

Name _____

Unit 2 Vocabulary

Terms for Mastery

A–I

agnostic; agnosticism One who believes we cannot know anything about God's existence or his nature; the belief that we cannot know anything about God's existence or his nature.

apostasy The act of renouncing one's faith.

Asherah (also called Astarte or Ashtoreth)

The Canaanite goddess of love and fertility, often represented by a serpent and worshipped in sacred groves. She was considered a false god by the Israelites but also worshipped by them when they fell away from the one true God.

atheist; atheism One who denies the existence of God; the denial of the existence of God.

Baal The Canaanite god of rain and vegetation, often represented by a bull and worshipped in the "high places." He was considered a false god by the Israelites but worshipped by them when they fell away from the one true God.

blasphemy Speaking, acting, or thinking about God, Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, or the saints in a way that is irreverent, mocking, or offensive. It is a sin against the Second Commandment.

divination The practice of seeking power or knowledge through supernatural means apart from the one true God; a sin against the First Commandment.

heresy The conscious and deliberate rejection by a baptized person of a truth of faith that must be believed.

idolatry The worship of other beings, creatures, or material goods in a way that is fitting for God alone. It is a violation of the First Commandment.

M–S

magic The belief in supernatural power that comes from a source other than God; a sin against the First Commandment.

perjury The sin of lying while under an oath to tell the truth. It is a sin against the Second and Eighth Commandments.

perpetual adoration The practice of people committing to pray before the Blessed Sacrament in a designated location so that someone is always in the presence of Christ, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

profanity Speaking disrespectfully about something that is sacred or treating it with disrespect.

Sabbath In the Old Testament, the "seventh day" on which God rested after the work of Creation was completed. In the Old Law, the weekly day of rest to remember God's work through private prayer and communal worship. Christians fulfill the Sabbath observance on the Lord's Day, celebrated on Sunday, the day on which Jesus was raised, which Catholics also observe with participation in the Eucharist.

sacred The quality of being holy, worthy of respect and reverence; set apart for God.

sacrilege An offense against God. It is the abuse of a person, place, or thing dedicated to God and the worship of him.

simony Buying or selling something spiritual, such as a grace, a sacrament, or a relic.



S–V

superstition Attributing to someone or something else a power that belongs to God alone and relying on such powers rather than trusting in God; a sin against the First Commandment.

tithe A commitment to donate a tenth or some other percentage of our income to the Church and other charitable causes.

venerate To show respect and devotion to someone or something.

Terms Previously Mastered or for General Knowledge

covenant A solemn agreement between human beings or between God and a human being in which mutual commitments are made.

eschatology The area of Christian faith having to do with the last things: the Last Judgment, the particular judgment, the resurrection of the body, Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory.

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.

monotheism The belief in and worship of only one God.

pantheon All of the gods of a people or religion collectively.

Theological Virtues The name given for the God-given virtues of faith, hope, and love. These virtues enable us to know God as God and lead us to union with God in mind and heart.

