Vocabulary for Unit 5

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

**envy:** Resentment or sadness because of another person’s good fortune. 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.

**parables:** Stories rooted in daily life that use symbolism or allegory as a teaching tool and that usually have a surprise ending.

**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.

**providence:** The guidance, material goods, and care provided by God that is sufficient to meet our needs.

**social doctrine:** The body of teaching by the Church on economic and social matters that includes moral judgments and demands for action in favor of those being harmed.