Chapter 13

Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *What is a liturgy?*

Liturgy refers to the Church’s official, public, communal prayer.

2. *What are the six seasons of the Liturgical Year?*

The seasons of the Liturgical Year are Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, the Triduum, and Easter.

3. *What is the Triduum? What does the word mean?*

*Triduum* is a Latin word that means “three days.” It refers to the period of the Liturgical Year that begins with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday and ends with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.

4. *What is celebrated at the Holy Thursday liturgy?*

The Mass of the Lord’s Supper is celebrated on Holy Thursday.

5. *What are the unique rituals of the Holy Thursday liturgy?*

The unique rituals celebrated at the Holy Thursday liturgy are the presentation of the oils, the washing   
of the feet, the collection for the poor, and the transfer of the Eucharist.

6. *What does Good Friday commemorate?*

Good Friday commemorates Jesus’ Passion and death on the cross.

7. *What is the veneration of the cross?*

The veneration of the cross is a ritual in which we offer some sign of our respect and devotion for   
Christ’s sacrifice. People genuflect or kneel before the cross, or even kiss or touch it.

8. *What is the Easter Vigil?*

The Easter Vigil is the liturgy celebrated on Holy Saturday night that celebrates the coming of the light   
of the Risen Christ into the world. It is also the time when adults and older children are received into   
the Church through the Sacraments of Christian Initiation.

9. *Describe the use of darkness and light in the Easter Vigil.*

The Easter Vigil begins in darkness outside the church. After a fire is lit, the priest blesses it, then lights the Easter candle, which symbolizes the light of the Risen Christ. The members of the congregation process by, light their individual candles from the Easter candle flame, and enter the darkened church. The church is slowly brightened by the glow of candles as everyone enters the church.

10. *Describe the Liturgy of the Word in the Easter Vigil.*

The Liturgy of the Word has five to nine readings that offer an overview of salvation history. There are three to seven readings from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament.