

A Preassessment of My Knowledge of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony: Leader's Copy

Instructions to Leader: Read aloud only the *answers* in bold print. You may read them in random order. The students should respond with the appropriate question.

1. Who are the People of God?

I am the collective group of God's priestly people who participate in the one priesthood of Christ, which we all share through Baptism.

2. Who is an ordained minister?

I am called to be a servant leader: Depending on the degree of my ordination, I am called to serve and to lead the Church by teaching the Word of God, by offering divine worship in the liturgy, and by governing the Church as a representative of Christ, who is the Head of the Church.

3. What is the Sacrament of Holy Orders?

I am the Sacrament by which baptized men are ordained for permanent ministry in the Church as bishops, priests, or deacons.

4. What is the tribe of Levi?

I am the tribe of Aaron, Moses' brother, chosen by God among the Twelve Tribes of Israel to be priests to carry out liturgical sacrifice and worship.

5. Who is the High Priest of the New Covenant, and the Head of the Church?

I am Jesus Christ, who entered the sanctuary of Heaven itself through my own sacrifice on the cross; there is no priesthood except through me.

6. Who is Melchizedek?

My Old Testament offering of bread and wine prefigured the offerings of bread and wine in the Eucharist.



7. Who is a bishop?

I am the visible head of the particular Church or diocese to which I have been assigned as a successor to the Apostles with duties as teacher, shepherd, and priest.

8. What is the College of Bishops?

I am a group of leaders of the Church who, under the authority of the Pope, share the responsibility of caring for the entire Church.

9. Who is a priest?

I am consecrated to preach the Gospel, to guide the People of God, and to celebrate the liturgy of the Church; I may also serve as a pastor and administrator of a local parish church.

10. What is the presbyterium?

I am a body of priests, around the bishop of our diocese, who helps and advises him in the governance of the local church.

11. Who is a permanent deacon?

My name means "service." I am ordained to preach the Word of God, to assist during the celebration of the Eucharist, to assist with pastoral governance, and to dedicate myself to the service of charity and good works. I can be married, but I promise not to remarry if my wife should die.

12. Who is a transitional deacon?

I am in the process of becoming a priest and have been ordained to preach the Word of God, but I cannot yet consecrate the bread and wine.

13. What is celibacy?

I am a discipline of the Church for bishops, priests, and other religious women and men, which requires that my total dedication be to Christ and the Church rather than to one person in a married state.



14. What is Sacred Chrism?

I am used in Baptism, Confirmation, and in the ordination of bishops and priests; I anoint the head of a bishop and the hands of a priest.

15. What is a miter?

I am the uniquely pointed hat that is worn by a bishop for liturgical celebrations.

16. What is a crosier?

I am the shepherd's staff of a bishop.

17. What is a permanent character?

I am the changed state of being, the spiritual mark, that never leaves a person who is baptized, confirmed, or ordained. Because of me, these Sacraments can never be repeated.

18. What is the Sacrament of Matrimony?

I am, by Jesus' command, the Sacrament whose visible sign is the lifelong committed love and fidelity of a man and a woman toward each other as Christ is committed to the Church; it is a celebration of both "otherness" and equality.

19. What are the purposes of marriage?

I am the freely given union of minds and hearts and the procreation and education of children.

20. What is a mixed marriage?

I am the marriage between a baptized Catholic and a baptized Christian of a different denomination.

21. What is disparity of cult?

Because of me, special permission is required from the Catholic Church for a baptized Catholic to marry a nonbaptized person.



22. What is a constraint to marriage?

I am any obstacle that prevents free and full consent to marriage. I can be unknown mental illness, an unplanned pregnancy, a secret addiction, or anything that truly takes away full and free consent. I am the primary grounds for an annulment—which means that no sacramental Marriage was possible.

23. What is an annulment?

I am the Catholic Church's official pronouncement that a marriage is null and void, and that a sacramental Marriage was not possible because of some form of constraint to marriage at the time of the marriage ceremony. I do not dissolve legal marriage, nor do I cause children to become illegitimate. However, a completed civil divorce is required before you can seek me through the Church.

24. What is the domestic church?

I am the Christian family, the core community in the Church and the place where children first hear the faith proclaimed.

