Chapter 3

Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *What is the Paschal Mystery?*

The Paschal Mystery refers to the work of salvation accomplished by Jesus Christ through his Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

2. *How was Abraham’s plan to sacrifice Isaac similar to Jesus’ Crucifixion?*

Both were beloved “sons of Abraham.” Both events occurred in Jerusalem (the land of Moriah). Each   
had a father who was willing to sacrifice his son. Both carried the wood for their own sacrifice and were placed on top of the wood. Isaac and Jesus were freed from death on the third day.

3. *How do the synoptic Gospels portray the Last Supper differently than the Gospel of John does?*

In the synoptic Gospels, the Last Supper was a Passover meal Jesus celebrated with his Apostles in which he offered his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist. In John’s Gospel, the Last Supper occurs before the Passover celebrations. In John’s account, it is Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross that resembles   
the Passover events.

4. *What details in John’s account of Jesus’ Crucifixion were meant to portray him as the Paschal Lamb   
of God?*

Jesus was sentenced to death at the same time the priests were slaughtering the lambs for the Passover meals. John also notes that Jesus’ legs were not broken, just as no bones of the Passover lamb were to be broken.

5. *What is Yom Kippur?*

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the year, when Jewish people fast, pray, and repent for their sins.

6. *The Israelites yearned for a savior to release them from bondage. What kind of savior were they expecting, and what kind of savior did Second Isaiah describe?*

The common expectation of a savior was that this person would be a military and political leader, much   
like King David. The prophet Second Isaiah gave them reason to hope by telling of a servant who, through   
his suffering, does the will of God and provides justice for the people.

7. *Why does love require sacrifice?*

Love requires that we put others’ needs ahead of our own. This means we sometimes have to give   
up something we might want in order to help someone else.

8. *How was the fate of the prophets similar to Jesus’ fate?*

Like Jesus, the prophets were persecuted for doing God’s will. Many of them were killed for it just as Jesus was killed.

9. *Why were the prophets and Jesus threatening to so many people?*

They were threatening because they spoke the truth, and to accept the truth meant that people had to let go of their current comfortable way of life. The prophets and Jesus called for change, and this angered people because change is difficult and painful.