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Unit 3 Vocabulary

Terms for Mastery

**adulation** Excessive flattery, praise, or admiration for another person.

**calumny** Ruining the reputation of another person by lying or spreading rumors. It is also called slander and is a sin against the Eighth Commandment.

**conciliar** Something connected with an official council of the Church, normally an Ecumenical Council such as the Second Vatican Council.

**conscience** The “inner voice,” guided by human reason and Divine Law, that enables us to judge the moral quality of a specific action that has   
been made, is being made, or will be made. This judgment enables us to distinguish good from evil, in order to accomplish good and avoid evil. To make good judgments, one needs to have a well-formed conscience.

**consumerism** The preoccupation with buying and having more material things.

**detraction** Unnecessarily revealing something about another person that is true but is harmful   
to their reputation. It is a sin against the Eighth Commandment.

**envy** Resentment that we direct at others who have some success, thing, or privilege that we want for ourselves. It is one of the capital sins   
and contrary to the Tenth Commandment.

**greed** The desire to accumulate earthly goods beyond what we need. It is one of the capital sins and contrary to the Tenth Commandment.

**mammon** An Aramaic word meaning wealth or property.

**plagiarism** Copying someone else’s words or ideas without permission or giving proper credit   
to the person.

**poverty of heart** The recognition of our deep need for God and the commitment to put God above everything else in life, particularly above   
the accumulation of material wealth.

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

**sacred art** Art that evokes faith by turning our minds to the mystery of God, primarily through   
the artistic depiction of Scripture, Tradition, and the lives of Jesus, Mary, and the saints.

Terms Introduced for Later Mastery

**catechist**  Catechesis is the process by which Christians of all ages are taught the essentials of Christian doctrine and are formed as disciples of Christ. Catechists are the ministers of catechesis.

**civil authorities** Leaders of public groups   
that are not religious institutions, particularly government leaders.

**civil disobedience** Deliberate refusal to obey   
an immoral civil law or an immoral demand from civil authority.

**commutative justice** This type of justice calls   
for fairness in agreements and contracts between individuals. It is an equal exchange of goods, money, or services.

**social doctrine** The teaching of the Church   
on the truth of Revelation about human dignity, human solidarity, and the principles of justice   
and peace; and on the moral judgments about economic and social matters required by such truths.

Terms Previously Mastered or for General Knowledge

**almsgiving**  Freely giving money or material goods to a person who is needy, often by giving   
to a group or organization that serves poor people. It may be an act of penance or of Christian charity.

**Corporal Works of Mercy** Charitable actions   
that respond to people’s physical needs and show respect for human dignity. The traditional list of seven works includes feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, visiting prisoners, and burying the dead.

**Johannine writings** The Gospel of John and   
the three Letters of John.

**parable** Generally a short story that uses everyday images to communicate religious messages. Jesus used parables frequently in his teaching as a way of presenting the Good News   
of salvation.

**prostitution**  The act of providing sexual services in exchange for money, drugs, or other goods. It is a serious social evil and is a sin against the Sixth Commandment.

**providence** God’s divine care and protection.

**solidarity** Union of one’s heart and mind with those who are poor or powerless or who face   
an injustice. It is an act of Christian charity.

**vocation**  A call from God to all members of the Church to embrace a life of holiness. Specifically, it refers to a call to live the holy life as an ordained minister, as a vowed religious (sister or brother), or in a Christian marriage. Single life that involves   
a personal consecration or commitment to a permanent, celibate gift of self to God and one’s neighbor is also a vocational state.