A Look at Moral Law

Part 1

Review article 5, “Eternal Law,” and article 6, “Natural Moral Law,” in the student book. Then mark each statement as true (T) or false (F).

**1.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Eternal Law is always true and unchanging.

**2.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Human beings can fully understand and appreciate Eternal Law through the use of reason alone.

**3.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Moral law is an expression of Eternal Law.

**4.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Conscience is a gift of God to help us know moral law.

**5.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Because of the gift of free will, we are not obliged to follow moral law.

**6.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Only Church law has its basis in Eternal Law.

**7.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Conscience prompts us to do good and to avoid evil.

**8.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Moral truth is subjective, meaning we are free to decide what is right or wrong.

**9.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Commandments were created at the beginning of time.

**10.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Moral law may be applied to new historical situations by the Magisterium of the Church.

**11.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Obeying moral law decreases human freedom.

**12.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Natural law is a part of human nature and does not depend on any religion.

**13.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Golden Rule is an example of moral law that is common to all great world religions.

**14.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Just civil laws reflect natural law.

**15.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ To be moral is to be fully human.

**16.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Natural laws are applicable to a particular time and place.

**17.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ We are not responsible for our failure to follow natural moral law.

**18.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Natural law allows for the development of civil laws that everyone can agree to regardless of faith or religion.

**19.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Church’s social teaching relies on reason and natural law.

**20.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ All persons have an instinct to be in right relationship with God, other people, the world, and themselves.

Part 2

You will work in pairs. Each pair will be assigned either statements 1 through 10 or statements 11 through 20. For your assigned statements, do the following three things:

**1.** Revise three false statements so they become true statements.

**2.** Illustrate three true statements with specific examples of why each statement is true.

**3.** Highlight one passage in the readings that adds to your understanding of moral law. Be prepared to share the passage you have chosen in class discussion.