

# 2019-2020 RCIA #17

3/16/20

# Review

- The following charts are a highlight/review of:
  - **Chapter 29 – Penance**
  - **Chapter 30 - Contrition**
  - **Chapter 31 - Confession**

# Confession (Cont)

- **Preparation for Confession:**

- Examine conscience
- Be sorry for sins
- Have a firm purpose to not sin again
- Confess to a priest
- Perform the penance which the priest assigns

# Confession (Cont)

- **The formula for going to Confession:**
  - Spending some time examining one's conscience
  - Asking for the priest's blessing
  - Reciting a list of one's sins
  - Expressing a statement of sorrow for these and all past sins

# Confession (Cont)

- Reciting the act of contrition (the priest will ask you for this)
- Attaining absolution from the priest (*persona Christi*)
- Thanking the priest for hearing your confession
- Completing the “penance” assigned by the priest

# Confession (Cont)

- **Other points to consider when going to Confession**
  - Speak clearly and distinctly but in a whisper
  - Do not ever list the sins of others
  - Avoid making a general confession unless requested to do so by a confessor

# Confession (Cont)

- Listen attentively to the penance assigned by the priest
- Listen to the words of absolution
- After your confession, complete your penance as soon as possible and if possible remain a few moments thanking God for the sacrament of Confession

# Confession (Cont)

- Remember that:
  - God is infinitely merciful and just
  - The sinner usually punishes himself (when choosing to commit a mortal sin the sinner chooses to separate himself from God)



# Part III: The Sacraments and Prayer (Chapter 32)

- Temporal Punishment and Indulgences
  - Indulgences
  - Plenary Indulgences

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences

- Temporal punishment is the price that needs to be paid for a sin that has been forgiven
- The prescribed penance has a special efficacy in paying our debt of temporal punishment because it is a part of the sacrament of Confession but we must also perform other penitential works on our own

# Temporal Punishment

- John Chrysostom said:

*It is not enough to remove the arrow from the body; we also have to heal the wound caused by the arrow. It is the same with the soul: after we have received forgiveness for our sins, we have to heal the wound that remains through penance*

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- An indulgence is
  - Another way of paying off the temporal punishment resulting from sin
  - Not a permission to commit sin or forgiveness for past sins
  - Deals only with the debt of temporal punishment that we owe after our sins have been forgiven in the sacrament of Confession
- The Church has the right to remit temporal punishment based on the same promise of Christ concerning “binding” and “loosing”

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- The Church may remove from men's souls any impediment that would restrict them from going to heaven
- An indulgence is part of the spiritual treasure that comes from the merits of Jesus Christ, the Blessed Mother, and the saints which were beyond their respective needs
- It is from this spiritual treasure that the Church draws for the granting of indulgences

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- There are two kinds of indulgences:
  - **Partial indulgence** – removes a part of the temporal punishment
  - **Plenary indulgence** – removes all temporal punishment up to that time
- To gain an indulgence one must have a general intention of wanting to gain the indulgence and carry out exactly the condition for the indulgence to include the time, place, and manner prescribed as laid down by the Church

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- We never know if we fully meet all the criteria for a plenary indulgence for it requires that one be completely detached from all deliberate mortal and venial sins and be resolved to avoid all deliberate sin in the present and in the future

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- A plenary indulgence may be gained only once per day except when in danger of death and contains the following conditions:
  - Sacramental Confession
  - Eucharistic Communion
  - Prayers for the intention of the Pope (including 1 Our Father and 1 Hail Mary)
- An indulgence can be applied to ourselves or anyone in purgatory



# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- A partial indulgence can be granted to the faithful who, in the performance of their duties and bearing the trials of life, raise their minds with humble confidence of God (adding even if only mentally) some pious invocation
- It can be granted for a person in the spirit of penance voluntarily deprives themselves of what is licit and pleasing to them

# Temporal Punishment and Indulgences (Cont)

- An indulgence can be attached to the recitation of the rosary when said with others in a church, public oratory, family, group, religious community or pious association
- It may also be granted when reciting the stations of the cross, prayers before a Crucifix, prayers recited each Friday during Lent and the Passion prayed before the image of Christ crucified

# Part III: The Sacraments and Prayer (Chapter 33)

- Anointing of the Sick
  - Sacrament of the Sick
  - When to Call a Priest

# Anointing of the Sick

- This sacrament:
  - Ensures that one receives one more opportunity to attain Heaven
  - Gives health and strength to the soul and sometimes the body when we are in danger of death from sickness, accident or old age
  - Is the last of anointing sacraments (baptism, holy orders)

# Anointing of the Sick (Cont)

- Is based on Mt 6:12-13; James 5:14-15
- Uses the Oil of the Sick (pure olive oil) which was consecrated by the Bishop on Holy Thursday
  - The oil is administered to the forehead and the hands
- Increases sanctifying grace as long as the person is not in mortal sin
- Provides sacramental grace to comfort and strengthen

# Anointing of the Sick (Cont)

- Gives peace of mind
- Often removes the fear of dying
- Prepares the soul to go directly to Heaven by forgiving venial sins and temporal punishments
- Secondary effect is the recovery of bodily health of the sick or injured person

# Anointing of the Sick (Cont)

- **Viaticum** – the last communion before death (It also provides a plenary indulgence)
- Relatives and friends should continue to pray for the deceased
- We should all pray for a “Happy Death”

# Anointing of the Sick (Cont)

- When should one call a priest?
  - All persons, over the age of reason, who are in a condition that may lead to death should call a priest for the sacrament
  - Since the effects of the sacrament take place as long as the soul is in the body it can be administered for a limited time after death



# Anointing of the Sick (Cont)

- What should one have within the home to assist the priest?
  - A small table
  - A clean white linen cloth
  - Two candles
  - Holy water
  - Cotton balls