

Vocabulary for Unit 8

actual grace: God's interventions and support for us in the everyday moments of our lives. Actual graces are important for conversion and for continuing growth in holiness.

catechesis, catechists: Catechesis is the process by which Christians of all ages are taught the essentials of Christian doctrine and are formed as disciples of Christ. Catechists instruct others in Christian doctrine and for entry into the Church.

consecrate: To declare or set apart as sacred or to solemnly dedicate to God's service; to make holy.

conversion: A change of heart, turning away from sin and toward God.

corporal: Something having to do with the body.

grace: The free and undeserved gift of God's loving and active presence in our lives, empowering us to respond to his call and to live as his adopted sons and daughters. Grace restores our loving communion with the Holy Trinity, lost through sin.

Heaven: A state of eternal life and union with God in which one experiences full happiness and the satisfaction of the deepest human longings.

Hell: The eternal punishment of separation from God, reserved for those who die in mortal sin and are unrepentant, thus freely and consciously rejecting God at the end of their lives.

hermit: A person who lives a solitary life in order to commit himself or herself more fully to prayer and in some cases to be completely free for service to others.

holiness: The state of being holy. This means to be set apart for God's service, to live a morally good life, to be a person of prayer, and to reveal God's love to the world through acts of loving service.

interiority: The practice of developing a life of self-reflection and self-examination to attend to your spiritual life and your call to holiness.

laity: All members of the Church with the exception of those who are ordained as bishops, priests, or deacons. The laity share in Christ's role as priest, prophet, and king, witnessing to God's love and power in the world.

Purgatory: A state of final purification or cleansing, which one may need to enter following death and before entering Heaven.

