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Unit 2 Vocabulary

Terms for Mastery

**Assumption of Mary** The dogma that recognizes that the body of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken directly to Heaven after her life on Earth   
had ended.

**chief priests** These were Jewish priests of   
high rank in the Temple. They had administrative authority and presided over important Temple functions and were probably leaders in the Sanhedrin.

**Golgotha** A Hebrew word meaning “place of   
the skull,” referring to the place where Jesus   
was crucified.

**hyperbole** Exaggerated statements or claims   
not meant to be taken literally.

**mediator** Someone who acts as a go-between between separate or opposing parties in order to connect them or reconcile them. Jesus Christ is the unique mediator between God and humanity; through his death and Resurrection, we have gained access to God’s saving grace.

**Mysteries of the Rosary** The sacred events   
in the life of Jesus andMary that are meditated   
on when praying the Rosary. They are called mysteries because they are beyond our understanding. There are four groups of mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous.

**Theotokos** A Greek title for Mary meaning   
“God-bearer.”

Term Introduced for Later Mastery

**dogma** Teachings recognized as central to Church teaching, defined by the Magisterium   
and considered definitive and authoritative.

Terms Previously Mastered or for General Knowledge

**Ascension** The “going up” into Heaven of the Risen Christ forty days after his Resurrection.

**blasphemy** Speaking, acting, or thinking about God in a way that is irreverent, mocking, or offensive. It is a sin against the Second Commandment.

**Body of Christ** A term that when capitalized designates Jesus’ Body in the Eucharist, or the entire Church, which is also referred to as the Mystical Body of Christ.

**Emmanuel** A Hebrew word meaning “God is   
with us.”

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

**Holy Spirit** The Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the perfect personal love between the Father and the Son, who inspires, guides,   
and sanctifies the life of believers.

**immortality** The state of never having to experience death.

**Incarnation**  From the Latin, meaning “to become flesh,” referring to the mystery of Jesus Christ,   
the Divine Son of God, becoming man. In the Incarnation, Jesus Christ became truly man while remaining truly God.

**infancy narratives** The accounts of Jesus’ birth and early childhood.

**miracles** Signs or wonders, such as healing   
or the control of nature, that can be attributed   
to divine power only.

**Pentecost** The fiftieth day following Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and Mary.

**Pharisees** This group of Jews was well-known   
for its strict interpretation of all the laws of the   
Old Testament. The Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead.

**reincarnation** The belief that our soul can be reborn into a new human body.

**Resurrection** The passage of Jesus from death to life on the third day after his death on the cross; the heart of the Paschal Mystery and the basis of our hope in the resurrection of the dead.

**resuscitation** When someone’s heart quits beating and then, perhaps due to some intervention like CPR, the person is revived.

**Sanhedrin** The highest council of the ancient Jews, consisting of seventy-one members exercising authority in religious matters.

**scribes**  These people were scholars and teachers of the Jewish Law and Scripture. They were associated with both the chief priests and   
the Pharisees.