Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit 4 Reading Guide

The Paschal Mystery and Real Life

Chapter 9: Personal Suffering and the Paschal Mystery

Article 36: Making Sense of Suffering

1. Jesus Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and death led to his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , so we know that God can bring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of suffering. Still, the Paschal Mystery is exactly what it says it is: a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we can never fully understand.
2. In much of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , there is a simple explanation for suffering: when someone does something wrong or bad, God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that person. [This] concept of divine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ might appeal to our sense of fairness and justice, but it is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. God is unbound by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and knows all things \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Grasping why good people suffer is not within our capability, so it remains a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to us.
4. Ultimately, the best \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we have that suffering is not a punishment for sin is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suffered.
5. We can’t avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suffering; it is part of human life. But we can control how we deal with it. If we choose to find the good in our suffering, it can be a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_toward \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
6. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of good coming from suffering is in Jesus’ Paschal Mystery. His suffering and self-sacrifice lead us on a path toward \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Uniting our personal sufferings and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Christ’s is part of being a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . We do this not only because of our hope and faith in our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reward in Heaven but also to make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the hurt and harm caused by our own personal sins.
8. Sacrifice does not have to be a grand, life-threatening endeavor. Consider the following \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , everyday examples of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sacrifices you can make:

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ classmate or family member instead of going out to have fun with friends
* sacrificing your popularity by not giving into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ activities
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your time and money to those in need instead of spending it on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all over the world make sacrifices daily. Not only have they discovered that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ provides the strength they need, but they’ve also discovered that they have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ much more than they have ever lost.

Article 37: Is Accepting Suffering a Sign of Weakness?

1. Accepting suffering is not a sign of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . The Paschal Mystery of Jesus clearly shows that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to accept suffering takes a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Jesus’ suffering was not limited to his Passion and death. He endured \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ throughout his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Similarly, knowing that sacrifice and suffering have an important \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in God’s plan of salvation doesn’t automatically make it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for us to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suffering in our own lives.
4. Jesus himself made it clear that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ him was not always going to be easy. The good news is that we don’t have to do it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Such sacrifice is possible only through our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God who desires to help us on this journey.

Article 38: Finding Strength in Times of Weakness

1. We all have personal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as well as limitations and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . The good news is that knowing our personal strengths and weaknesses raises our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and can help us make good life decisions.
2. We were made to be in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with [God] and with others. This becomes all the more apparent when we face our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . There is a vast difference between the experience of facing these things \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and facing them with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. The following are some ideas for reaching out to God and to others, which can help us to find \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in times of weakness:

* Reach out to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to talk about your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
* Read the accounts of Jesus’ Passion. Here we are reminded that we are not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , that God is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and that he has suffered as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ too.
* Pray the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
* Set aside some time for daily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

1. Taking our weaknesses to God and others can help us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our situation differently. Rather than seeing it as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we must endure, we might be able to start looking at it as a time to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , a time to strengthen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God and with loved ones.
2. Almost all of the suffering we experience in this lifetime will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . We can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days are ahead.
3. Ultimately, our story does not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in this lifetime. We can find \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in looking forward to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we will share with God in our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

Article 39: How Do I Cope with Suffering?

1. When someone we know experiences a great \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , like a death, or is dealing with immense physical or mental \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , there is often a desire to help them make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of what has happened or is happening. However, we should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ trying to come up with easy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
2. One of the most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things you can do for anyone who is suffering is to just be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to them. Let them talk about their pain without trying to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their problems.
3. Another important thing to remember is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ something that may make the person feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , no matter how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it might be.
4. Suffering is often accompanied with an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into the meaning of life. It is natural to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ why bad things happen. People need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to struggle with these difficult issues.
5. A question to ask that can be helpful [when you experience suffering] is “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me?” This question is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that God can bring good out of any situation.
6. The grappling with questions such as, “Why did God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ this to happen?” must be given special \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . As mentioned in the beginning of this article, there are no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to questions that seek to understand the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of suffering. However, the struggle to understand can lead us to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ relationship with God and with one another. Instead of weakening our faith, it can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it.
7. Offering our burdens up to God can act as a sort of training in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and a reminder of Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . This practice does not yield \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ results, though. After a while, we do become more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nature of Christ’s and our own suffering.

Chapter 10: Communal Suffering

Article 40: Sinful Violence

1. The [Israelites] understood that God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ required justice for the terrible sins people committed. Yet throughout their history, God also \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to them his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
2. In the New Testament, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reveals God because he *is* God. If we look to Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , it’s clear that God’s nature is not primarily rooted in divine retributive justice.
3. From the cross, [Jesus] asked the Father to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ those who were crucifying him (see   
   Luke 23:34). The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ soldiers knew they were putting someone to death. However, it is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that they knew they were crucifying an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ man, and they certainly didn’t know they were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
4. In some cases [of mass violence], there is a psychological \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that prevents them [the perpetrators] from completely understanding the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . In the case   
   of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by religious \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , they are often under the influence of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ leaders. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ violence is often the result of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and unchallenged  
   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
5. How could God ever \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the brutal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of small \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into his heavenly home? Yet, in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Paschal Mystery, we find God’s loving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for even those who killed the most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of all.
6. The love that God has for his people calls us not only to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but also to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ these violent acts from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Violence does not happen without a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . It is most often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in one form of sin or another: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , greed, fear, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , or injustices like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . To end violence, we must address its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

Article 41: Human Failings

1. Communal sin is “the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ influence exerted on people by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that are the fruit of men’s sins”1 (*CCC*, number 408).
2. Communal sins are often the results of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , neglect, or a lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Even though there is no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ person to blame, a communal sin is no less \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . A community’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like a broken penal system, drug abuse, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and poor health care can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Quite often, we are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the unjust situations and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that deny people the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and justice to live fully. Although it is impossible to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of every situation, Christians are called to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ themselves about the world around them and to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when necessary.
4. Unfortunately, there are people in governments, businesses, and even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who use their power from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for their own gain and to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of others. They’ve become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Corruption is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conduct by those in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by which they take \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of those they lead or serve.
5. As citizens and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , we are called to make sure that our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ leaders are held \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . We also must work to free them from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that keep them from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their community.
6. It is our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of money that can lead us toward \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , not the money itself. With wealth comes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to use it wisely and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . But the temptation to use it only for one’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can be very strong and therein lies the problem.
7. Greed can lead to a lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the suffering of other human beings. Sometimes people make money at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of their workers or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . While some are so \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on buying the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ luxuries of life, there are others who cannot afford the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (food, shelter, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and so on).
8. Technological \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are allowing us to do things that were not even imagined a hundred, fifty, fifteen, or even five years ago. But just because we have the technical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to do something, does that mean we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do it? Opening the door to certain possibilities can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
9. Unlike God, we humans are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our ability to see the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consequences of our actions. We must be extremely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that we do not create the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for sin. Humans should not be messing with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that God set in place.

Article 42: God’s Creation Suffers

1. When God created humans, he told us to have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over the Earth and all creation (see Genesis 1:28). *Dominion* is a word that was used in relation to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ having authority over the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . It was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power to use as they saw fit.
2. Kings were expected to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for their people. This is God’s commandment to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ creation, and it is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that needs more of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Much of our environmental crisis can be blamed on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Today, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is often purchased in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bottles that take about four \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ naturally.
4. Most of our plastic trash ends up in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . The Pacific Ocean now holds what has been dubbed as “The Great Pacific \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Patch.” It is more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the size of Texas and mostly consists of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ items that even the salt water of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cannot \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ down.
5. Ecological disaster and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ make a situation ripe for social \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Countries that are suffering from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ crises become vulnerable to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ organizations as well.
6. The Earth is neither \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nor is it an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ supply source. Instead, it is an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dynamic entity that requires our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and attention. It is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God that continues to provide for us, but only as long as we ensure its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
7. We are called to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God’s creation. Stewardship is the careful and responsible \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of someone or something that has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to a person’s care. This includes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ using and caring for God’s gift of creation.
8. The Earth has been passed on by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stewards for hundreds of thousands of years. Most have taken good care of it, though there have been difficult \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from which the Earth has had to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . These moments have brought a variety of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ upon us.
9. In the past fifty to one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years, humanity has painfully pushed Earth to its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Its future, and the future of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , is at stake \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

(The excerpts marked *CCC* are from the English translation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church for use in the United States of America, second edition. Copyright © 1994 by the United States Catholic Conference, Inc.—Libreria Editrice Vaticana (LEV). English translation of the *Catechism of the* *Catholic Church: Modifications from the Editio Typica* copyright © 1997 by the United States Catholic Conference, Inc.—LEV.)

**Endnote Cited in Quotation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Second Edition**

1. Cf. John Paul II, *Reconciliato et paenitentia* 16.