

## Vocabulary for Unit 7

**ascetic:** Pertaining to spiritual discipline in which a person leads a strict life of simplicity and self-denial.

**breviary:** A prayer book that contains the prayers for the Liturgy of the Hours.

**cenobitic:** Monastic life lived in community rather than in solitude.

**charism:** A special gift or grace of the Holy Spirit given to an individual Christian or community, commonly for the benefit and building up of the entire Church.

**consecrated life:** A state of life recognized by the Church in which a person publicly professes vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

**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.

**Counter-Reformation:** A movement of internal reform within the Church during the later sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries that came about as a response to the Protestant Reformation.

**eremitic:** Relating to the life of a hermit, characterized by self-denial and solitude.

**eschatological:** Having to do with the last things: the Last Judgment, the particular judgment, the resurrection of the body, Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory.

**evangelical counsels:** The call to go beyond the minimum rules of life required by God (such as the Ten Commandments and the precepts of the Church) and strive for spiritual perfection through a life marked by a commitment to chastity, poverty, and obedience.

**lectio divina:** A Latin term meaning "divine reading." *Lectio divina* is a form of meditative prayer focused on a Scripture passage. It involves repetitive readings and periods of reflection and can serve as either private or communal prayer.

**mendicant:** From a Latin root *mendicare*, meaning "to beg." Members of mendicant orders rely on charity for their support.

**moderators:** Those who hold a place of authority within a secular institute; similar to the superior of a religious congregation.

**religious communities:** A group of men or women religious who are joined by a common charism.

**sacred bond:** A binding commitment within the Church—especially to a particular state in life—that is recognized by Canon Law. Religious vows are considered sacred bonds, but a sacred bond does not necessarily need to be a religious vow. Other sacred bonds could include promises or oaths.

**spiritual works of mercy:** Charitable actions that respond to people's spiritual needs and show respect for human dignity. The traditional list of seven works includes sharing knowledge, giving advice to those who need it, comforting those who suffer, being patient with others, forgiving those who hurt you, giving correction to those who need it, and praying for the living and the dead.

