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Unit 4 Vocabulary

Terms for Mastery

**absolution** An essential part of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation in which the priest pardons the sins of the person confessing, in the name of God and the Church.

**Anointing of the Sick** One of the Seven Sacraments, in which a gravely ill, aging, or dying person is anointed by the priest and prayed over by him and attending believers. One need not be dying to receive the sacrament.

**concupiscence** The tendency of all human beings toward sin, as a result of Original Sin.

**examination of conscience** Prayerful reflection on, and assessment of, one’s words, attitudes, and actions in light of the Gospel of Jesus; more specifically, the conscious moral evaluation of one’s life in preparation for reception of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

**mortal sin**  An action so contrary to the will of God that it results in a complete separation from God and his grace. As a consequence of that separation, the person is condemned to eternal death. For a sin to be a mortal sin, three conditions must be met: the act must involve a grave matter, the person must have full knowledge of the evil of the act, and the person must give full consent in committing the act.

**Oil of the Sick** Blessed olive oil used in the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick to anoint the forehead and hands of people who are seriously ill or near death.

**Penance and Reconciliation, Sacrament of** One of the Seven Sacraments of the Church, the liturgical celebration of God’s forgiveness of sin, through which the sinner is reconciled with both God and the Church.

**penitent** Refers to the person who repents of wrongdoing and seeks forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

**reparation** The act of making amends for something one did wrong that caused physical, emotional, or material harm to another person.

**repentance (contrition)** An attitude of sorrow for a sin committed and a resolution not to sin again. It is a response to God’s gracious love and forgiveness.

**venial sin** A less serious offense against the will of God that diminishes one’s personal character and weakens but does not rupture one’s relationship with God.

**viaticum** The process by which an unbaptized person, called a “catechumen,” and those who were baptized in another Christian denomination, called “candidates for full communion,” are prepared to become full members of the Church.

Term Introduced for Later Mastery

**conversion** A profound change of heart, turning away from sin and toward God.

Terms Previously Mastered or for General Knowledge

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

**Hell** Refers to the state of definitive separation from God and the saints, and so is a state of eternal punishment.

**Purgatory** A state of final purification or cleansing, which one may need to enter following death and before entering Heaven.

**sin** Any deliberate offense, in thought, word, or deed, against the will of God. Sin wounds human nature and injures human solidarity.