

Vocabulary for Unit 3

Terms for Mastery

Beatific Vision Directly encountering and seeing God in the glory of Heaven.

Beatitudes The teachings of Jesus that begin the Sermon on the Mount and that summarize the New Law of Christ. The Beatitudes describe the actions and attitudes by which one can discover genuine happiness, and they teach us the final end to which God calls us: full communion with him in the Kingdom of Heaven.

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

grace The free and undeserved gift that God gives us to empower 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.

hypostatic union The union of Jesus Christ's divine and human natures in one Divine Person.

Original Sin The sin by which the first humans disobeyed God and lost their original holiness and became subject to death. Original Sin is transmitted to every person born into the world, except Mary and Jesus.

Pharisees A Jewish sect at the time of Jesus known for its strict adherence to the Law.

Sadducees A Jewish sect at the time of Jesus known for its strong commitment to the Temple in Jerusalem.

scribes Jewish legal scholars or teachers of Jewish Law. In the New Testament, they are associated with the Pharisees and the High Priests as opponents of Jesus.

Terms Introduced for Later Mastery

collects Prayers offered by the person leading an assembly in communal prayer.

Eucharistic species The gifts of bread and wine after they have become Christ's Body and Blood.

evangelical counsels The call to go beyond the minimum rules of life required by God (such as the Ten Commandments and the Precepts of the Church) and strive for spiritual perfection through a life marked by commitment to chastity, poverty, and obedience.

personal sin Any deliberate offense, in thought, word, or deed, against the will of God.



Terms Previously Mastered or for General Knowledge

circumcision The act, required by Jewish Law, of removing the foreskin of the penis. Since of the time of Abraham, it has been a sign of God's covenant relationship with the Jewish people.

holy day of obligation Feast day in the Liturgical Year on which, in addition to Sundays, Catholics are obliged to participate in the Eucharist.

laity (laypeople) 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.

liturgy The Church's official, public, communal prayer. It is God's work, in which the People of God participate. The Church's most important liturgy is the Eucharist, or the Mass.

pluralistic Characterized by the presence of many different ethnic, religious, or cultural groups.

religious vows The promises made by members of religious communities to follow the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Sacrament An efficacious and visible sign of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The Seven Sacraments are Baptism, the Eucharist, Confirmation, Penance and Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony, and Holy Orders.

sanctify To make holy; sanctification is the process of responding to God's grace and becoming closer to God.

