

Basic Study Questions for Grade 8

These Basic Study Questions have been revised to include questions and/or answers suggested by Bishop Burbidge as important for those preparing for Confirmation. These questions are indicated with an asterisk (*).

The questions in this booklet are in the order of subject matter covered in the chapters of the textbook.

There are also questions on subjects not covered in the textbook, but necessary for Confirmation preparation.

➤ **First Semester (Salvation History Overview and Chapters 1- 16):**

1. Who is God?

God is the all-perfect pure spirit. God is eternal, all powerful, all wise and all holy.

2. What is the Holy Trinity?

The Holy Trinity is the mystery of the one true God in three Divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

3. What is the Incarnation?

The Incarnation is when the Son of God (Jesus) became man through the Blessed Virgin Mary.

4. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. He is the Savior of the world, the Messiah. He will judge the living and the dead at the end of the world.

5. Why did the Son of God become man?

The Son of God became man:

- a. in order to save us (take away our sins) by reconciling us with God
- b. so that we would know God's love
- c. to be our model of holiness
- d. to make us sharers in his divinity

6. What is the Paschal Mystery?

The Paschal Mystery is the Passion, death and Resurrection of Christ.

7. What is salvation history?

Salvation history is the story of God's saving plan, fulfilled in Jesus Christ, to reunite man with Him and share in His glory forever.

8. What is faith?

Faith is a gift from God which helps us to believe in Him and all He has revealed through Christ and His Church.

9. What is original sin?

Original sin is the first sin committed (on earth) by Adam and Eve that we all inherit and it is washed away by the Sacrament of Baptism.

10. Name the Twelve Apostles chosen by Christ

Bartholomew	Andrew	Philip	Thomas
James the Greater	James the Lesser	John	Judas
Thaddaeus	Simon	Simon Peter	
Matthew			

11. What happened at Pentecost and what did the Apostles do after Pentecost?

At Pentecost the Apostles were filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, making it possible to do what Jesus commanded them to do:

- preach the Gospel
- baptize in the name of the Holy Trinity
- teach the people what they were taught by Jesus

The Church continues to do what Jesus commanded the Apostles to do.

*12. What is special about the Church? Name and define the four marks of the Church.

The Church is special because it was founded by Jesus Christ.

The four marks of the Church and what they mean are:

One - The Church is one because of her source, foundation, and bonds of unity in Christ.

Holy - The Church is holy because she is united with Christ, Who through the Church sanctifies all people making possible holiness in life.

Catholic – The Church is catholic because the Church is universal across all times and all places

Apostolic – The Church is apostolic because she traces her teaching and authority to the Apostles

13. Where can we find the teachings of the Catholic Church?

The teachings of the Catholic Church can be found in Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium.

14. What is Sacred Scripture?

Sacred Scripture is the inspired word of God found in the Bible.

15. What is Sacred Tradition?

Sacred Tradition is practices of the faith which have been passed down through word or practice from the Apostles to the Church today.

16. What is the Creed?

The Creed is a statement of what we believe about God and His Church. (credo: I believe)

17. What is Revelation?

Revelation is the truths of Faith which God has made known to us. (think: revelation= to reveal)

18. What is the Magisterium?

The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church. It is exercised by the Pope and the bishops united with him.

19. What is infallibility?

Infallibility is a gift from the Holy Spirit which keeps the Church free from error in teaching about faith and morals. The Pope alone or in union with the Bishops makes use of this gift.

20. Who is the Pope?

The Pope is the successor of St. Peter , he is the Bishop of Rome. He is the head of the Church on earth. He represents Christ who is the invisible head of the Church.

***21. What is a sacrament?**

A Sacrament is an outward (visible) sign instituted by Christ to give grace.

22. Name the Sacraments of Initiation.

The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

23. What three sacraments leave an indelible mark on the soul?

Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders leave an indelible mark on the soul.

24. What is Baptism?

Baptism is the sacrament which takes away Original Sin and fills our soul with sanctifying grace. It makes us Christians (followers of Jesus Christ), children of God and members of the Church.

***25. Name the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Describe briefly.**

- a. Wisdom: helps us to know God's will for our lives
- b. Understanding: enables us to make the faith our own
- c. Knowledge: allows us to know God and to have a personal relationship with Him
- d. Fortitude: helps us to be courageous in the defense of our faith
- e. Counsel: aids us in making right judgments
- f. Piety: assists us in being prayerful, reverent, and holy
- g. Fear of the Lord: is a holy awe and reverence for God

26. Name the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit.

The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit are:

charity	joy	peace	patience	kindness	goodness
generosity	gentleness	faithfulness	modesty	self-control	chastity

27. Who is Mary?

Mary is the Mother of Jesus, our Savior.

28. What are the three central teachings of the Church concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary?

The three central teachings of our Church concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary are:

- The Immaculate Conception: Mary was conceived without original sin
- Perpetual Virginity: Mary was and remained a virgin – before, during and after the birth of Jesus
- The Assumption: at the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven

29. What is the Communion of Saints?

The Communion of Saints refers to all the members of the Church – those on earth, those in Heaven and those in Purgatory.

(note: The Communion of Saints is sometimes referred to as the Church Militant, Church Suffering and Church Triumphant.)

30. What is a martyr?

A martyr is someone who dies witnessing to the Faith.

31. List the Seven Deadly Sins and what they mean.

1. Pride - an exaggerated opinion of oneself
2. Avarice/Greed - uncontrolled desire for earthly things, such as money, clothes, etc.
3. Envy - unhappiness or discontent over the good fortune or success of others
4. Wrath/Anger - an uncontrolled feeling of displeasure and antagonism
5. Lust - an uncontrolled desire for sexual pleasure
6. Gluttony - an uncontrolled use of food and drink
7. Sloth - excessive laziness or carelessness

32. What is virtue?

Virtue is a good habit which helps us to do good and avoid evil.

33. List the three theological virtues and describe each.

Faith: a gift from God which helps us to believe in Him and all He has revealed through Christ and His Church.

Hope: to trust in God for the graces necessary to obey Him and to merit eternal life

Charity (love): to love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves

34. List the four cardinal virtues and describe each.

Prudence: the ability to make the right choices in life

Justice: respecting the rights and dignity of every human being and giving to everyone what is rightfully his

Fortitude: courage to face every difficulty or danger with inner peace, even if it involves great sacrifice and suffering

Temperance: the power to control ourselves

35. What are the seven corporal works of mercy?

The corporal works of mercy are acts of love that help us to care for the physical and material needs of others. They are:

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Shelter the homeless
5. Visit the imprisoned
6. Visit the sick
7. Bury the dead

36. What are the seven spiritual works of mercy?

The spiritual works of mercy are acts of love that help us to care for the needs of people's hearts, minds and souls. They are:

1. Admonish the sinner
2. Instruct the ignorant
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowful
5. Bear wrongs patiently
6. Forgive all injuries
7. Pray for the living and the dead

37. What are the Beatitudes and during which sermon did Jesus pass them to the crowd?

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.
2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.
9. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in Heaven. [#9 sometimes shows up as part of #8]

Jesus preached the Beatitudes during the Sermon on the Mount.

➤ **Second Semester (Chapters 17-26):**

38. What must we do if those in authority command us to violate God's law?

If those in authority command us to violate God's law, we must obey God rather than men.

39. List the precepts of the Church

1. Attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and rest from servile labor.
2. Confess your sins at least once a year.
3. Receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
4. Observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. Help provide for the needs of the Church.
6. Obey the laws of the Church concerning Matrimony.*
7. Participate in the Church's mission of evangelization of souls.*

* Not found in student textbook

40. List the Ten Commandments in order.

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have other gods before Me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

41. What is conscience? How do we develop a well-informed conscience?

Conscience is the internal guide which helps us decide what actions are right or wrong. We develop our conscience by studying the Bible and the teachings of the Church, by praying and by living our faith with guidance from parents, priests, etc.

42. What is sin?

Sin is an offense done to God by disobeying his law.

43. What is mortal sin?

Mortal sin is serious act of disobedience to the law of God which kills God's life within us (grace). There are three conditions under which a sin is considered mortal:

- in a serious/grave matter,
- done with full knowledge
- done freely of our own will

(please note: if not redeemed by repentance and God's forgiveness, it causes exclusion from God's Kingdom.)

44. What is venial sin?

Venial sin is an offense against the law of God in a small matter. It weakens our relationship with God, but does not kill God's life within us.

45. Is all human life sacred?

Yes, all human life is sacred. It must be protected from conception to natural death.

46. What is prayer?

Prayer is lifting our minds and hearts to God; having a conversation with God.

47. Name the Mysteries of the Rosary (and be able to briefly explain them).

Joyful Mysteries: The Annunciation, The Visitation, The Nativity, The Presentation in the Temple, The Finding of the Child Jesus after Three Days in the Temple

Sorrowful Mysteries: The Agony in the Garden, The Scourging at the Pillar, The Crowning with Thorns, The Carrying of the Cross, The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord

Glorious Mysteries: The Resurrection, The Ascension, The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, The Assumption of Mary, The Crowning of the Blessed Mother as Queen of Heaven and Earth

Luminous Mysteries: The Baptism at the Jordan, The Miracle at Cana, The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (and call to conversion), The Transfiguration, The Institution of the Eucharist (at the Last Supper)

48. What is the Mass?

The Mass is the greatest worship we can give to God. In this sacrifice, through the priest, Christ offers Himself to the Father for our sins. Through the Mass, we are present at the Last Supper, beneath the Cross of our Lord and at the Resurrection.

49. Is the Sacrifice of the Mass the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the Cross?

The Sacrifice of the Mass is the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the Cross; the only difference is in the manner in which it is offered.

50. What are the two main parts of the Holy Mass?

Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are the two main parts of the Mass.

***51. What is grace? What is sanctifying grace?**

Grace is a supernatural gift from God. It makes us holy and unites us with God. Grace strengthens the active presence, life and love of the Holy Trinity in us.

Sanctifying grace is that grace we receive through the sacraments and is necessary in order to go to Heaven.

52. How can we restore sanctifying grace which is lost by mortal sin?

Sanctifying grace can only be restored through the Sacrament of Penance.

53. Name the seven sacraments?

The seven Sacraments are Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

54. Name the Sacraments of Initiation, the Sacraments of Healing, and the Sacraments of Service.

- The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist
- The Sacraments of Healing are Penance and Anointing of the Sick
- The Sacraments of Service are Holy Orders and Matrimony

55. Who forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Penance?

Christ forgives our sins in the sacrament of Penance through the priest.

56. What is the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is the Sacrament which is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ – under the appearances of bread and wine.

57. What is transubstantiation?

Transubstantiation means, “change of substance.” It is the complete change of the bread and wine into Jesus Christ’s Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity which occurs at the Consecration during Mass.

58. What are three conditions necessary for the worthy reception of the Holy Eucharist?

- a. be in the state of grace (free of mortal sin)
- b. believe it is Jesus whom we are about to receive
- c. observe the Eucharistic fast.

59. What is the particular judgment?

The particular judgment is the individual judgment by Christ of each human being at the moment after death.

60. What is the general judgment?

The general judgment is the universal judgment of the entire human race at the end of the world.

61. What is Purgatory?

Purgatory is a place of temporary separation from God; it is the state after death which purifies souls and helps them to make up for sins committed while they were alive.

62. What is hell?

Hell is eternal separation from God.

63. What is Heaven?

Heaven is eternal happiness in God’s presence.

64. What does “resurrection of the body” mean?

The “resurrection of the body” means that our bodies will be transformed by the power of God and reunited with our souls, so that we will share in the eternal reward or punishment we have merited.

65. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God, the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, the sanctifier of souls.

66. What is Confirmation? What are the effects of Confirmation?

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation which:

- completes the grace of Baptism through the outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- changes the soul by marking it with a permanent seal of the Holy Spirit
- unites one more fully to Christ
- strengthens one to spread and defend the Faith
- equips one for more active participation in the life of the Church

***67. When did Jesus institute the Sacrament of Confirmation?**

The first Sacrament of Confirmation was received by the Apostles at Pentecost (fifty days after Easter), when God the Father sent the Holy Spirit to them. Tongues of fire rested upon their heads and the fire of God's love filled their souls.

68. Who is the usual minister of Confirmation?

A bishop is the usual minister of Confirmation.

69. Why does the Bishop anoint in the form of a cross?

The Bishop anoints in the form of a cross to show we belong to Christ and that we must defend our faith with gratitude for Christ's redeeming death on the cross.

***70. How is the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated?**

- Confirmation is celebrated by the Bishop, and it is always celebrated within a Liturgy of the Word.
- After the Gospel, the candidates are presented to the Bishop and then he instructs them in a homily.
- The Bishop then asks the candidates to renew their baptismal promises.
- Next, the Bishop expresses the Church's prayer that the Father send the Holy Spirit.
- Then, the Bishop places his hand on the head of each candidate, and anoints the forehead with Holy Chrism by making the sign of the cross.
- Bishop says, "(Saint name) be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."
Candidate responds, "Amen."
Bishop says, "Peace be with you."
Candidate responds, "And with your spirit."
- Finally, the community prays for the newly Confirmed.

71. What is Sacred Chrism and what does it signify?

Sacred Chrism is a perfumed oil blessed by the Bishop.

Anointing with Sacred Chrism signifies the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and our being made more like Christ in order to continue his work in the world.

For further reflection: *Oils were used by the Jewish people to anoint priests, prophets, and kings. These anointings showed that God called them to a special role of leadership and would empower them with the graces needed to fulfill the responsibilities [of that role].*

In Confirmation, Christians are anointed with Chrism. By receiving the Holy Spirit, we are made more like Christ and are strengthened in doing Christ's work in the world. The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit empower us to fulfill these responsibilities.

Chrism reminds us of the sacred character sealed on our soul (as oil on a garment leaves a permanent mark, so Confirmation leaves a permanent mark on the soul).

The fragrance of Chrism reminds us, as St. Paul said, to "put on the aroma of Christ."

72. What is the significance of choosing a saint's name as your Confirmation name? The candidate takes a saint's name to remind him that he is to place himself under the protection of a patron saint, which he chooses as an advocate before God and that he is to follow the exemplary life of this patron saint.

➤ Prayers and Lists

PL 1. Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

PL 2. The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into Hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PL 3. Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

PL 4. Name the books of the Old Testament. What are the first five books called?

Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
Joshua	Judges	Ruth		
1 Samuel	2 Samuel	1 Kings	2 Kings	
1 Chronicles	2 Chronicles	Ezra	Nehemiah	
Tobit	Judith	Esther	1 Maccabees	
2 Maccabees	Job	Psalms	Proverbs	
Ecclesiastes	Song of Songs	Wisdom	Sirach	
Isaiah	Jeremiah	Lamentations	Baruch	
Ezekiel	Daniel	Hosea	Joel	
Amos	Obadiah	Jonah	Micah	
Nahum	Habakkuk	Zephaniah	Haggai	
Zechariah	Malachi			

*The first five books of the Hebrew Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy are called the Pentateuch.; also called the "Torah"

PL 5. Name the Books of the New Testament

<u>Gospels:</u>	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
The Acts	Romans	1 Corinthians		2 Corinthians
Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians		Colossians
1 Thessalonians		2 Thessalonians		1 Timothy
2 Timothy	Titus	Philemon		Hebrews
James	1 Peter	2 Peter		1 John
2 John	3 John	Jude		Revelation

Please note: Go to the Parish website (<http://straymonds.org/>) and under the Religious Education drop down menu look for Parent Handbook and Supplements - the drop down menu here will have *The Catholic Books of the Bible Song* video – a catchy tune by which the children can learn these names.

The Bishop has asked that you consider the following as you prepare for Confirmation:

➤ **How will I live the Sacrament of Confirmation?**

Be able to tell the Bishop how you will live the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For example,

- *attend Mass each Sunday and Holy Day;*
- *pray each day;*
- *read Sacred Scripture;*
- *go to confession regularly;*
- *continue to learn about the faith;*
- *help in the mission of the Church (for example, by participating in the life of my parish);*
- *faithfully fulfill my vocation (for example, be married in the Church and, God willing, raise children in the faith; for example, say “yes” to the call to be a Priest, Sister, or Brother).*

➤ **Who is your Confirmation Saint?**

Be able to tell the Bishop about your Confirmation Saint, what that Saint did to inspire you, and why you chose the saint.

