A
ablution n (L ablue “to wash away”) 1: the act of washing or cleansing; specifically, the washing of the body, or some part of it, as a religious rite 2: the water used in cleansing 3: a small quantity of wine and water, which is used to wash the priest’s thumb and index finger after the communion, and which then, as perhaps containing portions of the consecrated elements, is drunk by the priest
abortion n (L abortare fr. aborīrī “to disappear, miscarry” fr. ab “away” + orīrī “to appear”) 1: the act of expelling a fetus from the uterus in order to terminate a pregnancy 2: a grave sin in the willful act of ending a human life before birth (Gn 4:10, Ps 139:13-15, CCC 2270-2275, 2318-2323)
Abraham n (Hb Abraham) Old Testament patriarch, father of Isaac (son of Sarah) and Ishmael (son of Hagar), with whom God made a covenant promising Abraham and his wife Sarah that they would become the parents of many peoples through whom all nations of the earth will be blessed (Gn 11:27-32, 12:1-9, 15:1-19, 17:1-10, 21:1-8, 22:1-19, CCC 59-61, 705-06, 1716, 2570-2572)
absolution v (ME absolven, fr. L absolvere, fr. ab +solvere “to loosen”) 1: the act of absolving 2: the action of the minister of the Sacrament of Penance who, in the name of God and the Church, forgives the sins of the penitent (CCC 1424, 1441-1442, 1449)
abuse n (L abuti “to consume, to use up”) 1: the act of improperly treating creation 2: inappropriate use of persons, animals, vegetation or the environment 3: defamation 4: physical mistreatment against the legitimate rights of the person (Mt 7:15, 18:6, Eph 6:4, Col 3:21, CCC 2284-2287)
acolyte n (Gk a + keleuthos “same path”) 1: one who attends the minister in a liturgical service and assists in minor duties 2: server at some rituals such as the Mass (CCC 1143-1144, 1369)
Adonai n (Hb Adonai “Lord”) Old Testament name for God and used in Jewish prayers (CCC 209)
adoration n (L fr. adorare “to worship”) 1: the act of worshiping God 2: the act of reverencing Christ in the Blessed Sacrament 3: intentional communion with God out of a sense of wonder (1Jn 1:3, CCC 1083, 1178, 2628, 2781)
adore v: (L adorare “to worship”) to love, worship, honor, revere, and serve God as the one God, Creator of all that is; to acknowledge God as God who cannot be replaced by any other (Ex 20:2-5, Dt 6:13-14, CCC 2083-5, 2096-7)
adultery n (L adulterium fr. adultere “to corrupt”) 1: consensual sex between a married man or women and someone other than his/her spouse 2: a act of marital infidelity 3: a grave sin (Mk 10:11, Mt 5:27-28, 5:32, 19:6, 1Cor 6:9-10, CCC 1756, 1856, 1858, 2336, 2380-2381, 2400)
Advent n (L adventus “arrival”) first four Sundays in the liturgical calendar during which Christians prepare for the celebration of Christmas and the second coming of Christ (CCC 524, 1095)
Age of Enlightenment 18th
century social movement emphasizing human rationalism and rejecting religious beliefs and moral authority
age of reason the capacity of the human person to arrive at a basic understanding of reality and moral truth usually beginning in later childhood (CCC 286, 1951)
Allah n (Ar Allah “God”) 1: the name of God used in the religion of Islam 2: a name identifying the one God honored and worshiped by Jews, Christians and Muslims (CCC 200-202, 839-840)
allegorical adj (Gk fr. allēgōrein “to speak figuratively”) 1: relating to allegory or symbolic representation 2: a deeper hidden meaning that goes beyond the literal reading of a sacred text 3: spiritual sense of interpreting the deeper meanings of scripture beyond events (CCC 117)
Alleluia interj (ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk allelouia, fr. Hb Halaluyah “praise God”) 1: first word of many psalms interjecting an acclamation of praise to God 2: acclamation of praising God in the liturgies of the church during all seasons but Lent (CCC 2589)
altar n (OE fr. L adolere “to burn up”) 1: table-like structure on which an offering is burnt 2: table on which the eucharistic elements, water and wine, are offered and consecrated, becoming the Body and Blood of Christ (CCC 1182, 1383)
ambo n (L ambo “lectern”) 1: lectern 2: place in the church where the Word is read from Scripture during the liturgy (CCC 1154)
Amos n (Hb Amos) 1: eighth century prophet of the Old Testament who spoke against the wealth of the prosperous of Israel while the poor suffered 2: the oldest of the prophetic books of the Old Testament (Book of Amos, CCC 61-64, 218, 702)
anagogical adj (Gk anagoge “leading”) 1: going beyond the literal, allegorical and moral senses of scripture to its ultimate spiritual meaning 2: leading toward our ultimate destiny in Christ (CCC 117-118)
anamnesis n (Gk anamnesis “recollect, remember”) 1: in the celebration of the Christian Mystery, the Mass, the Church calls to mind the Passion, resurrection and second coming of Jesus Christ and presents to the Father the offering of his Son which reconciles us to him 2: the sacrificial memorial of Christ and of his Body, the Church 3: the prayer after the words of institution in the Eucharistic liturgy (CCC 1354, 1362-1372)
anangel n (Gk angelos “messenger”) 1: a spiritual being superior to human beings in power and intelligence who glorifies God 2: a messenger who announces God’s plan of salvation 3: a protector and guide to assist people on their journey through life (Gn 28:11-15, Mt 1:18-24, Lk 1:26-38, CCC 327-336, 350)
anunciation n (L annuntiatus, pp. of annuntiare “to announce”) 1: the act of announcing 2: the visit of the angel Gabriel to Mary announcing to her that she would be the mother of the Savior 3: the solemn feast of the Church commemorating Gabriel’s visit to Mary (Lk 1:26-38, CCC 490-494)
anoint v (L inunguere “to smear”) 1: to smear or rub the skin with an oily substance 2: to show a sign of election through anointing 3: to use in sacramental rituals for consecration or healing 4: to seal with a special mark as a sign of permanence (CCC 1289, 1291, 1293-1296)
anti-Semitism n (L anti “against” + shem) 1: discrimination and hostility against Jews and Judaism as a religion 2: a form of institutional racism (CCC 597, 2258, 2419-2425)
apostle v (Gk apostolos fr. apo + stellein “to send”) 1: a person sent on a mission 2: the first twelve disciples chosen by Jesus to continue his work on earth in the Church 3: the first Christian missionaries, witnesses of the resurrection, including the Twelve appointed by Jesus and St. Paul to preach the Gospel 4: those given authority by Christ to carry on the
apostolic tradition of the Church (CCC 857-862)

**Apostles Creed** 1: a formal summary of the apostles’ faith 2: oldest statement of beliefs of the Roman catechism (CCC 194)

**apostolic** adj 1: of or relating to the twelve apostles 2: of or relating to the succession of authority handed on to the apostles by Christ and perpetuated in the ordination of bishops from the apostles to the present 3: of or relating to the Christian vocation of the baptized to spread the Kingdom of Christ throughout the whole world (CCC 861-864)

**apostolic religious life** societies of religious life organized for a particular apostolic purpose such as teaching, social works, health care, etc. (CCC 930)

**apostolic succession** 1: the handing on of the teaching authority and administration of the Church without interruption through the sacrament of Holy Orders 2: ordination of bishops to continue the ministry of the apostles to shepherd the Church (CCC 861-862)

**archdiocese** *n* (L diocesis fr. Gk kioikesis “administration”) the diocese of an archbishop (CCC 1560)

**ark** *n* (Gk arkein “chest”) 1: a container in which things are kept safe 2: the boat that Noah built to hold his family and animals during the Great Flood (Gn 6:14-22, CCC 56-58, 1094)

**Ark of the Covenant** 1: the container made of gold, precious stones and wood built by Moses’ direction from God as God’s special meeting place among the people 2: a box or cabinet that houses the Torah in all Jewish synagogues and symbolizes the Ark of the Covenant (Ex 25, CCC 212-213, 218, 1081, 1094)

**Ascension** *n* (L ascendere “to climb”) 1: the act or process of ascending 2: the dogma of the Church that Jesus was taken into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God 3: the solemn feast of Jesus Christ ascending into heaven (Mk 16:19, Lk 24:50-51, Jn 20:17, Acts 1:6-12, CCC 659-667)

**assembly** *n* (fr. L assembler “to gather”) 1: a company of persons gathered for a specific purpose 2: a congregation 3: a community of the baptized gathered together as the Body of Christ to worship 4: members of a church gathered in communion to celebrate liturgy under the action of the Holy Spirit 5: a priestly community enabled to celebrate the liturgy (CCC 1103, 1108-1109, 1112, 1119, 1132, 1141, 1179, 1198-1199)

**Assumption** *n* (L assumptus, pp. of assumere) 1: the taking up of someone into heaven 2: the dogma of the Church recognizing that Mary was taken body and soul into heavenly glory sharing in her Son’s Resurrection and anticipating the resurrection of all members of Christ’s Body 3: the solemn liturgical feast of Mary’s being taken to heaven (CCC 966, 974)

**B**

**Baptism** *n* (ME baptizme fr. Gk baptizein “to dip”) 1: the Christian sacrament marked by ritual use of water and admitting the recipient to the Christian community 2: entrance into the life of Christ 3: symbolic gesture of burial into Christ’s death and rising with Christ into “a new creature” (Mt 28:19, Acts 8:26-38, 1Cor 12:12-13, CCC 1214, 1226-1246)

**baptismal font** a baptistery pool, a bowl or a fountain at which someone is baptized (Mk 1:9-11, Mt 28:19, Acts 8:26-38, 1Cor 12:12-13, CCC 1185, 1238-1240)

**baptize** *v* (Gk baptizein “to dip”) 1: to administer the Sacrament of Baptism 2: to purify or cleanse spiritually especially by dipping into water 3: to initiate 4: to name as Christian (Mk 1:9-11, Mt 28:19, Acts 8:26-38, 1Cor 12:12-13, CCC 1214)
Beatitudes n pl. (L beatitudo fr. beatus “bliss”) 1: the teachings of Jesus in which he explains the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian way of life 2: the state of entering into the divine joy 3: moral choices based on love of God rather than human achievement 4: characteristics of the Kingdom of God (Mt 5:3-12, Luke 6:20-26, CCC 1716-1729)

Beelzebul n (Beelzebuh, “prince of devils,” fr. Gk Beelzeboub, fr. Hb Ba’al zebhubh, Ba’al “Philistine god”) (see “devil” or “Satan”) 1: name of evil spirit by which Jesus was accused of being possessed 2: “prince of devils” (Mk 3:20-30)

Bethlehem n (Hb bet lehem, “house of bread” or “house of the god Lahm”) the town of Bethlehem (about five miles south of Jerusalem) identified as the birthplace of Jesus (Mt 2:1, Lk 2:4, CCC 423)

Bible n (ME biblia, Gk. biblion “book” fr. Byblos “papyrus” ancient Phoenician city from which papyrus was exported) 1: the sacred scriptures of Christians comprising the Old Testament and New Testament 2: the canon of scripture containing 46 books in the OT and 27 in the NT (CCC 120)

Bishop n (L episcopus, fr. Gk episkopos, lit., “overseer,” fr. epi + skopos “watcher;” akin to Gk skeptes thai “to look, spy”) 1: a man receiving the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders 2: the highest degree of orders described as episcopate 3: successor of the apostles identified as apostolic succession 4: one having responsibility for his particular Church by governing, teaching and sanctifying 5: one ordained to lead as a shepherd (CCC 862-863, 874-879, 886-889, 893-896, 1536, 1555-1561)

Blasphemy n (Gk blasphēmein “blame”) 1: act of irreverence against God 2: claiming the attributes of God to oneself 3: disrespectful words and actions against God as opposed to the second commandment (Ex 20:7, Dt 5:11, Mt 5:33-34, CCC 2148)

Bless v (ME blessen, fr. OE blētsian, fr. blōd “blood;” fr. “the use of blood in consecration”) 1: to consecrate 2: to praise God for his blessings 3: to make holy with the sign of the cross (CCC 1077-1083, 1669, 2645)

Blessed Sacrament the living Christ in the form of bread reserved in the tabernacle of the church for the purpose of adoration, veneration and giving to the sick outside of the Mass (CCC 1374, 1377-1378, 1517)

Body of Christ the belief that Christ and the Church make up a complete union with Christ as the head and the members as the body (Jn 14:15-20, 15:4-5, 17:20-26, Col 2:19, Eph 4:11-16, CCC 779, 787-795, 805-807)

Bond n (ME band fr. bindon “to bind”) 1: something that binds or ties together 2: adhesive 3: consent in marriage sealing the spouses indissolubly 4: covenant (Mt 10:9, Mt 19:6, CCC 1638-1640, 1643, 1662)

Bread and wine the signs at the heart of the Mass that are blessed and offered in thanksgiving to God, that become the Body and Blood of Christ through the words of consecration spoken by the priest, and are received by the baptized in Holy Communion (Lk 22:7-20, Mt 26:17-29, Mk 14:12-25, 1Cor 11:23-26, CCC 1333-1336, 1339-1342, 1345-1347, 1350, 1352-1353, 1355, 1408, 1411-1413)

Canon Law the body of church law which is followed by the Latin Church and the Oriental Catholic Churches (CCC p. 3)

Canon of Scripture the 46 books of the OT and 27 books of the NT agreed by the Church to be included in the Bible as sacred text (CCC 120)

Capernaum n (Gk kapharnaūm, Aramaic keparrmahûm) 1: a town located on the northern shore of Lake Galilee where Jesus taught in the synagogue and healed as part of his ministry and possibly established his residence 2: the home of Simon Peter the disciple of Jesus (Mk 1:21, Mt 4:13, 9:1, CCC 541, 551-552)
cardinal n (L cardinalis fr. cardo “hinge”) 1: a bishop or archbishop of higher rank but with no increase in regional authority 2: member of the college of bishops that acts in union with the pope, Peter’s successor 3: special assistants to the pope 4: papal electors after the death or resignation of the pope (CCC 874-896, 938)
cardinal virtues the four virtues essential for living the Christian life: prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance (CCC 1805, 1806-1809, 1835-1838, 2290, 2407)
chaste adj (L castus “pure”) 1: maintaining sexual integrity in all states of life 2: being pure 3: respecting the rights of the person to exercise all forms of physical integrity including dress, proper gaze, touch, etc. (CCC 2337-2345, 2394-2395)
chastity n (L castus “pure”) 1: the moral virtue of physical and emotional self-mastery out of respect for the dignity of self and others 2: temperance (Gal 5:22, CCC 2337-2345)
catechesis n (Gk katechesis, fr. katechein “to teach, to echo”) 1: oral instruction of catechumens 2: process of educating and forming Christians throughout life (CCC 4-10, 904, 905-906, 1697-1698, 2226, 2688)
catechist n (Gk katechesis, fr. katechein “to teach, to echo”) 1: one who teaches the faith (CCC 3, 905-907)
cathedral n (L cathedra “chair”) 1: the chair of the office of bishop 2: the official church of the bishop of a diocese
Catholic adj (L catholicus fr. Gk katholikos “universal” fr. kata “by” + holos “whole”) 1: of or relating to the universal church 2: of or relating to the early Christian church (CCC 830)
celibacy n (L caelibatus fr. caelebs “unmarried”) 1: the state of being unmarried 2: the choice not to marry 3: the promise or vow made by priests, religious and many laity not to marry for the sake of the kingdom of God 4: abstention from sexual intercourse (Mt 19:12, 1Cor 7:32-36, CCC 915, 922-924, 934, 1579)
celibate n (L caelibatus fr. caelebs “unmarried”) 1: one who lives unmarried 2: a virgin 3: one who promises or vows celibacy in the church for the sake of the kingdom of God (Mt 19:12, 1Cor 7:32-36, CCC 915, 922-924, 934, 1579)
charism n (Gk charisma “favor, gift” fr. charizesthai “to favor,” fr. charis “grace”) 1: a particular gift or power given by the Spirit for the good of the Church 2: a particular grace of state that accompanies the responsibilities and ministries of the Church 3: a charismatic gift of the Spirit that builds up the Church through the service of charity (Rom 12:6-8, CCC 2003-2005)
Catholic Church the name of the church communities in communion with the pope, the successor of St. Peter (CCC 830-838)
choose v (ME chosen, fr. OE ceosan; akin to OHG kiosan “to choose,” L gustare “to taste”) 1: to select freely and with consideration 2: to decide 3: to select and act freely as the foundation for moral responsibility for which one is accountable (CCC 155, 311, 1781, 1782)
Chosen People the people of the descendants of Abraham whom God chose, established his covenant and formed as his own to be a light for the nations; the Jewish people (Gn 17:5, Ex 19:5, Dt 28:9, Is 2:2-4, Gal 3:8, Rom 9:4-5, 11:28-29, CCC 59-64, 201, 203, 212, 218-219, 238, 839, 2085)
chrism n (L chrisma fr. Gk chríein “to anoint”) 1: ointment or oil 2: oil that is consecrated and used to anoint those being baptized, confirmed and ordained (Acts 10:38, CCC 1241-1242, 1289, 1183, 1574)
Christ n (L Christus, fr. Gk Christos, “anointed”) 1: Messiah 2: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the second person of the Holy Trinity, who took flesh in Jesus of Nazareth 3: the “anointed one” a name
given to Jesus by the early church (Mk 1:11, Mt 1:16, 18-25, Lk 2:10-12, Acts 2:14-39, CCC 102, 429, 436-440, 453, 528-529, 535, 540, 590, 663-664, 695)


**Christian humanism** the identification of Christianity with art and literature during the Renaissance beginning in the 1500’s and the reign of Pope Julius II who commissioned artists to create Rome as a center of the arts

**Christmas n** (ME Christemasse, fr. OE Cristes maesse, “Christ’s mass”) 1: a Christian feast on December 25 or among the Eastern Orthodox on January 7 that commemorates the Birth of Christ 2: a legal holiday in many countries 3: the Church’s celebration of the mystery of God enfleshed in Jesus, the son of Mary (CCC 525-526)

**church n** (ME chirche derived fr. LGk kyriakon fr. Gk kyrakos “of the lord,” fr. kyrios “lord, power,” akin to L. cavis “hollow, cave”) 1: a building for worship, especially Christian worship 2: the clergy or officialdom of a religious group 3: a body or organization of religious believers 4: the whole body of Christians 5:

**Circumcision** n (L. circumciscus fr. circumcidere “to cut around”) 1: to cut off the foreskin of the penis or the clitoris 2: the Jewish rite of circumcision of male infants as a sign of inclusion into their covenantal relationship with God (Gn 17:9-14, Lk 2:21, CCC 59-60, 146-147)


**Church year** 1: the commemoration of the life of Jesus Christ in the liturgical celebrations throughout the year beginning with Sundays as the Lord’s Day and with the fixed feasts celebrating the solemnities of Jesus and of Mary 2: the liturgical calendar with the seasons celebrating the mysteries of the life of Jesus Christ 3: the liturgical cycle including memorials of the saints including Mary, the apostles, the martyrs, and other saints 4: the liturgical year (CCC 1095, 1163-1178, 1194-1195)

**Closing Rite** (Concluding Rite) the dismissal in the Mass sending the community forth and includes a greeting, the blessing and the dismissal (CCC 1348-1355)

**Communion of Saints** 1: all the faithful who belong to the Body of Christ, the Church 2: the riches of Christ communicated to all the members particularly through the sacraments 3: the assembly of all the holy ones, living and dead (CCC 946-962)

**Communion Rite** the reception of Holy Communion, the body and blood of Christ, by the faithful after the Lord’s prayer and the breaking of the bread (CCC 1355, 1384-1395)

**concealment n** (L *conceptus* “conceive”) 1: the union of sperm and egg 2: the act of becoming pregnant 3: the moment of the union of the sperm and egg making a human being having the rights of a person (Ps 139:15, Jer 1:5, CCC 2270, 2274)

**confess v** (L *confessus*, fr. *com* + *fateri* fr. *fari* “to speak”) 1: to acknowledge 2: to declare adherence to what one believes 3: to disclose one’s sins or faults 4: to state one’s sins to a priest in the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation with sorrow and the intent to not sin again as a form of conversion (CCC 1455-1458, 1493)

**confession n** 1: the act of confessing 2: a disclosure of sin to a priest in the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation with sorrow and the intent to not sin again as a form of conversion (CCC 1455-1458, 1493)

**confessor n** the minister of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation who is a validly ordained priest authorized by the bishop to administer the sacrament (CCC 1461-1467, 1494-1495)

**confirmand n** (L *confirmandus*) 1: candidate for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation 2: the one on whom the bishop lays his hands as essential to the rite of the Sacrament of Confirmation (CCC 1298)

**conscience n** (L *conscientia*, prp. of *consciere* “to be conscious” fr. *com*+*scire* “to know”) 1: a sense of what is morally right or wrong in relationship to one’s conduct and intentions to do the good and avoid evil 2: an “inner voice” that indicates correct moral choice 3: an awareness that informs moral judgment and leads toward accountability 4: a sense of justice and fairness (CCC 1776-1789, 1795, 1802)

**conscientious objection** desisting from military duty or taking part in war based on moral or religious reasons of conscience (CCC 2311, 2312)

**consecrate v** (L *consecrare*, fr. *com* + *sacrare* “to make sacred”) 1: to declare sacred 2: to effect the change of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ 3: to set aside for sacred purpose 4: to induct a person into a permanent state of ordained or religious life (CCC 914-916, 933-934, 944-945, 1273, 1280, 1539-1543)

**consecrated life** a form of religious life in which a man or woman lives the evangelical counsels through a life given to prayer usually in a monastery (CCC 916, 933)

**contemplation n** (L *contemplatus* pp. of *contemplari* fr. *com* + *templum* “temple”) 1: the act of concentrating on the spiritual 2: a wordless form of prayer that places one in the presence of God 3: attentiveness to God 4: a silent love of God (CCC 2709-2719, 2724)

**contemplative religious life** a form of religious life in which a man or woman lives the evangelical counsels through a life given to prayer usually in a monastery (CCC 916, 933)

**contemplative prayer** a form of Christian prayer that calls one to be with God in complete awareness, humility, gratitude and silence recognizing one’s union with and in God (CCC 2709-2719, 2724)

**contract n** (L *contractus* fr. *contracter* “to agree upon”) 1: a written agreement

**consecrated virgins** one of the earliest forms of consecrated life in the Church in which a baptized person following God’s call is consecrated to God by the diocesan bishop in a solemn rite to live a life of virginity for the sake of the Kingdom of God (CCC 922-924)
between two parties 2: the contract of marriage in which a man and a woman freely consent to the matrimonial union (Gn 2:24, Mk 10:8, Eph 5:31, CCC 1625-1632)

**contrition** v (ME contrite fr. MF, fr. ML contritus fr. L.pp. of conterere “to grind, bruise” fr. com + terere “to rub”) 1: the state of being contrite for wrongdoing 2: a prayer of sorrow for sin with resolve to atone and not sin again 3: an essential element of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation (CCC 1451-1453)

**conversion** n (L conversio fr. convertere “to turn around”) 1: something changed from one use to another 2: changing from one religion to another 3: inner transformation 4: the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation is called the sacrament of conversion (Mk 1:15, Lk 15:11-24, 1Cor 6:19, Eph 5:8-9, CCC 1423, 1694-1696, 1709, 1427, 1439)

**cosmos** n (Gk kosmos) 1: the creation of God 2: the orderly and harmonious arrangement of the universe 3: the visible world in which God’s self revelation is reflected and the natural law given (Gn 1:26, Wis 7:25-26, 7:29-30, 13:3-5; 8:2, CCC 337-344, 1147, 2500)

**council** n (L concilium fr. com + calare “to call”) 1: an assembly called for the purpose of advising and consulting 2: a group formed through election or selection to deliberate and recommend 3: a gathering of church leaders 4: the college of bishops acting in union with the Pope for the purpose of deliberating issues and discerning direction for the whole Church (CCC 883-884)

**Counter-Reformation** the efforts of the Catholic Church to rectify internal abuses through the education of priests, establishing religious orders with a mission to education and to serving the poor, and convening the Council of Trent in 1542 (CCC 769, 817-822)

**covenant** n (MF covenir “to agree,” fr. L convenire, fr. Hb berit “treaty”) 1: a solemn ritual of agreement that once spoken could not be retracted or annulled 2: a written agreement, treaty or contract 3: God’s solemn agreement with humanity and then with Abraham and finally with Moses to whom God gave the Law and protections for the people who, in turn, promised fidelity to God alone 4: Jesus’ offering of his blood as the “new covenant” in the NT 5: the Church is prepared for in the Old Covenant (Gn 10:5, 10:20-31, 17:4, Ex 19:1-8, Lk 22:20, 1Cor 11:25, CCC 56-63,121-123, 761-762)

**create** v (L creatus, pp.of crearem “crescent” fr. Gk koros “surfeit”) 1: to bring into existence 2: to produce 3: to cause 4: to make

**creation** n 1: that which God has made 2: all that exists 3: the entire universe made by God “out of nothing” and made as good (Gn 1-2, CCC 282-299, 301, 315-320)

**creator** n 1: one who makes something new 2: a title given to God who in the beginning created the heavens, the earth and all living things seen and unseen (Gn 1-2, CCC 279-281)

**creed** n (L credo “I believe”) 1: a brief statement of belief 2: an authoritative formula of religious belief 3: a profession of faith 4: a guiding principle (CCC 187)

**cross** n 1: an object used in Roman times as a form of capital punishment 2: the instrument used to cause the death of Jesus 3: the object venerated by Christians who believe that Jesus’ death on a cross is the source of eternal salvation (Mt 27:32-35, Mk 15:21-25, Lk 23:33, Jn 19:17-18, Acts 2:22-24, CCC 616-617)

**culture** n (ME fr. MF fr. L cultura, fr. cultus, “cultivation, tillage”) 1: the customs, beliefs and norms by which a social group lives 2: the pattern of human knowledge, belief and behavior that depends upon the human capacity for learning and transmitting knowledge from one generation to the next (CCC 1204-1206, 1880, 1882)

**David** n (Hb dāwīd fr. dōd or dōdō “beloved”) David was the youngest son of Jesse of Bethlehem and anointed by Samuel the prophet as the second king of
Israel following Saul. David united Israel as a kingdom through military domination. He built his home in Jerusalem making it the political center of Israel and brought the Ark of the Covenant there. The prophet Nathan admonished David for breaking God’s covenant. David wrote many psalms or prayer songs included in the Book of Psalms. David’s son Solomon, whose mother was Bathsheba, was anointed by Nathan as next king of Israel. It was of David’s lineage that the Messiah of Israel would come. Jesus was the son of David and promised messiah. (2Sm, 1Kgs, Mt 22:45, Mk 12:35, Lk 20:41, CCC 437-439, 695,709, 2538, 2578) 2:18, 30, Lk 5:33-37, 6:1-11, 20:1-28, 15:50-58, CCC 1005-1019)

**Decalogue** n (L decalogus fr. Gk dekalogos fr. deka + logos “word”) Ten Commandments (“ten words”) (see Ten Commandments) (CCC 2056-2063)

**disciple** n (L discipulus “pupil”) 1: a student 2: one who follows a teacher such as the disciples of Jesus 3: the “Twelve,” disciples called by Jesus who were the witnesses of the resurrected Christ 4: those followers of Jesus who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and were commissioned to announce the good news and baptize (Mt 1:16-20, 3:13-19, 6:6b-13, Mt 28:16-20, Lk 9:1-6, Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, CCC 425, 434, 542, 645, 647, 730, 787-788)

**discipleship** n (L discipulus “pupil”) 1: the act of being a disciple 2: the actions of the followers of Jesus as disciples 3: the engagement of the disciples of Jesus in the command to share the Good News (CCC 426, 1816)

**discourse** n (L discursus “argument” fr. discurrere fr. dis + currere “to run about”) 1: to discuss logically or rationally 2: to exchange ideas 3: to express oneself orally 4: to argue logically as Jesus did in his public discourses with the Pharisees, Sadducees, and his disciples (Mk 2:13, 2:18-28, 7:1-30, Lk 5:33-37, 6:1-11, 20:1-
dissimilarity 1: differences 2: variety 3: distinctions 4: multiethnic, multicultural or multiracial (Acts 2:5-11, CCC 715, 738, 775, 782)
diversity (L diversus) 1: differences 2: variety 3: distinctions 4: multiethnic, multicultural or multiracial (Acts 2:5-11, CCC 715, 738, 775, 782)
document 1: a teaching 2: a principle in a branch of knowledge or system of belief 3: an official teaching of the Church based on divine revelation 4: the truths of faith that are obligatory to the Christian community (CCC 88-90, 91-93, 94, 234)
dogma (Gk dokein “to seem”) 1: something held as established 2: authoritative tenet 3: a doctrine concerning faith or morals formally stated and proclaimed by the Church 4: the central teachings of the Church (CCC 88-90, 91-94, 234)
domestic church (Ecclesia domestica) 1: households of Christian believers based on the family as first heralds of the faith 2: the family which exercises the priesthood of the baptized through participation in the sacramental life and prayer 3: the first school of the Christian life (Acts 11:14, 16:31, 18:8, CCC 1655-1658, 1666)

Easter (ME ester, fr. OE ēastre; akin to OHG ēstarun, OE ēast “east”) 1: a feast that commemorates Christ’s resurrection from the dead and is celebrated on the first Sunday after the paschal full moon 2: the Church’s central feast celebrating the crowning truth of our faith (CCC 638)

Easter candle the first candle lit at the Easter Vigil evening liturgy symbolizing the Resurrection of Christ who is the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the one who conquered death and brought light back into the world (CCC 1168-1169)

Eastern Rite the Eastern Rite Catholic Church comprised of seven rites sharing completely in the doctrines and sacraments in full communion under the authority of the Pope: Coptic, Syrian, Greek, Melkite, Maronite, Chaldean and Armenian (CCC 814, 832-835, 887)

ecumenical council the gathering of the college of bishops in union with the Bishop of Rome for the purpose of deliberation, discernment and giving direction to the universal Church (CCC 882-885)

ecumenism (Gk of oikein “to inhabit” fr. oikos “house”) 1: relating to all Christian communities 2: the effort of the churches to create unity through dialogue and collaboration in service to humankind (Jn 17:21, Heb 7:25, CCC 820-822)

Edict of Toleration or the Edict of Milan (AD 313) published by the Emperor Constantine granting freedom to Christians to openly worship and the restoration of confiscated properties to Christian owners

ecstatic adj (L exopistos, pp. of efficere “to bring about”) 1: having the power to produce the desired effect 2: the sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is given to us (CCC 1127, 1131)

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effect (L effectus, pp. of efficere “to bring about”) 1: the result of an action 2: the action of a sacrament creating an outcome or result “ex opere operato” (CCC 1127-1128, 1134, 1262-1270, 1302-1305, 1416, 1468-1470, 1520-1523, 1581-1588, 1639-1642, 2003)

element (L elementum “rudiment, first principle”) 1: one of the four substances air, water, fire, and earth formerly believed to compose the physical universe 2: one of more than 100 basic substances formed by one atom and of which all physical matter is made 3: the
words, actions and matter that are essential to rites of the liturgy and the conferral of the sacraments (CCC 1142, 1145-1155, 1239, 1300, 1448-1449, 1519, 1573, 1625-1626)

**Elijah n** (Hb elliyah or elliyahu “my god is Yahweh”) 1: prophet of the Old Testament who challenges King Ahab and Queen Jezebel to stop worshiping Baal and be faithful to worshiping YHWH alone as God 2: Elijah appears in the New Testament stories of John the Baptist and the teachings of Jesus (1Kgs 17:1-19:21, 21:17-29, 2Kgs 1:1-2:18, Mk 9:12, Mt 11:14, Lk 1:17, CCC 64, 218, 696, 718-719, 2581-2583)

**Elizabeth n** (Gk fr. Hb eliseba “El is fullness”) 1: the wife of Aaron 2: the wife of Zechariah the priest and the mother of John the Baptist, relative of Mary whom Mary visits during her pregnancy (Ex 6:23, Lk 1, CCC 717)

**Emmanuel n** (Hb immānû ‘ēl “God is with us”) 1: the name given by Isaiah to an infant born of a young unmarried woman (virgin) as a sign to Ahaz, king of Judah, that God would save Judah from enemy attack which sign Ahaz rejected 2: the identification of Jesus as “Immanuel” when the angel appeared to Mary announcing that she would conceive a son who would save the people from their sins (Is 7:10-17, 11:1-2, Mt 1:22, CCC 712)

**End Time** the end of time or the “last day” when Christ will return to raise the dead to life (1Cor 15:35-37, 15:42, 15:51-54, CCC 1001-1003) (also the “Parousia” or the time of the “Second Coming”)

**Epiclesis n** (Gk epi + clesis “invocation upon”) the prayer of the Church asking the Father to send his Holy Spirit on the bread and wine so that they may become the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that those who receive the Eucharist may be one body and one spirit (CCC 1105-1106, 1109)

**episcopate n** (L episcopus “bishop”) the office of bishop in the hierarchy of the church (Acts 1:8; 2:4, 1Tm 4:14, 2Tm 1:6-7, CCC 1555-1561)

**eremitic life** an ancient form of consecrated life in which a baptized person freely lives a life devoted to praise of God separated from social life in preference to a life of solitude, prayer and penance (CCC 920-921)

**essential elements** the words and actions that are essential to the efficacious conferring of the sacraments (CCC 1155)

**essential rite** the necessary words, actions and matter in the rite of the sacrament that confers the effects of the sacraments (CCC 1239, 1300, 1142, 1148-1449, 1519, 1573, 1625-1626)

**Esther n** (Hb *ester, fr Persian stareh, fr. Akkadian ishtar “star”) 1: Jewish woman who became a wife of the Persian king Xerxes by hiding her Jewish identity and who was in a position with the king to save her uncle Mordecai and the Jewish people from a plot to destroy the Jews in Persia 2: Book of Esther 3: Jewish feast of Purim honors Jewish heroes and heroines who risked their lives for the sake of the Jewish people (Book of Esther, CCC 64)

**eternal adj** (L aeternus “eternal” akin to aevum “age”) 1: everlasting 2: divine attribute of having no beginning or end in time (Ps 102:26-27, Jas 1:17, CCC 50, 198, 212-213)

**eternal life** the promise of life without end in the beatific vision of God that begins for the human person with the assent of faith during earthly life and, for the Christian, life with the risen Christ for ever (1Cor 6:14, 13:12, 2Cor 4:14, 5:7, Rom 8:11, 1Thes 4:14, Jn 3:3, CCC 163, 988-991, 997-1001, 1003, 1016)

**Eucharist n** (Gk eucharistia “thanksgiving” fr. eu + chairein “to rejoice” fr. charizesthai “to show favor”) 1: the sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ as the memorial of his Passover and the sign of the New Covenant 2: the sacramental rite of offering bread and wine, consecrating them into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and consuming the consecrated bread and wine 3: the Sacrament of Eucharist 4: Holy Communion received at Mass 5: ancient Christian rite of the “breaking of the
bread” 6: memorial of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross for the forgiveness of sins 7: the central Christian sacrament identified as the source and summit of the Christian life (Mt 26:26-29, Mk 14:22-25, Lk 22:15-20, 1Cor 11:23-25, CCC 1099, 1113, 1210-1213, 1322-1330, 1356-1381, 1384-1402, 1405-1419)

**Eucharistic celebration** 1: the rite of the Eucharist that includes the proclamation of the Word of God, thanksgiving to God the Father for all his gifts, the consecration of bread and wine, and participation in liturgical banquet by receiving the Body and Blood of Christ under the forms of bread and wine 2: the Mass 3: the Paschal Banquet (CCC 1332, 1345-1355, 1382-1390, 1408)

**Eucharistic prayer** 1: the prayer of thanksgiving and consecration in the celebration of the Mass 2: the anaphora (CCC 1345-1347, 1352-1354)

**Evangelist n** (Gk evangelistes “one who announces good news” fr. Gk eu + angelos “messenger”) 1: writers of the four Gospels 2: the third place in the list of officers of the early church designated to proclaim the Gospel 3: associated with the Apostles (Eph 4:11, 2Tm 4:5, Acts 21:8, CCC 2-3, 126, 515, 539, 571)

**evangelization n** (fr. Gk eu + angelos “messenger”) 1: the act of preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ 2: the act of proclaiming the Kingdom of God 3: the role of lay people to evangelize through witness of life and announcing the mission of Christ (Mk 1:1, CCC 3, 425, 429, 543-546, 900, 905)

**Eve n** (Hb hawwah fr. hayah “to live”) 1: the first woman and wife of the first man 2: the mother of Cain, Abel and Seth 3: created from the rib of the first man as a partner to him 4: the woman seduced by the serpent to eat of the fruit of the tree that God commanded not to eat 5: the woman who with the man was responsible for the original sin of humanity 6: one of the first parents of humanity to whom God offered his covenant promising salvation (Gn 2:21-25, Gn 3, Gn 4:1-15, 4:25-26, 5:1-2, CCC 54-55, 70)

**evil adj and n** (ME fr. OE yfel, akin to OHG ubil “evil”) 1: wicked; sinful; causing harm; bad character 2: moral evil something causing suffering, misfortune, sorrow 3: a cosmic evil force (CCC 309-312, 385, 401-403, 412)

**examination of conscience** the prayerful assessment of one’s thoughts, words and actions in light of the Christian moral life based on the Gospel (CCC 1776, 1780-1802)

**excommunication n** (L excommunicatus) 1: the act of denying the reception of the sacraments by a bishop for certain extremely grave sins 2: separation (CCC 1463)

**exile n** (L exilium) 1: enforced removal from one’s homeland 2: living in another country against one’s will 3: banishment from the homeland akin to the removal of the Israelites after the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem (721 BC, 71 AD) (2Chr 36:15-21, Is 54:10, Jer 31:3, CCC 709-710)

**Exodus n** (Gk exodus “departure”) 1: the second book of the OT Pentateuch 2: the story of God’s saving the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and establishing with them the covenant of Mount Sinai through Moses (CCC 62, 120, 121-123)

**ex opere operato** (L) literal meaning “by the very fact of the action’s being performed” refers to the fact that the effects of the sacraments are not dependent upon the worthiness of the minister but upon the intention of the Church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acting in and through the minister to accomplish the outcome of the sacrament (CCC 1128, 1131)

**faith n** (ME faith fr. OF feid fr. L fides akin to L fidere “to trust”) 1: the assent or belief in the existence of God 2: a theological virtue by which we believe in God 3: adherence to God leading toward committing oneself to God 5: the acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as Son of God 6: profession of belief in the Holy...

**fall (the)** the story in the OT of the sin of the first man and the first woman ushering Original Sin into the human race and the revelation that God would not abandon them (Gn 3:1-24, Rom 2:6-7, CCC 54-55)

**father n (ME fader fr. OHG fater L pater Gk pater)** 1: male who parents offspring 2: the first person of the Trinity 3: one who founds, produces or authors 4: a writer in the early church accepted as an authoritative witness to its teachings and practices (CCC 8, 238-242, 245-256, 262, 270, 272, 688)

**final judgment** the last judgment of all people by Jesus Christ at his Second Coming (CCC 678-679, 681-682)

**First Cause** God the Creator is the first cause of all that exists and without whom nothing or no one can continue to exist (Gn 1:31-2:4, Mt 19:26, Jn 14:13, 15:5, Acts 17:28, Phil 2:13, CCC 300, 304, 308)

**forever adv (Eng forev’r )** 1: interminable 2: lasting beyond time 3: timeless 4: eternal (CCC 1050, 1054, 1060)

**forgive v (fr. OE for + gifan “give”)** 1: to cease to feel resentment against someone who offended 2: to give up resentment or claim for requital or revenge 3: to grant relief from payment 4: to ritually pardon as in the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation (CCC 1449)

**formal prayer** vocal prayer including the liturgical prayer of the church and other prayers such as the Our Father and the psalms (CCC 2700-2704)

**fornication n (L. fornicatus, pp. of fornicare “arch, vault, brothel”)** 1: human sexual intercourse other than between a man and his wife 2: sexual intercourse between unmarried people 2: sin against the sixth commandment (CCC 1852, 2353)

**fortitude n (L. fortus)** 1: a cardinal virtue that is the courage to act morally or to use correct moral judgment despite difficulties or threats 2: a gift of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1805, 1808, 1831)

**free choice** 1: the human capacity to choose to act or not act 2: the freedom to choose making humans responsible for their actions 3: the right to the exercise of freedom (CCC 1730-1738, 1743-1748)

**freedom n (OE frēo)** 1: the state of being free 2: the absence of constraint from slavery, coercion or restriction 3: liberty 4: a political right in society 5: the power to act without coercion (CCC 1731-1738, 1743-1748)

**free will** 1: the gift from God that allows persons to be left at the hand of their own counsel to freely seek God and attain human perfection by cleaving to God 2: the human capacity to choose by one’s own conscience (CCC 1730, 1749, 1786-1789)

**Fruits of the Holy Spirit** outcomes of the Christian life of which the Church lists twelve: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity (Gal 5:22-23, CCC 1832)

**funeral n (L. funus “funeral”)** 1: the rite of praying for and burying the dead 2: the Christian liturgical celebration of a baptized Catholic who has entered into death with Christ and awaits the resurrection the fullness of the Paschal Mystery (1Cor 15:42-44, 2Cor 5:8, 1Thes 4:18, CCC 1680-1690)

**G**

**Gabriel n (Hb gabri‘el “El is strong”)** 1: God’s messenger who came to Mary announcing to her that she would become the mother of the Savior 2: one of the seven archangels in the book of Enoch (Lk 1:26-38, CCC 490)

**genealogy n (Gk genos “race”)** 1: a document accounting the lineage of a person’s family 2: ancestry (Mk 3:31-35, Mt 1:1-17, Lk 3:23-37, CCC 437)

**Genesis n (Gk fr. gignesthai “to be born”)** 1: beginning 2: the first book of the Old Testament, included in the canon of Sacred Scripture for Jews and Christians (CCC 120, 121-123)
Gentile n (L. gentiles “member of a foreign people” fr. Hb ‘am + goy “people” distinguished from ‘am “Israel” and goyim “peoples other than Israel”): 1: one who was other than an Israelite or a Jew who practiced pagan worship stemming either from Greek or Roman pagan worship during the time of Jesus 2: a non-Jew who was attracted to the post-resurrection followers of Jesus who were Jews and who hesitated to accept anyone not Jewish but who were claimed by Paul and eventually Peter (Mt 5:47, 18:17, 20:19, Mk 10:33, Lk 18:32, 1Cor 12:2, 1Thes 4:5, Eph 3:1, Rom 11:13)

genuflect v (L. genuflectere fr. L genu “knee” + flectere “to bend”): 1: bending the knee to the floor out of reverence for the Holy Eucharist 2: gesture of adoration of Christ’s presence under the Eucharistic species 3: gesture of reverence to the tabernacle where the Eucharist is reserved (CCC 1378-1381)

Gifts of the Holy Spirit the graces received by following the Holy Spirit’s call to live the Christian life: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear (awe) of the Lord (Is 11:1-2, Ps 143:10, Rom 8:14-17, CCC 1830-1831)

gloria n (L. gloria “glory”): 1: word used to proclaim glory to God in the Mass “Glory to God in the highest” (“Gloria in excelsis Deo”) 2: first word in the doxology to the Holy Trinity “Glory be to the Father…” (Lk 2:8-14, CCC 30, 525-526, 1103, 2639, 2649, 2760, 2855)

God n (OHG got “god”): 1: the Being perfect in power, wisdom and goodness whom people worship as creator and ruler of the universe 2: the First and the Last, the beginning and end of everything 3: the one God who is one in nature, substance and essence 4: revealed through the prophets of Israel as God who is one LORD 5: revealed through Jesus as God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit 6: revealed to the people of the Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) as the one God (CCC 198-204, 284)

Good Friday: Friday in Holy Week, the day Christians memorialize the Passion and death of Jesus 2: a day of fasting and abstaining from meat as a time of showing sorrow for the death of Jesus and sorrow for sin (CCC 1168-1171, 2043)

Good Shepherd title that Jesus ascribed to himself as the one who protects those who follow him and who gives up his life for the sake of the sheepfold (Ps 23, Jn 10:1-18)

Gospel n (AS god-spell “good tidings” Gk euangelion fr. euangelizes + thai “to announce good tidings”): 1: the essential message of the four gospels of announcing the good news of Jesus Christ, Messiah, Son of God 2: the accounts of the life, death, resurrection and teachings of Jesus Christ 3: taken from use of the word euangelion in Roman times for the news of the birth of Caesar or the accession of a Caesar to the throne of the Roman Empire 4: term used by St. Paul to which he was commissioned by Christ to proclaim him to the Gentiles (Mt 1:1, Lk 2:10-11, Gal 1:11-24, CCC 125-127, 514-515, 571, 573)

grace n (L. gratia “favor, charm, thanks” fr. gratus “pleasing, grateful”): 1: God’s unmerited gift of divine love given to all creation 2: a state of sanctification or holiness given to us by God’s initiative and our free response 3: a participation in the life of God 4: the gift of the Spirit who justifies and sanctifies us 5: the effect of Baptism by which we are united to the Passion and Resurrection of Christ and become sharers in his life (CCC 1996-2002, 2008-2011, 2016-2017, 2021-2027)

grave sin mortal sins that are extremely serious involving grave matter such as murder or violence against another person (CCC 1857-1858)

Great Schism the split of the Church in 1054 into the Catholic (West) and Orthodox (East) resulting in two communions, with the Catholic Church recognizing the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Rome and the Orthodox refusing the Pope as head of the whole church (CCC 838)
**Hail Mary** 1: special prayer in honor of Mary, Mother of God, based on the scripture account of the angel Gabriel’s visit to Mary and announcement that she was specially favored by God to become the mother of Jesus Christ, God’s Son 2: the Church’s prayer in communion with Mary to praise God and to entrust intercessions with her (Lk 1:28-31, CCC 435, 2673-2679, 2682)

**Hanukkah** n (Hb הָנַעְקָכָה “dedication”) Jewish celebration of the rededication of the temple after its defilement by Antiochus of Syria (2Mc 10:1-8, CCC 839)

**heal** v (OE helan fr. OHG heilen OE hāl “whole”) 1: to make sound or whole 2: to restore to health 3: to repair a breach or division in relationships 4: to restore to original condition

**healing** n (OE helan fr. OHG heilen OE hāl “whole”) 1: Jesus performed healings as a compassionate response toward the sick asking only that the person believe 2: Jesus’ healing of the sick and possessed as signs of the coming of the Kingdom of God 3: Christ’s victory over sin and death through his Passover through which we are all healed (CCC 1503-1505)

**heaven** n (ME heven fr. OE heofon fr. OHG himil) 1: a spiritual state of eternal union with God 2: the expanse of space that is over the earth 3: the condition of complete happiness and bliss with God 4: the condition after the Last Judgment in which the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness and all suffering will be wiped away 5: the final transformation of the universe and the union of all humanity glorified in the risen Christ (Rom 8:19-23, CCC 325-326, 1023-1029, 1052-1053, 1059-1060)

**Hebrew** n (Aram ‘Ebrai) 1: the Semitic language of the ancient Hebrews 2: a member or descendent of the group of Semitic peoples including the Israelites 3: identified with the slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt whom God sent Moses to save (Ex 3:4-18, Heb 9:28, Letter to the Hebrews, CCC 212-213)

**hell** n (OE helan “to conceal” fr. L celare Gk kalyptein) 1: state of permanent separation from God 2: self-exclusion from union with God 3: identified with punishment and fire 4: state of eternal damnation due to human sinfulness and hubris 5: the resulting punishment of the “unjust” who are separated from God at the Last Judgment (Mt 12:33-37, 25:31-46, Lk 16:1-31, CCC 1021-1022, 1033-1038, 1056-1057)

**Herod** n (Gk herodes) king of Judea under the Romans (37-4 BC) father of the Herodian family whose members appear in the NT particularly in Luke’s setting of the time of Jesus’ birth (Lk 1:5)

**Herod Agrippa** grandson of Herod the Great, son of Aristobulus and Bernice who ruled the territories of Samaria and Judaea (41-44 AD) under Claudius Caesar and who suppressed the Christians executing James, son of Zebedee, and imprisoned Peter (Acts 12:1)

**Herod Antipas** son of Herod the Great and tetrarch of Galilee who illicitly married Salome and assassinated John the Baptist for publicly criticizing Herod for causing scandal (Mt 14:1-12, Mk 6:14-29, CCC 574)

**Herodians** a group of Jews who favored Herodian and Roman rule and who are mentioned in the gospels as plotting the death of Jesus (Mt 22:16-22, Mk 12:13-17)

**hierarchy** n (ML. hierarcha fr. Gk hierarchēs fr. hier + arches “arch”) 1: the governing structure of the Church with the Pope, Bishop of Rome, as head and the college of bishops under the authority of the Pope 2: the visible sign of unity of the Church 3: order of angels (CCC 874-887, 894-896, 936-938)

**historiography** n (Gk historiographos fr. historia + graphein “to write”) 1: the writing of history using authentic sources 2: the principles of writing history (CCC 109-114)

**holiness** n (ME heliness fr. OE hālignes fr. hālig akin to OE hāl “whole”) 1: state of being holy 2: state to which all Christians are called to live the fullness of
Christian life in union with Christ 3: spiritual union with God who is holy 4: state of perfection in which the Christian accepts suffering, struggles with evil and achieves peace and joy through charity and compassion to others 4: title given to religious leaders such as the Pope (Mt 5:48, 16:24, CCC 2012-2016, 2028, 2029)


**Holy Communion** 1: the reception of the Lord’s body and blood under the forms of bread and wine 2: the reception of Holy Communion, the effects of which are union with Christ, separation from sin, unity with the Church as the Mystical Body, commitment to the poor (CCC 1384-1397, 1406, 1415-1417)

**Holy Eucharist** the central Christian sacrament given to those in full communion with the Church (CCC 1113, 1210-1211, 1324, 1395) (See Eucharist, Holy Communion)

**Holy Orders** 1: the sacrament through which the mission given by Christ to the apostles is exercised in the ordained ministry 2: the sacrament in which a baptized man is consecrated into the order of bishops, presbyters (priests) and deacons setting them apart for the service of the faithful in the Church through the threefold ministries of teaching, worship and governance 3: a vocation in the Church that begins with the discernment of God’s call to the ordained ministry (1Tm 3:1, 2Tm 1:6, Ti 1:5, CCC 1536, 1537-1538, 1544-1547, 1551, 1554, 1575-1577, 1591-1593, 1597-1600)

**Holy Spirit** the third Person of the Holy Trinity one in substance with the Father and the Son who awakens faith in us uniting us to Christ and giving us a place in the mission of the Spirit to bless ourselves reminding of us of the Sacrament of Baptism and to bless articles such as candles, crucifixes and rosaries to set them aside as signs of our call to holiness (CCC 1667-1668)

**Hosanna** n (Gr hōsanna fr. Hb hōsh,āh-nā “Save! Give salvation!”) 1: acclamation used in the liturgy of the Mass 2: a cry of adoration 3: acclamation of
Jesus when he entered the city of Jerusalem shortly before he was killed (Mk 11:9, Mt 21:9, Jn 12:13, CCC 559)

**Hosea n** (Hb hoše’a “God saves”) Old Testament prophet who lived before the destruction of Jerusalem in 721 B.C. and who realized his prophetic vocation when God inspired him to forgive his unfaithful wife, Gomer, as a metaphor for God’s forgiveness of Israel (Book of Hosea, CCC 61, 64, 218, 702, 715)

**human n** (ME humain fr. L humanus akin to L homo “man”) 1: of, relating to, characteristics that are particularly human 2: having human form and attributes 3: nature that is human and worthy of dignity (Gn 1:26-31, 2:7, Ps 139:13-17, CCC 327, 355-365, 374, 383, 396, 1700-1704, 1934-1935, 2085, 2331, 2334)

**image n** (L imagin, imago akin to L imitari “to imitate”) 1: a reproduction of the form of a person or thing 2: humans created in the image and likeness of God, the basis of human dignity 3: the human person who shares in the image of Christ through Baptism 4: a statue 5: an idol (Gn 1:27, Rom 8:29, 2Cor 3:18, CCC 27, 31, 54-55, 355-364, 369, 381)

**Immaculate Conception** the Church’s description of Mary having been redeemed from the moment of her conception making her free from sin and “full of grace” throughout her life (Lk 1:48, CCC 490-493)

**Incarnation n** (L in + carnare “to enflesh” fr. L caro “flesh”) 1: the embodiment of God in human form 2: the union of the divine and human natures in the one person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God such that Jesus Christ is true God and true man (Jn 1:14, Heb 10:5-7, Phil 2:5-8, CCC 456-483)

**indelible adj** (ML indelibilis fr. L indelebilis fr. in + delere “to delete”) 1: something that cannot be removed 2: lasting 3: permanent unforgettable memory (CCC 698, 1121)

**indelible character** a permanent mark or seal given by the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders (CCC 698, 1121)

**initiation n** (LL initiates pp. of initiare “to induct”) 1: the act of inducting into membership through special rites 2: the condition of being initiated 3: the introduction to life in Christ and the Church through the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist (CCC 977-978, 1212, 1275, 1425, 1533)

**inspire v** (ME inspiren fr. L inspirer fr. in+spirare “to breathe”) 1: to influence, move or guide by the Holy Spirit 2: to animate or enliven 3: to motivate 4: to infuse life and vitality 5: to write under the authority of the Spirit 6: to breathe or blow into or upon (Mt 28:20, 2Cor 1:20, CCC 76, 77-79, 81, 86, 687-688, 691)

**institution narrative** in the celebration of the Mass, the power of the words and the actions of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, make Christ’s body and blood sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine (CCC 1353)

**institutional racism** social structures that ensure and protect the status of one race over another to the benefit of the dominant race and the detriment of other races, which benefit corroborates with and enhances grave injustice in the society (CCC 1869)

**intention n** (L intentus fr. intendere “to stretch out”) 1: resolve 2: the resolve to act in a certain way 3: a prayer of petition offered for the benefit of oneself or others 4: the second principle of a moral act; the end in view or intention 5: the informed consent to do an act of virtue or an act of sin (Mt 6:2-4, CCC 1749-1753, 1759, 1857-1859)

**intercession n** (L intercessus pp. of intercedere “to intercede”) 1: the act of interceding through prayer or petition on behalf of another 2: to entreat (1Tm 2:1-2, CCC 1349, 2634-2636, 2647)

**Introductory Rites** the gathering of the Eucharistic assembly for Mass which includes the greeting, penitential
rite, Kyrie (“Lord, have mercy”), Gloria, opening prayer (CCC 1345-1346, 1348)

Isaac n (Hb yishāk “he laughs”) 1: the son of Abraham and Sarah who received the covenantal blessings 2: the father of twins born by Rebekah named Esau and Jacob, the second twin receiving the covenantal blessings from Isaac through trickery 3: the second patriarch of the Old Testament (Gn 18:11-15, 25:19-26, CCC 61, 205, 707)

Ishmael n (Hb yišmā ‘ēl “let El hear”) 1: the son of Abraham and Hagar, Sarah’s personal servant, who bore Ishmael before Sarah bore Isaac, and whom God saved in the desert when Hagar and Ishmael were dismissed from Abraham’s household 2: the circumcised son of Abraham who became the ancestor of the Arabian desert tribes 3: the son through whom Islam claims the patriarchal blessings of God’s covenant with Abraham (Gn 16:15, 17:25-26, Ex. 19:16-25, 24:15-18, CCC 62-64, 203-204, 218-219, 238, 431-433, 708-710, 839, 1961, 2085)

Israelites n (Hb yisrā’ēl “he contends against El”) 1: the descendants of Jacob Israel 2: the twelve tribes descended from Jacob Israel 3: the Jewish people originated from the descendants of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob with whom God makes his covenant and to whom God entrusts the Law (Gn 28:10-22, CCC 59-61, 62-64, 2573)

James n (Hb ya ‘akōb, Sp Jaime) 1: the son of Zebedee, a fisherman, who was called by Jesus along with his brother John to be a disciple and who became part of the group of three (Peter, James and John) who were with Jesus for special events such as the transfiguration; killed by Herod Agrippa in 42 A.D. 2: son of Alphaeus called by Jesus to be a disciple and one of the twelve 3: the “brother of the Lord” distinguished from the apostles and a leader in the early Christian community in Jerusalem whom Paul visited; martyred in 62 A.D. in Jerusalem (Mk 1:19, 3:18, Mt 4:21, 10:3, 13:55, Lk 5:10, 6:15, Acts 1:13 Gal 1:19, CCC 2-3, 858-860, 858-860, 1087, 1506, 1510-1511)

Jeremiah n (Hb yirmeyāhû) 1: a prophet of Israel (b. 650 B.C. app.) who through his prophetic call warned King Jehoiakim that the Babylonians would destroy the temple and Jerusalem and whose life was continuously threatened by the king until the destruction of Jerusalem in 621 B.C. by the Babylonian King
Nebuchadnezzar 2: the Old Testament Book of Jeremiah that contains the prophetic writings of Jeremiah who announced the fall of Jerusalem and the first temple because of Israel's infidelities to the covenant (Book of Jeremiah, CCC 64, 218, 702, 715)

Jerusalem n (Hb yerûšâlayim “foundation of Salem [name of a local god]” šâlayim “peace”) 1: an ancient city located on the central range of the mountains of Palestine 2: the city of the king and priest Melchizedek whom Abraham greeted during his wanderings through Canaan 3: the capitol of Israel during the kingship of David 4: the site of the first temple build by King Solomon and the second temple built after the end of the Babylonian exile 5: the site of the crucifixion of Jesus 6: a religious symbol depicting Jerusalem, which settled in and around Jerusalem 2: the husband of Mary and stepfather of Jesus who protected him from King Herod by taking the family to Egypt 2: the site of the beheading of John the Baptist

Jesus n (Gk Iesous fr. Hb Yeshua or Yehasha “Joshua” “YHWH helps, YHWH saves”) the Jewish religious teacher whose life, death and resurrection as reported by the Evangelists are the basis of the Christian message of salvation 2: Jesus, son of Mary and Son of God, the mystery of God's coming in the form of human flesh 3: the sign or instrument of salvation 4: announcer of the kingdom of God and the defeat of evil 5: the messiah awaited by the Jews who came not as a king but as a humble man who would die at the hands of sinners (Mt 1:21, Lk 2:21, CCC 514-515, 547-550, 557-560)

Jew n (ME fr. OF gyu fr. L Judeus fr. Gk Ioudaios fr. Hb Yehudi fr. Yehudah “Judah”) 1: a member of the tribe of Judah which settled in and around Jerusalem 2: the name of those exiled after the destruction of Jerusalem in 621 B.C. 3: an ethnological term identifying the group of people who settled in and around Jerusalem 2: the name of those exiled after the destruction of Jerusalem in 621 B.C. and who followed the covenantal law proclaimed by Ezra 4: the ethnic and religious identity of Jesus proclaimed as the long awaited Messiah of Israel and whose first followers were Jews called by Jesus to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation the whole world (1Mc 8:20, 14:27-46, Mt. 28:15, Mk 7:3, Lk 7:3, 23:15, CCC 433, 438-440, 559-560, 575-582, 592-594, 709-715, 1961)

John n (Hb yehôshanân “YHWH is gracious”) 1: son of Zebedee, a fisherman, and brother of James called by Jesus to be a disciple and who were numbered among the three (Peter, James and John) who witnessed special events in Jesus’ life such as the transfiguration (Mk 1:29, 3:17, 9:2, 5:37, 13:3, 14:33, Mt 4:21, 10:2, 20:20-28, 26:37, Lk 6:14, 9:28, 8:51, 22:8, Acts 3:1, 4:13-19, 8:14, CCC 2-3, 858-860, 1087, 1506, 1510-1511)

John the Baptist n (Hb yehôhanân “YHWH is gracious”) 1: the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth whose conception was announced by the angel Gabriel to Zechariah 2: the only prophet of the new Testament, likened to the prophet Elijah, who recognized Jesus as the Messiah of Israel 3: the one who called the Jewish people to repentance through baptism and reform and was murdered by Herod Antipas for criticizing Herod’s marrying his brother’s wife 4: the cousin of Jesus who baptized Jesus in the Jordan River (Lk 1:5-80, 3:1-9, 9:7-9, 20:4-8, Mk 4:1-7, 8:28, 9:13, 11:30-33, 6:14-28, Mt 3:1-14, 14:1-12, 17:13, 21:25-27, Jn 1:6, 1:19-36, 3:21-30, Acts 1:22, 10:37, CCC 523, 535-537, 608, 696, 717-719, 1224)

Joseph n (Hb yôṣêp “let him gather”) 1: son of the patriarch Jacob and Rachel who was the victim of his brothers’ jealousy due to his father’s favoritism; sold by his brothers as a slave in Egypt where he became a court official and an interpreter of dreams; saved his family from starvation by bringing the tribe of his father Jacob to Egypt 2: the husband of Mary and stepfather of Jesus who protected him from King Herod by taking the family to Egypt until Herod died (Gn 37-50, Mt 1:16-25, 2:1-23, CCC 61, 530-534)

Joshua n (Hb yehôšû’a “YHWH is salvation”) the successor named by Moses to lead the Israelites across the Jordan into
the land promised by God, this happening through conquest as well as through treaties with Canaanite tribes (Nm 27:12-23, 32:10-12, 32:28-30, Dt 1:37-40, 3:21-28, 31:1-23, 34:1-12, Book of Joshua, CCC 61, 62, 72, 218)

Judah n (Hb yehûdāh “praise”) 1: first son of Jacob and Leah who saves his younger brother Joseph’s life by suggesting to his murderous brothers that Joseph be sold into slavery 2: one of the twelve tribes of Jacob Israel 3: the kingdom of Judah ruled by David until the destruction of the kingdom by the Babylonians 4: the land of Judah out of which would come the Messiah born in Bethlehem the city of David (Gn 29:35, 49:8-12, Jos 15:1-12, 15:20-62, 1Kgs 12:16, 2Kgs 1:1-17, 18:1-25, 18:30, Mi 5:1, Mt 2:5-6, CCC 437, 488, 528, 711)

Judas n (Gk ioudas fr. Hb yehûdâh “Judah”) 1: Judas Maccabee military leader of the resistance against the Seleucid kingdom who oversaw the purification and rededication of the second temple 2: Judas Iscariot one of the twelve called by Jesus who betrayed Jesus handing him over to the Jewish leaders for 30 pieces of silver 3: a follower of the way who took Saul to the house of Ananias after his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus (Book of Maccabees, Mk 3:19, 14:17-21, 14:43-52, Mt 10:4, 26:20-25, 26:47-56, 27:3-10, Lk 6:16, 22:47-53, Jn 13:21-26, Acts 9:11, CCC 559-600, 612, 622-623)

Judea n (Gk ioudaia adj with chora “land” fr. Hb yehûdâh “Judah”) name of the land that defines the southern part of Palestine during the Roman occupation incorporating the region of Jerusalem, Hebron, the Dead Sea and the desert of Judah

judge n (L jus “right, law” fr. judex “judge”) 1: one authorized to give an opinion 2: a public official elected by the people to decide questions brought before a legal court 3: someone appointed to decide a contest 5: twelve leaders appointed after the death of Joshua to exercise leadership among the Israelites 6: God as the giver of the natural moral law and the judge of all in light of moral guidance (Jgs 3:1-31, CCC 1955, 1959)

Judith n (Gk ioudith “jewess”) one of the heroines of the Old Testament who saved Israel from a powerful Assyrian commander of Nabuchadnezzar’s armies and whose story is narrated in the Book of Judith (Book of Judith, CCC 64)

justice n (L justitia fr. justus “just”) 1: the administration of what is just 2: the exercise of the law 3: the quality of being just or fair 4: principle of righteousness 5: fairness or impartiality 6: a cardinal virtue that gives to others their rights especially the poor and dispossessed (Lv 19:15, Lk 10:25-28, 12:13-15, CCC 1807)

justification n (fr. L jus “just”) 1: the state of being justified through no personal merit but through the mercy of God 2: the act of being vindicated from wrongdoing (Rom 3:21-26, 6:8-11, CCC 1446, 1987-1996, 2018-2020)

just law (See natural moral law)

K

Kingdom of God (Gk Basileia tou Theou “reign of God”) (also, Realm of God) the state of God’s plan of fulfillment for all of creation bringing about the order of peace, justice and love as ushered in by Christ’s coming again (Is 11:1-9, Eph 1:20-22, Lk 17:20-21, CCC 668-672)

Kyrios n (Gk Kyrios “Lord”) 1: name for God 2: name of God used by early Christians in hymns and prayers of the liturgy (CCC 209)

L

laity n (Gk laikos “of the people”) 1: people of a religious group who are not ordained as priests 2: members of the Body of Christ who share in the priestly, prophetic and kingly office of Christ and serve the mission of the Church 3: the Christian faithful (Acts 2:42-47, CCC 871-873, 897-913, 934, 940-943)

Lamb of God 1: the title given to Jesus by John the Baptist at the time of Jesus’ baptism signifying the one who
would die for the sins of the people 2: Jesus as the Pascal Lamb who offered himself to save us from our sinful state to a state of freedom as God’s sons and daughters (Mt 3:14-15, Lk 3:21, Jn 1:36, CCC 608-609)

**Last Judgment** the event of final judgment of all peoples by the Son of God who establishes the triumph of good over evil and renders to each person according to his/her works (Mt 12:33-37, 25:14-46, Lk 16:19-31, CCC 678-679, 681, 1038)

**lay n** (Gk laikos “of the people”) 1: members of the Church not ordained 2: members of religious life recognized by the Church who are not ordained 3: the lay state in the Church (CCC 897-913) (See laity)

**lay ecclesial ministry** an expression within the Church in which a bishop commissions baptized lay members to perform particular types of ministry in the diocese (CCC 910-913)

**laying on of hands** 1: the action of imposing hands by the apostles to pass on the gift of the Spirit to their successors and helpers 2: the sign used in the sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick to administer the sacrament 3: a sacramental used by Christians in various ministry or prayer settings (Mk 16:17-18, Acts 8:15-17, 9:34, 19:5-6, Heb 6:2, CCC 1288, 1507, 1538, 1556, 1569, 1573, 1668)

**lectio divina** reading and meditating on Sacred Scripture in the context of the Liturgy of Hours and other forms of Christian prayer (CCC 1177, 2708)

**lector n** (fr. L lectus) one who reads from the lectionary the readings from the Old and New Testaments during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass (CCC 1100)

**lecturn n** (L lectus) 1: a podium 2: the place in church where the lector announces the Word during the liturgy of the Word 3: the ambo (CCC 1184)

**legitimate defense** the act of self-defense in situations of violence enacted against one’s person, family or the state (CCC 2263-2265, 2321)

**Lent n** (ME lente “springtime” fr. OHG lenzin “spring”) 1: the season in the liturgical calendar of the Church Year for forty days from Ash Wednesday until the Easter Triduum that recalls the mysteries of Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection 2: a special time of prayer, fasting, abstaining from meat and giving to those in need (CCC 1168)

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**Life n** (ME lif akin to OE libban “to live”) 1: the principle or force that animates 2: an organism characterized by capacity for metabolism, growth, reaction to stimuli and reproduction 3: spiritual existence transcending physical death 4: the period from conception to death 5: a vital or living being 6: Jesus description of himself as the Life (Jn 14:6, CCC 2258-2261, 2270-2273, 2297, 2320)

**liturgical year** the Church’s celebration of the whole mystery of the life of Christ, as well as Mary and the saints, in an annual cycle with Sundays and feast days organized in the liturgical seasons with the Easter Triduum as the culmination (Lk 4:19, CCC 1163-1173, 1193-1195)

**liturgy n** (L liturgia fr. Gk leitourgia “public work”) 1: the celebration of divine worship, proclamation of the Gospel and service 2: the actions of Christ’s priesthood in his Body the Church in which everyone shares in active and life-giving participation in the sacraments especially the Eucharist (Lk 1:23, Acts 13:2, Rom 15:16-27, Heb 8:2-6, CCC 1066-1073)

**Liturgy of the Eucharist** the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist including the presentation and offering of gifts, the Eucharistic Prayer and the rite of Communion (1Cor 11:23-26, CCC 1350-1355)

**Liturgy of the Hours** the official prayer of the Church composed of the psalms, scriptural readings, intercessions and prayers reflecting the liturgical cycle used by Priests, religious and laity (CCC 1174-1178, 1196)

**Liturgy of the Word** the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist including the readings from Sacred Scripture, a psalm response, the homily on the Word, the
Creed and the intercessions (CCC 1346, 1348)

**lust** *n*  
(L. *lascivus* “wanton”)  
1: pleasure  
2: intense sexual desire  
3: inordinate selfish pursuit of sexual pleasure (CCC 2351, 2514, 2529-2530, 2542)

**Magisterium** *n*  
(L. *magisterium* “office of a teacher”)  
1: the authority to teach  
2: the teaching mission of the Church given by Christ to the apostles and handed on to the bishops in communion with the Pope the successor of Peter (Mk 16:15, CCC 85-90, 100, 888-892)

**Maranatha** *(Ar. māran’ tā* “Our Lord has come” or “Come, our Lord”)  
an Aramaic phrase used in the eucharistic liturgy to invoke Christ’s return (1Cor 16:22, Rev 22:17-20, CCC 671, 2817)

**Marks of the Church**  
the attributes, characteristics or charisms of the Church identified in the Nicene Creed as one, holy, catholic and apostolic (CCC 750, 813-816, 823-838, 857-870)

**marriage** *n*  
the lifelong covenant between a man and a woman ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring (the Sacrament of Matrimony) (CCC 1601)

**Mary** *n*  
(Hb. *Miryām* “Miriam”)  
1: the mother of Jesus  
2: the mother of the Son of God  
3: the mother of the Church  
4: the Christian example of faith and holiness (Mt 1:16-25, Lk 1:26-56, 2:1-52, Jn 2:1-12, CCC 484-489, 508-511, 963, 2030)

**Mary Magdalene** *n*  
Mary of Magdala, a town in the northern Galilean area of Israel, who was a friend of Jesus and who ministered to him during his ministry and at the time of his death. Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene in the garden on the day of his resurrection and told her to tell the disciples that he had risen from the dead. (Mt 27:55-61, 28:1-10, Lk 8:2, Jn 20:1-18, CCC 2683-2684)

**Mass** *n*  
(L. *missa* pp. of *mittere* “to send”)  
a name for the Eucharistic celebration (CCC 1330)

**Mecca** *(Ar. mecca)*  
1: city in Saudi Arabia where the Prophet Muhammad was born  
2: location of the holy site at which Muslims gather for the hajj annually (CCC 841)

**meditation** *n*  
(L. *meditatus fr. mediare* “to be in the middle”)  
1: an act of pondering or reflecting  
2: a form of Christian prayer in which one reflects on Sacred Scripture or the mysteries of the rosary or icons to move toward deeper awareness of God and conversion or action (CCC 2705-2708, 2723)

**member** *n*  
(L. *membrum fr. mēros* “thing” mēnin “membrane”)  
1: part of the body  
2: one belonging to a group  
3: one baptized into the church and belonging to the Body of Christ (CCC 787-795, 806, 1213, 1267-1270, 1279)

**menorah** *n*  
(Hb. *mēnōrāh* “candlestick”)  
1: seven branch candlestick used in Jewish worship  
2: the lampstand described in Exodus made of gold that accompanied the ark of the covenant  
3: candelabrum placed in the temple by King Solomon and in synagogues after the destruction of the second temple (Ex 25:31-40, 1Kgs 7:49, CCC 1093)

**minister** *n*  
(L. *minister* “servant” akin to minor “smaller”)  
1: one who officiates at a liturgical event  
2: ministerial priesthood  
3: lay ecclesial minister  
4: agent  
5: one serving in a governmental position (1Pt 2:5-9, Rev 1:6; 5:9-10, CCC 901-903, 1546-1553, 1591-1593, 1596)

**Messiah** *n*  
(Hb. *māshīah* “anointed”)  
1: the one anointed or chosen by God to restore Israel as the fulfillment of God’s covenantal promises  
2: the title given to Jesus as the one awaited in the Old Testament upon whom the Spirit rests to establish God’s kingdom  
3: the Savior, Jesus Christ, Son of God, sent by God to save the people from their sins (1Sm 16:14, Ps 72, Is 61, Lk 2:22-38; 4:18-21, Acts 2:22-36, Eph 1:3-14, CCC 436-445, 528-529, 535, 540, 572, 590, 695, 702, 711-716)

**mercy** *n*  
(L. *merces* “price paid” fr. *merx* “merchandise”)  
1: compassion for others  
2: charitable actions by which we come to the
aid of our neighbor 3: the diminishment or lessening of punishment due for a crime (Ps 51, 103, 116, Is 54:9-10, Ez 34:11-16, Lk 1:50, Mt 26:27-28, CCC 210-211, 231, 488, 545, 1829, 1847, 2447)
miracle n (L miraculum “a wonder” fr. mirari “to wonder at”) 1: an extraordinary event showing God’s intervention 2: a sign Jesus worked as a way to show that he was sent by God and invite belief in him (Mk 3:22, 5:25-34, Mt 11:6, Lk 7:19-23, Jn 5:36, 10:31-38, CCC 547-550, 561)
mission n (L missus fr. mittere “to send”) 1: the act of sending to do a special task 2: an assignment 3: Jesus’ sending of the disciples to do his work 4: a ministry commissioned by the church 5: missionary work of the church 6: an establishment identified by the church for the purpose of doing a special mission or work (Mk 3:13-19, 16:15, Mt 28:16-20, Lk 9:2, 22:29-30, Jn 17:16, CCC 551-553, 849-856, 858-860, 868)
missionary n (L missio fr. mittere “to send”) 1: the mandate of Christ given to the Church to teach the nations about God’s plan of salvation 2: one sent by the Church or a religious community to engage in missionary work (Mt 28:19-20, CCC 849-859, 931)
Modern Church the Church as historically identified in relationship to the current events of modern society (CCC 770)
modesty n (L modestus “moderate” akin to modus “measure”) 1: related to decency 2: moderate in self-expression 3: based on human dignity and healthy self-image 4: discreet in self-expression including gait, clothing, words, gaze, etc.
morality n (L moralis “custom”) 1: the system of moral conduct 2: human acts based on the sources of morality 3: moral law or principles 3: ethics 4: virtue (Ps 19, CCC 1749-1761)
moral evil the human capacity to deliberately choose sinful actions that cause harm, suffering and destruction to others and to creation (CCC 311-312)
moral order the moral sense coming from God’s creation as good and ordered, based on the natural law and the Ten Commandments, and endorsed by the words of Jesus and the Tradition of the Church (CCC 299, 2062-2063, 2067, 2070)
moral truth identification of truth and truthfulness based on the eighth commandment reflecting God’s word as truth and the Christian commitment to live the truth as an aspect of justice and respect for the dignity and beauty of creation (Ps 119, Jn 1:14, 8:12, 14:6, Rom 3:4, 1Jn 1:6, CCC 2464-2500)
mortal sin 1: a serious sin that is completely against charity such as blasphemy, perjury, homicide or adultery 2: a serious sin requiring three conditions for understanding the sin to be mortal – grave matter, committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent 3: a
serious sin that requires the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation (CCC 1854-1864, 1874)

**Moses n** (Hb mōsheh “to draw” fr. Egyptian mēšu “Re is born”) 1: great prophet of Israel called by God to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and to go to the land promised by God 2: one of the prophets who appears with Jesus at the time of his transfiguration (Book of Exodus, Dt 4:44-49, 5:1-32, 6:4-9, Mk 9:2-4, Mt. 17:2-3, Lk 9:29-31, CCC 62-64, 2577-2577)

**mosque n** (Ar masjid “temple” fr. sajada “to prostrate”) 1: temple 2: place where Muslims gather as a community to worship and to learn the Qur’an (CCC 841)

**Mother of God** the title given to Mary by Elizabeth and by the Church that she is the mother of Jesus and the Mother of God (Lk 1:43, CCC 495)

**Mother of the Church** the title given to Mary that she is the Mother of Christ and, therefore, the Mother of the Body of Christ, the Church (CCC 963)

**Muhammad n** (Ar Mū ’hamed) Arabian leader (570-632 AD) the one who established Islam as a religion rooted in Abraham’s belief in the one God and who received from the Angel Gabriel the words of the Qur’an, the sacred text of Islam (CCC 841)

**murder n** (OE morthor fr. L mors “death”) 1: the act of killing a person with malice of forethought 2: manslaughter (Gn 4:10-11, Ex 20:13, Dt 5:17, Mt 5:21, CCC 2258-2262, 2319-2320)

**Muslims n** (Ar aslama “surrender”) those who surrender or submit to the will of God and follow the religion of Islam founded by their holy Prophet Muhammad (CCC 841)

**mystery n** (L mysterium fr. Gk mystos “keeping silence”) 1: something that cannot be understood such as the nature of God and the nature of the human person 2: something that can only be known by divine revelation 3: something that cannot be explained 4: the Church as mystery (Ps 16, 111, 145:1-3, Lk 1:49, CCC 35, 42, 48, 772-774, 2807, 2809)

**N**

**narrative n** (L narratus akin to gnoscere “to know”) 1: the act of telling a story in detail 2: the artful presentation of events 3: the narration in Sacred Scripture used as a literary expression to reveal God’s plan of salvation 5: an account of events such as the life and teachings of Jesus as portrayed in the Gospels (CCC 109-110)

**Nathan n** (Hb natan “the god gave”) the prophet who counseled King David and who rebuked him for his adulterous relationship with Bathsheeba, the mother of King Solomon (2Sm 7:1-17, 12:1-25, 1Kgs 1:8, CCC 64, 2538)

**natural death** the physical end of life as a natural occurrence in the course of life which in the Christian tradition is a consequence of sin and transformed by the Paschal Mystery from being a curse to a blessing (Eccl 12:1-7, Wis 2:23-24, 1Cor 15:26, Phil 1:23, Heb 5:7-8, Rom 5:19-20, CCC 1006-1009)

**natural moral law** the law that exists in the human consciousness enlightening our reason to discern the good and avoid evil providing the permanent moral foundation for the building of the human community based on the dignity of the person endowed with fundamental rights and duties (CCC 1954-1960, 1978-1979)

**Nazareth n** (Gk Nazareth, Hb nasret) a village of Galilee where Mary and Joseph raised Jesus after their return from Egypt and where Jesus begins his ministry but is rejected by his townspeople (Mk 6:1-6, Mt 1:23, 13:54-58, Lk 1:26, 2:51, 4:16-30, Jn 1:45, CCC 533)

**New Testament** the twenty-seven books of the Bible that narrate the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the beginnings of the early Church as these revelations were handed on through oral tradition and divinely inspired writing (CCC 124-127, 138-139)

**Nicene Creed** the formal statement of faith composed during the first two ecumenical Councils in 325 and 381 A.D.;
the profession of faith used during the Mass; the common profession of faith used by the Christian churches of the East and West (CCC p.49-50, 195)

**Noah** (Hb Noah “he will bring us relief”) Old Testament patriarch who built the ark in which he, his family, and living creatures of every kind survived the Great Flood; he received the sign of the rainbow as a covenant from God that God would not destroy the earth again because of the evil of humankind (Gn 6-9, CCC 58)

**non-ordained** those members of the Church who through their baptism exercise their participation in the common priesthood of the faithful but not in ministerial priesthood which is conferred on men prepared and called to sacramental ordination (CCC 1546-1547, 1551-1553, 1554, 1577-1580, 1591-1592, 1598)

**Northern Kingdom** the designation of the northern territories of the kingdom of Israel that identify the land assigned to ten tribes of the family of Jacob in 922 B.C. conquered by Assyria in 721 B.C. (2Kgs, 2Chr)

**o**

**oath** (ME oath fr. OE āth “oath”)

1: solemn promise to the truth 2: witness to the truth before God in a court of law or other legitimate authority (Dt 6:13, Mt 5:33-34, 2Cor 1:23, CCC 2149-2155)

**obedient** n (L oboediens fr. oboedire “to obey”) 1: docile 2: agreeable 3: cooperative 4: submissive to one in authority (Jn 8:29, Heb 5:8, CCC 2824-2825)

**offering** (L fr. offerrre “to present”)

1: the act of presenting as an act of worship 2: a statement of one’s willingness or acceptance 3: a contribution given during the offertory of Mass (Mal 1:11, 1Cor 16:1, 2Cor 8:9, CCC 1350)

**Offertory** (L offertus “offering”) the presentation and offering of bread and wine to God at Mass imitating the action of Christ at the Last Supper as an offering of sacrifice (Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:17-19, 1Cor 11:23-24, CCC 1350)

**Oil of the Sick** oil blest by the bishop or priest that is used to anoint the sick person in the celebration of the rite of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (Jas 5:14-15, CCC 1517-1519, 1523)

**Oil of Chrism** an aromatic oil, usually olive oil, consecrated by the bishop during Holy Week used for the rite of anointing in the Sacrament of Baptism and is the essential element for rite of anointing in the Sacrament of Confirmation (Acts 10:38, Rom 6:17, 2Cor 2:15, CCC 1241-1242, 1289-1297, 1300, 1320)

**Old Testament** the first forty-six books of the Bible that narrate God’s revelation through his creative and redemptive acts in the creation stories, the covenants and the Law given to the Israelite people as a sign of light and blessing to all peoples (Gn 22:18, Is 60:18, CCC 121-123, 707, 709, 129)

**omnipotent** adj (L omnipotens fr. omni + potens “all power”) 1: having unlimited power or authority 2: almighty: divine attribute of unlimited power (Gn 1:1, Ps 145, 147, Wis 11:23, Mt 6:9-32, Jn 1:3, CCC 202, 268-271, 276-279, 2083-2086)

**omnipresent** adj (L omni + praesens fr. pre + esse “to be before”) 1: the quality of being everywhere 2: divine attribute of being present in all places all the time (Mt 19:26, CCC 212-213, 300, 303, 308)

**omniscient** adj (L omni + scientia “all knowledge”) 1: all knowing 2: divine attribute of wisdom (Ps 105:24, 139:1-18, Wis 7:15-8:8, CCC 271,299, 305, 308)

**One God** the fundamental doctrine of the Creed that there is only one God; God is One (Dt 6:4-5, Is 45:22-24, Mk 12:30, Phil 2:10-11, CCC 200-202, 222-231)

**ordained** those of the baptized who participate in the ministerial priesthood of Christ through the conferral of the sacrament of Holy Orders, that is, bishops, priests, and for the purpose of service, deacons (CCC 1547-1554, 1577-1579, 1592)

**Ordinary Time** the time in the liturgical calendar between the major celebrations of Christmas and Lent, Easter...
and Advent, that celebrate the unfolding of the life and teachings of Jesus especially in the Sunday liturgies (CCC 1168-1171, 1193-1194)

**ordination** *n* (L *ordinatio* fr. *ordinare* “to put in order”) 1: the act of being ordained 2: the sacramental act of consecrating a man into the order of bishops, priests, or deacons (CCC 1537-1538)

**original justice** the fundamental belief that man and woman were created in the image of God thus having inherent dignity constituted in an original state of holiness and justice reflecting the harmony of all creation and friendship with God the Creator (Gn 1:27, 2:7-8, 3:16-19, CCC 355-357, 374-379, 384)

**original sin** the fundamental belief that, from the time of the first human beings at the beginning of human history, sin existed by the human act of disobedience thereby disrupting the original justice intended by God and causing the human inclination toward evil and the death of the living (Gn 2:17-3:24, Wis. 2:24, Jn 1:29, Rom 3:23, 5:12, 5:18-20, CCC 385-421)

**orthodox** *adj* (Gk *orthodoxos* fr. ortho “straight” + doxos “opinion”) 1: adhering to the doctrine of a religion 2: a member of the Eastern Orthodox Churches (CCC 838)

**Orthodox Churches** the Eastern churches, located mainly in Russia, Greece and Eastern Europe, not in full communion with the Catholic Church but have the apostolic succession of the priesthood and sacraments (CCC 1399)

**Our Father** the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray; the fundamental Christian prayer addressing God as Father (Mt 6:9-13, Lk 11:2-4, CCC 2759-2865)

**parable** *n* (Gk *parabole*, from para + ballein “to throw” + “at the devil”) 1: a story that has a deeper religious meaning 2: a wise saying 3: a riddle that leads to a certain conclusion 4: the principal way that Jesus taught and invited the hearers to respond and believe (Mk 4:11, 4:33-34, Mt 13:10-15, 13:44-45, 21:28-32; 22:1-14, 25:14-30, CCC 546)

**parish** *n* (L *parochia*, fr. LGk *paoiokia*, fr., *paroikos* fr. para + oikos “house”) 1: the ecclesiastical unit of area committed to one pastor 2: a definite community of the Christian faithful for the ordinary expression of the liturgical life (CCC 2179)

**Paschal Lamb** the name given to Jesus as the one bearing the sins of people and led to death as a ransom taking on the symbol of Israel’s redemption at the first Passover (Ex 12:3-14, Is 53:7, Jer 11:19, Mt 3:14-15, Lk 3:21, Jn 1:29, 1Cor 5:7, CCC 608)

**Paschal Mystery** the mystery of the culmination of Jesus’ mission through his life, death, resurrection and ascension accomplishing God’s plan of salvation for all time (Mk 8:31, Mt 20:19, Lk 24:25-27, 24:44-45, Heb 9:26, 10:5-10, CCC 571-573, 606, 618, 654, 1164-1165, 2177)

**Passion** *n* (L *passio* “suffering”) 1: deep emotion that can be beyond reason 2: the term used to describe the suffering of Jesus from the time of the close of the Last Supper to his death on the cross (Is 53:7, Mt 26:42, Lk 24:25-27, 24:44-45, Jn 13:1, 15:13, Rom 5:8, CCC 609-610, 612, 616-617, 623)

**pastor** *n* (L *pastor* “herdsman” fr. pastus, of pascere “to feed”) 1: a priest ordained by the bishop and given the charge of a parish community 2: the canonical head of a parish 3: a presbyter who shares in the pastoral functions of the bishop (1Tm 5:17-19, Jas 5:13-15, 1 Pt 5:1-5, CCC 1595)

**patriarch** *n* (Gk *patriarches* fr. patria + archē “father” + “beginning”) 1: the name for the Old Testament fathers through whom the Israelites inherited the Covenant 2: title of the highest leader of the Eastern churches in union with Rome and the Orthodox churches not in union with Rome (CCC 1200-1206, 838)

**patriarchate** *n* (Gk *patriarches*) the name of the five geographic centers of Christianity – Alexandria, Antioch,
Constantinople, Jerusalem, Rome – which lost prominence in the growth of Islam except for the Latin and Greek centers (CCC 1200-1206, 838)

**People of God** a name given to all those called by God’s grace to salvation (CCC 836)

**Penance** n. (ME, fr. OF fr., ML poenitentia “penitence”) 1. an act of showing sorrow for sin through prayer, self-denial, or charity 2. in the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation, the penance directed by the confessor after confession and absolution (CCC 1434-1439, 1459, 1460)

**Penitential Rite** the liturgical movement in the first part of the Mass in which the assembly recognizes their sinfulness and asks for pardon (CCC 1348)

**Pentecost** n (Gk pentekoste “fiftieth day”) 1: a Jewish holyday commemorating the giving of the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai, called in Hebrew Shabuoth “weeks” 2: the seventh Sunday after Easter celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in Jerusalem and inaugurating the establishment of the church (Lv 23:15-21, Dt 16:9-11, Acts 2:1-13, CCC 1168)

**Pentateuch** n (Gk penta “five” + teuchos “books”) 1: five books 2: the first five books of the Old Testament and Jewish scriptures (CCC 702)

**personal sin** sin as a personal or human act in the knowing and willful violation of God’s law of love (CCC 1849, 1868)

**Pesach** n (Hb pesah “passover”) 1: the Jewish memorial feast of Passover celebrating their being saved from death on the night before their fleeing from Egypt under the leadership of Moses (Ex 12:1-50, Dt 16:1-8, CCC 1164)

**Peter** n (L petrus “rock”) the name Jesus gave to the disciple Simon whom Jesus commissioned as the head of the apostles and the head of the church (Mk 1:16-20, Mt 4:18-22, 16:17-19, Lk 5:1-11, 6:13-16, Jn 1:35-42, CCC 442-443, 554-556, 640-642, 765, 816, 862, 881)

**Pharisee** n (Hb perišîm, Aramaic perišišayya “separate ones”) 1: a religious sect within Judaism that centered on the observance of the law of Moses 2: one of the religious groups with whom Jesus argued against their rigid observance of the law 3: prominent Pharisees such as Joseph of Arimathea and Paul of Tarsus who became followers of Jesus Christ 4: sect that survived the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. and helped to revitalize Judaism after the destruction of the temple (Mt 2:13-17, Mt 9:9-13, 27:57-60, Lk 5:27-32, Jn 9:40, 19:38-40, Acts 26:1-6, CCC 575-576, 579-581, 588, 595-596)

**physical evil** the destructive forces of nature that cause harm to living things (CCC 310)

**Pilgrim Church** the symbolic description of the Church as on its way to perfection before the time of Christ’s second coming (Mt 24:12, CCC 675, 769)

**Pillars of Islam** acts of worship or devotion to God in the Islamic religion: worship (salāt), almsgiving (zakāt), fasting in the month of Ramadān (saum), pilgrimage to Mecca (hajj) (CCC 841)

**Pope** n (L papa fr. Gk pappas “papa”) 1: the bishop of Rome 2: the successor of St. Peter the first head of the church 3: the head of the Catholic Church 4: the head of the Episcopal college (Mt 16:13-19, CCC 100, 857, 861-863, 870, 882, 891-892)

**praise** v (L pretiare “to prize”) 1: to glorify God as a form of prayer 2: to commend 3: to approve (Ps 66, 113,146, 150, Mt 11:25-27, CCC 2626, 2639-2643, 2649)

Prayer of the Faithful
the intercessions or prayers for the needs of the assembly and the world spoken at the end of the Liturgy of the Word in the Mass (CCC 1349, 1354)
predestination n (L fr. prae + destinare “to determine”) 1: determined beforehand 2: God’s will for all to be saved and no one to go to hell 3: the heretical belief that God predestines or foreordains that people will go to heaven or hell (2Pt 3:9, CCC 74, 1037)
prefiguration n (L fr. prae + figurare “to shape”) 1: something pictured or imagined beforehand 2: the act of foreseeing 3: early apostolic use of Old Testament images as foreshadowing of the New Covenant in Christ 4: typology (CCC 128-130, 140, 1150)
presbyterate n (Gk presbyteros “elders”) 1: the ordained ministry 2: the order of priests in the Sacrament of Holy Orders (CCC 1537, 1567, 1593, 1595, 1599)
Presentation of the Offerings
the act of presenting the bread and wine by members of the assembly given to the priest who takes them to the altar to begin the Liturgy of the Eucharist (CCC 1357, 1567, 1593, 1595, 1599)

priest n (ME peirst fr. OE peost fr. LL presbyter) 1: one authorized to perform the sacred rites of a religion 2: a man who receives the sacrament of Holy Orders who is called to serve in a parish or other institution within a diocese 3: an ordained minister (2Tm 1:6, 1Tm 3:1, CCC 1562-1568, 1573, 1577, 1578, 1581-1584, 1591-1592, 1595, 1597, 1599)
priesthood n (ME peirst fr. OE peost fr. LL presbyter) 1: the office of being a priest 2: sacerdotal identification in the church or religion 3: the order of presbyters (CCC 1537, 1567, 1593, 1595, 1599)

proclamation n (L fr. proclamatus fr. proclamer “to cry out before”) 1: public announcement 2: the act of proclaiming or announcing 3: the act of speaking out the readings of Sacred Scripture during the Liturgy of the Word (CCC 1328,1349)

prophesy n (Gk prophētēs “one who speaks out before others”) 1: one who speaks out for a cause 2: one who was called by God to speak God’s will or purpose typified in the prophets of the OT 3: one who warned of disaster as an outcome of turning from God’s will 4: a “seer” who interpreted God’s plan in events (Nm 11:24-29, Dt 18:15-22, 1Sm 9:11-10:1, 1Kgs 17, Is 6:1-8, Jer 1:1-10, Mk 1:1-8, CCC 61, 64-65, 218, 702, 719)
Protestantism n (L protestor, fr. L pro “forth” + testari “to call to witness”) 1: a popular movement to defend freedom of conscience against an edict of the Diet of Spires in 1529 to suppress the Lutheran movement in Germany 2: the Christian communities separated from the Catholic Church but whose members are incorporated into the Body of Christ through Baptism (CCC 817-822)

providence n (L providens fr. providere “to see ahead”) 1: capacity to provide for the future 2: God’s provision for creation 3: divine providence working through the actions of creatures (Prov 19:21, Is 45:5-8, Mt 6:31-33, 1Cor 3:9, CCC 302-314, 321-324)

prudence n (L prudentia) 1: the use of good judgment 2: capacity to act with self-discipline 3: a cardinal virtue by which one chooses out of a sense of moral goodness 4: wisdom (Prv 14:15, CCC 1805-1806)

psalm n (Gk psalmos “plucking a harp”) 1: sacred songs or poems found in the Book of Psalms 2: a prayer form used in the liturgies of the Church (Book of Psalms, CCC 1093, 2586-2589, 2596-2597)
**purgatory** *n* (L *purgatorius* fr. *purgere* “to purge” “to purify”): 1: a state after death that is used to purify or cleanse before entering heaven: the soul’s final preparation before seeing God (CCC 1030-1032, 1054)

**purgare** *n* (L *purger* “to purify”, “to cleanse” 1: a state after death that is used to purify or cleanse before entering heaven 2: the soul’s final preparation before seeing God (CCC 1030-1032, 1054)

**purity** *n* (L *purus* “pure”): 1: the state of being unstained or free from pollutants 2: the virtue of purity 3: the characteristic of temperance ordering thoughts, words and actions in keeping with human dignity as temples of the Holy Spirit (Mt 5:8, 1Thes 4:7, Col 3:5, Eph 4:19, 1Jn 3:2, CCC 2517-2533)

**Q**

**Qur’an** *n* (Ar *Qur’an* “recitation”): the name given to the sacred text spoken by an angel to the Prophet Muhammad (CCC 841)

**R**

**rabb** *n* (Hb *rabb* fr. *rabh* “master” + *i* “my” “my master”): 1: a title of address given to a Jewish teacher trained in interpreting and applying the law 2: the title given to Jesus in the Gospels (Mk 4:2, 9:5, 11:21, 12:19, 14:45, Mt. 8:19, 21:3, Jn 1:49, 3:2, 13:12-14, 20:16, CCC 581-582)

**race** *n* (Ol *razza*): 1: a group of people designated by color of skin 2: a political term describing a social group based on skin color 3: human traits that transmit by descent (CCC 1938)

**racism** *n* (Ol *razza* fr. *re + conciliare* “to conciliate”): 1: the intentional institutional preference of one race over or against another race: discrimination against another based on race or skin color 3: a social sin against the inherent dignity of the human person (CCC 953, 1869, 1905-1908, 1929-1938, 1943-1947, 2319)

**Ramadan** *n* (Ar *Ramadān*): the ninth month of the Islamic calendar during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset (CCC 841)

**Real Presence** the real substantial presence of Jesus Christ under the forms of bread and wine in the Eucharist (Lk 22:19, CCC 1373-1381)

**Realm of God** the Kingdom of God to which all people are called to experience the fulfillment of God’s covenantal promises described in the teachings and parables of Jesus and inaugurated by the coming of the Messiah (CCC 541-560, 567, 570)

**reason** *n* (L *ratio*, fr. *reri* “to calculate”): 1: the human capacity to comprehend or think 2: human intelligence 3: the capacity to make inferences, argue and arrive at conclusions (Ps 139, Acts 17:24-29, Rom 1:19-20, CCC 156-159, 286-124, 1951)

**Rebekah** *n* (Hb *ribkāh*): the wife of Isaac and mother of Esau and Jacob who became Isaac’s heir through the trickery of Rebekah (Gn 24-26, CCC 64)

**reconciliation** *n* (L *reconciilatio* fr. *re + conciliare*): 1: the action of reconciling 2: the restoration of friendship or harmony 3: God’s action of reconciling with humans 4: God’s reconciliation with the world through Christ 5: the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation through which God forgives sin (See Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation (Mk 2:7, Mt 6:12, 2Cor 5:20, CCC 1422, 1425, 1440-1442)

**redeemer** *n* (L *redemptor* “to take” “to buy”): 1: one who takes or buys back 2: one who pays ransom in order to free someone 3: the identification of God as one who redeems Israel from slavery 4: the identification of Christ whose death accomplished God’s plan of salvation (Heb 9:26-28, Lk 24:26-27, Mk 8:31, CCC 205, 571-572, 601, 607)

**redemption** *n* (L *redemptio* fr. *redimere*): 1: the act of redeeming or saving 2: the act of freeing (Is 49:7-13, CCC 64)

**religion** *n* (L *religio* “reverence”): 1: the actions of reverencing and worshiping God 2: an organized practice of worship 3: the virtue of honoring God (CCC 2104-2106)

**religious dialogue** the respectful interaction of the Church with those of other churches and faith traditions to learn
from and appreciate common aspects of faith and truth to promote peace and human happiness for the glory of God (CCC 821, 841, 856)

**religious liberty** the natural right of an individual to worship God as he/she practices it within society and as protected by civil law for the sake of the common good (CCC 912, 2106-2109)

**religious life** a state of life in the Church of consecration to God characterized by the public profession of vows, usually poverty, chastity and obedience (See consecrated life) (CCC 916, 925-929, 944)

**Renaissance** (F*reanistre* “to be born again”) 1: the movement in Europe from medieval to modern times lasting from the 14th to 17th centuries characterized by neoclassical architecture, arts and literature 2: the support by the Church of art and architecture to catechize the faithful during this time period (CCC 770-771)

**Resurrection** (L*resurrectio* fr. *resurgere* “to rise again”) 1: the act of rising from the dead 2: the rising of Jesus from the dead as the central action of the Paschal Mystery and the sign to the baptized of being raised with Christ 3: rising of all people from bodily death at the “last day” as the fulfillment of God’s redemption (2Mc 7:9-14, Acts 1:22, 1Cor 6:13-15, 6:19-20, 15:35-37, 15:42, 15:52-53, Col 2:12, 3:1, CCC 647-658, 988-1004, 1012, 1015-1019)

**resurrection of the dead** the doctrine of the Church that human beings will rise from the dead and the baptized faithful will be raised in Christ to see God in fullness of glory (Mk 12:24, Jn 11:25, 6:40, 6:54, Acts 1:22, Rom 8:11, 1Cor 15:12-14, CCC 988-1019)

**revelation** n (L*revelatio* fr. *revelare* “to reveal”) 1: the act of revealing 2: God’s self-communication through creation, events and persons 3: God’s self-revelation through the Word, Jesus Christ, Son of God 4: revealing of God’s actions in Sacred Scripture (Dt 28:10, Mt 28:19-20, Heb 1:1-2, Col 3:16, 1Tm 2:4, 6:14, CCC 36, 65-83)

**right** n (OE*riht* akin to OHG *reht*, L*rectus* “straight” fr. L*rogare* “to ask”) 1: state of being righteous or just 2: appropriate 3: something to which one has a claim under the law 4: human conditions protected by society such as life, liberty, education, employment, just wage, etc., with concurrent responsibilities for participation in public life for the common good (CCC 1905-1948)

**Rosh Hashanah** (Hb*rōsh hashshānāh* “beginning of the year”) the Jewish New Year observed on the first of the month of Tishri

**Rite of Reconciliation** the liturgical celebration of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation through the acts of the penitent who expresses sorrow, confesses sins and makes reparation, and through the acts of the minister of the sacrament who forgives or absolves the penitent of his/her sins when the penitent sincerely confesses and makes amends (CCC 1420-1498)

**ritual** n (L*ritualis* fr. *ritus* “rite”) 1: relating to the rites of the Church 2: the order of a ceremony or ritual (CCC 1200-1209)

**Roman Catholic** the Catholic Church whose hierarchy and members are led by the Bishop of Rome, the Pope, and observe the Latin Rites of the Church (CCC 834)

**Rome** n (L*Roma*) the City of Rome within which is located Vatican City, the home of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope (CCC 834)

**rosary** n (L.*rosarium* fr. *rosa* “rose”) 1: a devotion using the beads of the rosary to reflect on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary, the Mother of Jesus 2: a devotional form of prayer (CCC 971, 2678, 2708)
**Ruth** *n* (Hb *rût* “friends”) the OT story of a Moabite woman, Ruth, who married into a Jewish family whose mother was Naomi and who went with Naomi, after the death of her son and the husband of Ruth, to return to Bethlehem and eventually to marry Boaz, a Jewish farmer (Book of Ruth, CCC 61)

**Sabbath** *n* (Hb *šabbat* “rest”) 1: the end of the work of six days 2: the seventh day of the week that begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday as the day set aside as the time of rest and worship required by Mosaic Law as a day “holy to the Lord” 3: the day that was a point of dispute between Jesus and the Pharisees who observed the Sabbath rigidly (Gn 2:1-3, Ex 20:8-11, Dt 5:12-15, Neh 13:15-22, Mk 1:21, 2:27, CCC 345-347, 2169-2171)

**sacrament** *n* (L. *sacramentum* fr. *sacrar* “to consecrate”) 1: signs of words and actions instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church that through the power of the Spirit effect divine life in us 2: the seven sacraments enacted in the public worship of the Church through the celebration of specific rites making present the graces of each sacrament (Mt 28:18-20, Lk 22:15, Jn 20:21-23, 2 Pt 1:4, CCC 1084-1134)

**sacramental** *n* (L. *sacramentum* fr. *sacrar* “to consecrate”) 1: signs resembling the sacraments that confer grace to those disposed to receive it 2: images such as the crucifix or elements such as holy water or chrism or objects such as the rosary 3: blessings conferred by all the faithful as a form of praising God and praying for the well-being of others 4: relics 5: objects blest by the Church for the purpose of liturgical worship, such as the altar, chalice, paten, vestments, candles, etc. 6: exorcisms as a special ministry of the Church to release someone from the power of evil (Gn 12:2, Mk 1:25-26, Lk 6:28, Rom 12:14, Eph 1:3, 1Pt 3:9, CCC 1667-1673, 1677-1678)

**sacramental character** the permanent mark or character conferred in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders signifying that the sacrament cannot be repeated (CCC 1581-1583)

**sacramental signs** the words and actions dispensing the particular grace of a sacrament (CCC 1084, 1152)

**Sacrament of Baptism** “…the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit … and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons (and daughters) of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: ‘Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word.’” (CCC 1213) (See Baptism)

**Sacrament of Confirmation** “…the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For ‘by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.’” (CCC 1285) (See Confirmation)

**Sacrament of Eucharist** “The holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation. Those who have been raised to the dignity of the royal priesthood by Baptism and configured more deeply to Christ by Confirmation participate with the whole community in the Lord’s own sacrifice by means of the Eucharist.” “The Eucharist is ‘source and summit of the Christian life.’ ‘The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.’” (CCC 1322, 1324) (See Eucharist)

**Sacrament of Holy Orders** The Church confers the sacrament of Holy Orders on baptized men, who are recognized by Church authority as suitable
for the exercise of ministry, by the laying on of hands followed by the solemn prayer of consecration. Ordination imprints an indelible “sacramental character.” (CCC 1597-1598) (See Holy Orders)

Sacrament of Matrimony
“‘The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring. This covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament.” (CCC 1601) (See Marriage)

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation
“Sin is before all else an offense against God, a rupture of communion with him. At the same time it damages communion with the Church. For this reason conversion entails both God’s forgiveness and reconciliation with the Church, which are expressed and accomplished liturgically by the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.” (CCC 1440) (See Reconciliation)

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
“The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given (by the minister) to those who are seriously ill by anointing them on the forehead and hands with duly blessed oil – pressed from olives or from other plants – saying, only once: ‘Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.’ ” (CCC 1513)

sacraments of initiation the actions of initiating or incorporating someone to the Christian life through receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation (CCC 1212, 1275)

sacraments at the service of communion the sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders that are directed toward the service of others for the purpose of building up the People of God (CCC 1533-1535)

sacred adj (L. sacer “holy” fr. sacrare “to make holy”) 1: set apart for the service of God 2: holy 3: deserving reverence or veneration 4: the opposite of profane (Eph 1:3-6, CCC 1070, 1072, 1161, 1163, 1330, 1402, 1667)

Sacred Scripture the books of the Bible written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as a source of God’s self-revelation and entrusted to the Church to transmit the message of salvation that strengthens and nourishes the People of God (Lk 10:16, 24:45, Jn 2:20, 2:27, 16:13, 1Thes 2:13, Heb 1:1-2, 1Tm 6:20, 2Tm 1:12-14, CCC 78-81, 101-137)

sacrifice n (L. sacrificium fr. sacer “sacred” + facere “to make”) 1: something offered in sacrifice 2: the destruction of something for the sake of something else 3: Jesus’ act of offering himself on the cross for our salvation 4: the Mass as the memorial of Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and offered in thanksgiving for all that God has accomplished through creation, redemption and sanctification (Heb 7:25-27, 9:13-14, 1Cor 5:7, 11:24-25, CCC 1356-1372, 2099-2100)

saint n (L. sanctus “holy”) 1: one who is recognized as holy by the public recognition of the Church through the process of canonization: belonging to the communion of saints (Eph 3:6, 4:1-6, 1Cor 15:26-27, CCC 686, 688, 828, 946-959, 1717, 2030)


salvation history the gradual revelation of God’s saving actions in the course human history (Heb 1:1-2, Rom 2:6-7, CCC 54-55, 64-65, 69, 74)
Samaria n (Hb śōmerôn) 1: a city in Israel just NE of Jerusalem close to the Mediterranean Sea that was a royal residence for Israelite kings in the OT and became a mixed population of people who worshiped their own gods along with YHWH and erected temples causing aspersions of hatred by the Jews 2: a district of Israel that during Jesus' time was avoided by Jews as a place of illicit worship (1Kgs 16:24, 2Kgs 17:24, Lk 9:52, 10:33, 17:16, Jn 4:4-42)

Samaritan n (Hb śōmerôn) 1: one who lived in the district of Samaria 2: people identified in the gospel stories to whom Jesus reached out (Lk 9:52, 10:33, 17:16)

Samuel n (Hb šemûʾēl “name of El” or “his name is El”) 1: a prophet in the OT who identified and anointed Saul and later David as elected by God to be the first kings of Israel 2: OT books (Books of Samuel, CCC 61, 64-65, 72, 218)

Sanctify v (L sanctificare fr. L sanctus “sacred”) 1: to set apart for sacred purpose 2: to make sacred or holy (Jn 4:14, 7:38-39, 2Cor 5:17-18, CCC 823, 1999, 2028)

Sanctifying grace the freely given and freely received gift of God and by which sin is forgiven and we are made a new creation in Christ living with and in God (Jn 4:14, 7:38-39, 2Cor 5:17-18, CCC 1999, 2023-2024)

Sanctuary n (L sanctuarium fr. L sanctus “holy”) 1: a place consecrated or set apart 2: the holy of holies in the temple of Jerusalem where the Jewish high priest entered to invoke God’s blessings upon the people 3: the place set apart in a church in which the altar is set and worship is centered (1Kgs 8:10-61, Lk 1:5-25, CCC 1181, 2580-2581)

Sanctuary light the lamp in the sanctuary of the church signifying the presence of God particularly in the presence of the Holy Eucharist in the form of bread kept in the tabernacle (CCC 1185, 1183)

Sarah n (Hb sārāh “princess”) 1: the wife of Abraham through whom God promised a son and in her late years bore Isaac as a result of that promise 2: also known as Sarai which was changed to the name of Sarah as a sign of God’s election (Gn 11:29-12:20, 15:1-16:6, 17:15-18:15, 21:1-8, CCC 64, 489)

Satan n (Hb satan, Gk σατανᾶς, satan “accuser in a court of law, adversary”) 1: in OT an accuser or heavenly officer whose function was to test the integrity of human virtue 2: in an agent of YHWH to test virtue with the idea of virtue is not genuine until tested 3: the devil who is ultimately subject to the power of God 4: the evil one who tempted Jesus in the desert and whom Jesus conquers by his death 5: the “strong one” 6: the “prince of this world” 7: a “fallen angel” (Mt 4:1, 12:29, Lk 4:2, 11:21, Mk 1:13, 3:27, Jn 12:31, CCC 391-395, 397-398, 407, 538-540, 550, 2850-2852)

Savior n (Gk sōtēr “savior, healer”) 1: name of God as savior and liberator 2: the title given to the Roman emperors reflecting the deification of the emperor 3: the title given to Jesus by the early Christians as the true savior 4: use of the term “soter” to signify the healings of Jesus 5: Jesus’ name means “God saves” from which the title of “savior” is derived (Mt 1:21, Lk 2:11, 2:25-33, 4:1-22, Eph 1:7-10, Ti 1:1-4, 1Pt 1:3-11, 2Pt 1:1, CCC 62, 64, 430-434, 450, 452, 490)

Seal n (L sigillum: “seal” fr. signum “sign”) 1: a sign indicating the indelible effect of the anointing with the Holy Spirit in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders 2: the mark of the Holy Spirit symbolizing the Christian’s belonging to the Holy Spirit 3: a symbol of being commissioned by Christ 4: something that makes secure or stamps to identify or ratify (Gn 38:18, Lk 24:48-49, Jn 6:27, 2Cor 1:22, Eph 1:13, 4:30, CCC 698, 1121, 1295-1296, 1303-1305, 1317, 1320)

Secular institute an organized form of consecrated life recognized by the Church in which a baptized person becomes a member of the institute and lives the Christian life according to the
charisms of the institute while living their lives in the world (CCC 928-929)

**seminary** n (L seminarium fr. semen “seed”) 1: an institute where men are educated for the priesthood 2: institution of higher education usually with the specialization of training for ministry (CCC 1577-1579)

**sex** n (L sexus) 1: the name of the two types of organisms as male or female 2: the actions of male and female organisms leading toward procreation of the same species (CCC 2331)

**sexuality** n (L sexus) 1: the quality of being sexual 2: the quality of human beings that creates the capacities of human attraction, love and procreation of the species (CCC 2332-2335)

**Shema** n (Hb shēma “hear”) the first word of the Jewish confession of faith that recognizes God as One (Dt 6:4-9, 11:13-21, Nm 15:37-41, CCC 200-202, 228)

**sign** n (ME signe fr. L signum “mark, token, sign, image, seal” akin to L secare “to cut”) 1: a motion or gesture by which a thought is expressed or a command or wish made known 2: a mark or symbol having a conventional meaning that represents an action 3: a display board 4: something material or external that signifies essence of something spiritual 5: something indicating the presence or existence of something else (CCC 1145-1152)

**scripture** n (L scriptus fr. L scribere “to write”) 1: the books of the Bible 2: a body of writings considered to be inspired by God and therefore authoritative (see Sacred Scripture)

**serious sin** See “mortal sin”

**sign** n (L signum “mark”) 1: a mark, token or gesture designating something else 2: a gesture, word or thing that signifies a deeper reality 3: a sacramental sign effecting grace (CCC 1131, 1145-1152, 1189)

**Sign of Peace (Rite of Peace)** the ancient rite in the eucharistic liturgy of extending the greeting of peace to one another (CCC 1345)

**Sign of the Cross** 1: a salutation beginning prayer in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit accompanied by the right hand touching the forehead, heart and left/right shoulders 2: a recognition of God as Trinitarian 3: the formal beginning of all liturgical celebrations 4: the sign of the redemption Christ won for us by his cross (CCC 1235)

**silent prayer** a prayer that, unlike vocal prayer that uses words, moves toward an inner quiet awareness of the presence of God and seeking that presence (CCC 2709)

**sin** n (OE synn fr. Hb sin) 1: an action that is an offense against moral law 2: knowing and willfully selfish action against God’s will 3: an offense against right conscience; failing in love for God and neighbor (Gn 3:5, Ps 51:4, Phil 2:6-9, CCC 1849-1850, 1871-1872)

**single life** a vocation recognized by the Church in which the baptized and confirmed lay person lives singly and exercises the rights and duties of the Christian to participate in the priestly, prophetic and governing offices of the Church (CCC 900, 903-907, 910-913)

**social justice** the form of justice that derives from the social doctrine of the Church by which Christians are called to promote human dignity, human rights especially for the poor, stewardship of creation and stand against all forms of social injustice (Dt 15:11, Mt 6:2-4, Lk 17:19-31, Jas 2:15-16, 1Cor 6:10, CCC 1807, 2426-2463)

**social sin** actions that promote or cooperate in sins that give rise to social situations and institutions that are contrary to the divine goodness and the common good, such as, oppression, racism, slavery, prostitution, pornography, environmental destruction, wars, injustice, etc. (Ex 3:7-10, 20:20-22, Dt 24:14-15, Jas 5:4, CCC 1868-1869)

**social teaching** the social doctrine of the Church rooted in Sacred Scripture that interprets events in history and creates principles and guidelines for the protection of human rights especially the poor and
dispossessed and for the common good of society (Mt 6:24, CCC 2419-2425)

**society n** (L *societas* fr. *socius* “companion”) 1: a collective of people within a broad spectrum of organization including national and cultural identity, languages, laws, forms of education, etc., that provides cohesion and authoritative structures that support and protect the members individually and commonly 2: a social circle or organization that supports a common interest (CCC 1897-1900)

**society of apostolic life** a society recognized by the Church whose members pursue an active apostolate of the Church through living according to the constitutions of the society (CCC 930)

**Solomon** (Hb *šelōmōh* fr. *šālôm* “peace, prosperity”) the son of King David of Israel and Bathsheeba who succeeded him as King of Israel (c. 961-922 BC) and in whose long reign oversaw the building of the palace and first temple in Jerusalem by organizing Israel into twelve districts for the purpose of collecting taxes and drafting labor; also caused political unrest because of marriages to foreign wives, patronizing the cults to their gods and creating a wealthy class causing terrible poverty for the majority of people; supported the development of literature including some of the Wisdom literature in the Old Testament (1Kgs, 2Kgs, 2Sm 5:14, Wis, CCC 62-63, 283)

**Son of Abraham** title given to Jesus that identifies him as a descendant of Abraham and as the one sent by God as the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham and his progeny (Mt 1:1, Lk 1:54-55, 1:72-73, 3:4, CCC 422-423, 527)

**Son of Adam** title given to Jesus that identifies him as fully human and as the new Adam sent by God to live as God’s Servant completely obedient to the divine will thus conquering sin and death (Lk 3:37, Rom 5:12-21, CCC 504-505, 536, 538-539)

**Son of David** title given to Jesus signifying God’s promise to Israel that from the lineage of King David the Messiah would come (Mt 1:6-7, 1:17, 1:20-25, Lk 2:68-75, 20:41-44, CCC 437-439, 496, 559)

**Son of God** title identifying the distinct relationship of Jesus Christ to God his Father as the second person of the Trinity who is one in substance with the Father (Mk 1:1, Mt 1:22-23, 16:13-17, 27:54, Lk 1:28-35, 3:37, 10:21-22, 22:66-79, Jn 3:16, CCC 254-260, 262, 429, 441-445, 454, 458-460, 470, 509, 528, 535, 552)

**Son of Man** title the Jesus used for himself that comes from the Book of Daniel in which Daniel describes “one like a son of man” coming from the clouds and receiving dominion and glory from the nations by completing his mission of service and redemption as the suffering Servant (Dn 7:13, Mk 9:3, 15:39, Mt 16:13-16, 26:64, Lk 17:22-30, 18:31-34, 22:66-71, CCC 440-444, 460)

**Son of Mary** title given to Jesus recognizing Mary as his human Mother who conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:16, 1:18-23, Lk 1:26-35, CCC 484-489)

**sorrow n** (OHG *sorga*, Oslav *sraga* “sickness”) 1: regret or sadness over loss of good 2: remorse or guilt for doing something hurtful 3: contrition required for forgiveness of sin 4: grief (Ps 51, CCC 1451-1454, 1468, 1490)

**soul n** (OE *sāwol*, akin to OHG *sēula* “soul”) 1: the spiritual principle in the human person 2: the life principle of the human body that does not die after death and will be reunited with the body at the final Resurrection 3: the breath of God’s life by which the human person is a living being (Gn 2:7, CCC 362-368, 382)

**Southern Kingdom** the name of the southern territory split from Israel after Solomon’s death becoming the kingdom of Judah and was invaded by the Babylonians in 597 BC when Jerusalem and the first temple were destroyed along with the last line of Israel’s kings (2Kgs 25:1-12, 2Chr 11, 2Chr 36, CCC 709-710)

**spirit n** (L *spiritus* “breath” fr. L *spirare* “to blow, to breathe”) 1: the immaterial substance giving life to the physical body 2: the essence of a supernatural being 3:
the spirit of God (Gn 2:7, Rom 5:5, Gal 5:22-23, CCC 702-704, 712-714, 722, 739, 742-747)


**spirituality n** *(L spiritualis)*: 1: of or relating to spiritual matters 2: forms or ways of relating to God in prayer 3: actions of the Spirit effecting awareness of God in one’s life resulting in gratitude (Zep 3:14, 3:17a, Lk 1:46-55, Jn 14:17, 15:26, 16:30, 1Cor 12:3, CCC 2615, 2617, 2625, 2639, 2652-2660, 2672, 2681)

**sponsor n** *(L sponsus fr. spondère “to promise”)*: 1: one who assists the candidate in preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and promises to help the confirmed to be faithful Christians 2: one who takes responsibility for someone’s welfare (CCC 1311)

**steward n** *(OE stiweard fr. sti “hall” + weard “ward”)*: 1: one who manages an estate or household 2: one who oversees the financial accounts of a household 3: one who supervises the distribution of goods and services 4: one who manages or directs the business affairs of another 5: one who participates in the life of the Church through works of service and giving 6: describes the human partnership with God to care for Creation (Gn 2:15, 12:8-17, Lk 12:42, 1Cor 2:12, 3:9, 4:1-2, Gal 6:2, CCC 299, 307, 339-340, 344, 952, 2402, 2417, 2456)

**stewardship n** *(OE stiweard fr. sti “hall” + weard “ward”)*: 1: the office of a steward 2: the duty of an individual to manage his/her actions and property with proper regard for the common good of others and the environment 3: the call of the Christian to respond to the blessings of God through gratitude and sharing of resources and time for the good of others (Gn 2:15, 12:8-17, Lk 12:42, 1Cor 2:12, 3:9, 4:1-2, Gal 6:2, CCC 299, 307, 339-340, 344, 952, 2402, 2417, 2456)

**subsidiarity (principle)**: a social teaching of the Church stating that national or state governments should not intervene in the actions of local communities giving them the freedom of self-governance and respecting human rights (CCC 1883-1885, 1894)

**Sunday n** *(OE sunnandeg akin to OHG sunnūntag fr. sunne “sun” + dæg “day”)*: 1: the first day of the week 2: the Christian analogue of the Jewish Sabbath 3: the “Lord’s day” 4: the day of Jesus’ Resurrection 5: the central day of assembly for Eucharistic celebration 6: the day of rest 7: day of obligation (CCC 1343, 2174, 2180, 2187-2188, 2190)


**symbol n** *(Gk symbolon “token of identity by comparing its other half” fr. symballein “to throw together”)*: 1: something that stands for something else 2: sign of something invisible or supernatural 3: summary of the principal truths of the faith 4: sacramental actions (CCC 188, 1145-1152, 1189)

**synoptic adj** *(Gk synoptikos fr. synopsesthai “to be going to see together”)*: 1: presenting a common view 2: the first three gospels of the New Testament – Mark, Matthew and Luke (CCC 126)

**T**

**tabernacle n** *(L tabernaculum fr. taberna “hut”)*: 1: a tent covering the ark during the desert wanderings of the Israelites to find the promised land 2: the ornate place in which the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist is reserved in church (Ex 26:1-15, CCC 1090, 1183, 1379)

**Talmud n** *(Hb talmūdh “teaching”)*: the Jewish authoritative book describing Jewish tradition including the Mishnah and Gemara (CCC 839)
temperance *n* *(L. temperans fr. temperare “to moderate”)* 1: acting with moderation 2: opposite of overindulgence 3: one of the cardinal virtues that provides balance in the use of God’s creation *(Wis 8:7, Sir 18:30, Ti 2:12, CCC 1805, 1834, 1838)*

temple *n* *(L. templum “space” fr. tempula “altar” fr. tempus “time”)* 1: a building identified as sacred space 2: one of three sanctuaries established for YHWH in Jerusalem 3: the Church as Temple of God *(1Kgs 5:15-6:37, 2Cor 6:16, Eph 2:21, CCC 583-586, 797, 809)*

temptation *n* *(ME tempten fr. temptare “to try”)* 1: enticement or allurement 2: seduction to sin as a result of human desire or concupiscence *(CCC 1264, 1426)*

Ten Commandments 1: a set of rules carrying binding authority 2: the law of God given to Moses on Mt. Sinai as the terms of the covenant concluded between God and his people 3: the obligatory law for Christians as the basic requirements for love of God and love of neighbor *(Ex 19:1-20:26, Dt 5:6-21, CCC 2052-2082)*

Theological virtues the virtues identified by the Church as the foundation of the Christian moral life: faith, hope and charity *(1Cor 13:13, CCC 1812-1829, 1840-1844)*

theophany *n* *(Gk theophaneia fr. epiphaniea “appearance”)* 1: the visible manifestation of God 2: God’s revelation to Moses on Mt. Sinai and the giving of the Decalogue *(Ex 24:12-18, CCC 724, 2059)*

The Twelve the composite name of the twelve apostles identified in the synoptic gospels called by Jesus to be his disciples and commissioned to lead the Early Church after his ascension *(Mk 3:13-18, Mt 10:1-4, CCC 75-76, 551-552)*

Torah *n* *(Hb tōrāh “law”)* 1: the name of the Jewish Scripture containing the Decalogue attained in God’s covenant with Moses at Mt. Sinai as well as the terms of the covenant also attributed to Moses to insure Israel’s fidelity to the covenant 2: the scroll of the Torah placed in the Ark in synagogues and used for liturgical services *(Ex 20:1-17, 24:7, Dt 7:12, 8:1, 12:18-21, CCC 1961-1962)*

Tower of Babel *(Hb bāla “to mix,” “to confuse” fr. Akk bab-ilu originating the name of Babylon)* the story in Genesis describing how people attempted to reach the god by building a tower or ziggurat (in Babylonia) and how the LORD deterred this attempt by causing them to speak different languages so that they could not understand one another *(Gn 11:1-9, CCC 56-57)*

transfiguration *n* *(L. transfiguratio fr. transfigurare “to change in appearance”)* 1: a change in appearance to a more glorified form 2: Jesus’ change in appearance on a mountaintop in the presence of Peter, James and John revealing his divine glory *(Mk 9:2-8, Mt 17:1-8, Lk 9:28-35, CCC 554-556, 568)*

transformation *n* *(L. transformatio fr. trans + formare “to form”)* 1: the process of being transformed in character or condition 2: conversion 3: metamorphosis 4: spiritual change or renewal through the actions of the Holy Spirit *(Eph 4:23, CCC 1695)*

transubstantiation *n* *(L. transsubstantus)* 1: change in substance 2: Catholic dogma stating that during the Liturgy of the Eucharist in the words of consecration the whole substance of the bread and wine become the substance of the body and blood of Christ *(Mk 14:22,
Mt 26:26, Lk 22:19, 1Cor 11:24, CCC 1376, 1413)
Triduum n (L triduum fr. tri + dies “three days”) the Church’s liturgical celebration of the Easter Triduum beginning with the evening commemoration of the Last Supper of Holy Thursday, Good Friday memorializing Jesus’ Passion and Death, and culminating on Holy Saturday evening ushering in the light of Christ’s Resurrection in the solemn celebration of the Easter Vigil (CCC 1168-1171)
Trinity n (L trinitus “threefold”) central mystery of the Christian faith that there is one God in Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the three divine persons each of them God whole and entire yet distinct (hypostasis); relational to each other - Father related to the Son, Son related to the Father, Holy Spirit related to both in complete oneness with each other; Blessed Trinity; Holy Trinity (CCC 249-256)
union n (L unio “oneness” fr. unus “one”) 1: act of uniting into one 2: the union of a man and a woman in marriage 3: the union of Christ with the Church 4: the human person’s spiritual union with God 5: unity of the People of God (Eph 1:10, CCC 27, 772, 775, 836-837, 1644, 1661)
universe n (L universum fr. uni + versus “turned toward”) 1: the whole body of existence 2: the cosmos 3: the creation that God made out of nothing (Gn 1-2, CCC 282-301, 315-320, 1147)
valid adj (L validus fr. valere “to enforce”) 1: having legal efficacy 2: conforming to the law 3: satisfactory 4: acceptable 5: description of the essential rites of the sacraments administered by the authorized minister (CCC 1239, 1300, 1411-1412, 1491, 1519, 1597-1600, 1662-1663)
Vatican City the city/state within the political agreement of the Treaty of the Lateran in 1929 that comprises 109 acres on which the buildings of the Holy See are situated and governed by the Holy Father both as the religious and political leader (CCC 834, 882)
Vatican II Council the last ecumenical or general council of the Catholic Church called by Pope John XXIII and completed by Pope Paul VI lasting from 1962-1965 during which 2500 bishops promulgated four dogmatic constitutions and fifteen decrees and declarations comprising the most profound renewal of the Church in modern time since the Council of Trent (CCC 10, 884)
venial sin 1: sin that breaks the moral law and weakens charity but in a less serious matter 2: sin that may lead toward mortal sin if not repented and stopped 3: sin that does not deprive the person from sanctifying grace and friendship with God 4: sin that does not have to be confessed as such but true sorrow for all sin even venial sin produces the capacity for greater charity (CCC 1854-1855, 1862-1863, 1875-1876)
Vicar of Christ title given to the Pope as the leader of the Catholic Church who represents Christ on earth (Mt 16:13-19, Jn 21:15-19, CCC 816)
virgin n (L virgo “young woman”) 1: one who has not engaged in sexual intercourse 2: one who professes the evangelical counsel of celibacy or chastity in the Church for the sake of the kingdom

Two Great Commandments
the summation of the Decalogue in two commandments: love God with your entire heart, soul and mind, and, love your neighbor as yourself (Lv 19:18, Dt 6:5, Mt 22:37-40, CCC 2055)

V
of God (Mt 19:12, 1Cor 7:32-36, CCC 915, 922-924, 934, 1579)

**virtue n** (L. *virtus* “strength” fr. *vir* “man”) 1: habit of right judgment and choice based on moral standards 2: inclination to do what is good 3: temperate use of the goods of the earth for the sake of creation and the common good (Wis 8:7, Phil 4:8, CCC 1803-1845, 2407)

**vocation n** (L. *vocatio* “summons” fr. *vocare* “to call”) 1: an inner call or inclination to do a particular work or service 2: the call of Christ to live the universal call to holiness in the Church no matter the state in life 3: the call to the religious state of consecration through the profession of the evangelical counsels within a permanent state of life recognized by the Church (CCC 823-826, 915, 944)

**vow n** (L. *votum* fr. *vovere* “to vow”) 1: solemn promise that binds a person to a certain condition 2: public profession to live the evangelical counsels within a permanent state of life recognized by the Church 3: promise of celibacy required for ordination as a deacon leading toward priesthood in the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church 4: the free consent of marriage between a man and a woman before a minister of the church (CCC 944, 1625-1632, 1679)

**wisdom n** (OE *wisdom* fr. *wis* “wise”) 1: accumulated knowledge that tempers how one sees life 2: divine attribute with which God created order and governance of creation 3: good sense 4: basis of sound judgment 5: spiritual gift of the Holy Spirit that helps the person to see more clearly how to live the fullness of the Christian life (Wis 7:17-21, 13:1-9, CCC 216, 1830-1831, 1845)

**worship n** (ME *worshipe* fr. OE *weorthscipe* “worthiness”) 1: reverence offered to God in respect and submission 2: adoration as the first act of the virtue of religion 3: the liturgical rites and forms that the assembly uses for public worship (Dt 6:13, Mt 4:10, Lk 4:8, CCC 1070, 2096-2097, 2135)

**Y**

**Yahweh n** (Hb *Yahweh* fr. *hāwāh* “to be”) the name of the God of Israel (Ex 3:6, 3:13-15, 34:5-7, CCC 206, 210-211, 213-214)

**Yom Kippur** the Jewish Day of Atonement on the 10th day of Tishri during which Jews fast and pray to atone for sin (Lv 16, CCC 431, 1096, 2631)

**Z**

**Zechariah n** (Hb *zekaryāh* “Yahweh has remembered”) 1: son of King Jeroboam who was assassinated 2: a postexilic prophet associated with the Book of Zechariah 2: husband of Mary’s cousin Elizabeth and father of John the Baptist who was a temple priest (2Kgs 14:29, Lk 1:5-25, 1:59-79, CCC 523, 702-703)

**Zion n** (Hb *Siyōn*) 1: name of a citadel which was believed to be the early site of the city of Jerusalem 2: symbolic name of the Jewish homeland as inherent to the promises of the covenants 3: symbolic name of the nation of Israel (1Kgs 8:1-2, 2Sam 5:7, 1Chr 11:5, CCC 218, 839)
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