys?

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

140 Mat 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.

141 Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

The Sacrament of the Altar

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?
It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament, in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

142 1 Cor 10:16 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?

143 1 Cor 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

144 1 John 1:7 The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

145 Luke 11:27-28 Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You! But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

146 Mark 9:24 Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!

147 Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

148 Rev 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Psalm 23

149 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

150 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

151 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

152 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

153 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

154 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Favorite Hymns and Prayers

Morning Prayer

The morning bright with rosy light/
Hath waked me up from sleep; Father,
Thy own great love alone/ Thy little
one doth keep.

Evening Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray
Thee, Lord, my soul to keep; if I
should die before I wake, I pray
Thee, Lord, my soul to take; and this
I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

I am Jesus' little lamb, ever glad at
heart I am; for my Shepherd gently
guides me, knows my need and well
provides me, Loves me every day the
same, even calls me by my name.

I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee; Trusting Thee for
full salvation, Great and free.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Amighty Fortress is our God, A trusty
Shield and Weapon; He helps us free
from every need/ that hath us now
o'ertaken. The old evil Foe/ Now
means deadly woe; Deep guile and
great might/ Are his dread arms in
fight; On earth is not his equal.

Oh That The Lord Would Guide My Ways

Oh, that the Lord would guide my
ways/ To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace/
To know and do His will!

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

What a Friend we have in Jesus, All
our sins and griefs to bear! What a
privilege to carry/ Everything to God
in prayer!

Abide With Me

Abide with me! Fast falls the
eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord,
with me abide, When other helpers
fail and comforts flee. Help of the
helpless, Oh, abide with me!

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

I know that my Redeemer lives; What
comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was
dead; He lives, my everliving Head.

Holy Ghost, With Light Divine

Holy Ghost, with light divine/ Shine
upon this heart of mine; Chase the

shades of night away, Turn the
darkness into day.

My Hope Is Built On Nothingless

My hope is built on nothingless than
Jesus' blood and righteousness; I
dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On
Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All
other ground is sinking sand.

Teenagers Pray © CPH, 1957

Heavenly Father, I confess my many
sins and shortcomings. With the
publican I say, "God, be merciful to
me, a sinner." Dear Lord, I need
Your help every minute of the day. I
want above all to do what is right.
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Send Your Spirit, O Jesus, to guide
me this mixed-up world. Help me
understand the Scriptures and to know
You, Jesus, as my personal Savior.
In Your name I pray. Amen.

O Lord, my God, I come to You in
weakness, and I know You will
understand. I'm afraid of failing!
I don't want to be laughed at! Yet
You have saved me from the worst of
all failures-- the failure of sin and
eternal death. When I try to
succeed, I know You're watching. I
know You're helping! You have a plan
for me! Inspire me with great
ambitions. Strengthen me for hard
work. Guide me with Your wisdom.
Let me dedicate my life and all my
tasks to You-- for You will never
laugh at me! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Learning by Heart: Key Passages

Kindergarten: Psalm 119.105; Psalm 50.15; Matthew 5.48
First Grade: Romans 8.28; Romans 1:16; Romans 1:17
Second Grade: Matthew 6:33; John 8:31; 1 John 1:7
Third Grade: John 3:16; Acts 4:12; Matthew 5:16
Fourth Grade: Romans 13:10; 1 John 3:15; Psalm 51:5
Fifth Grade: John 11:25; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 John 1:8
Sixth Grade: Isaiah 55:11; Acts 2:42; 1 Peter 4:8

Our goal is that each student would have committed to long-term memory each of the successive passages as well as the Catechism as they pass through each grade. For example, by the end of sixth grade a student would be able to recite anyone one of these passages "off the top of their head" even though it was not part of any particular Learning by Heart assignment