



Our Lady of the Rosary
FAMILY CATECHISM

LESSON 19: ON CONFESSION



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By Fr. Anthony Pillari JCL, MCL, STL, JD and Lydia Russo

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Regina Angelorum Press, Inc. 3216 Espada, New Braunfels, TX 78132, USA
Email: assistant.frpillari@reginaangelorumpress.com
www.reginangelorumpress.com

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Lesson 19: On Confession

O Jesus, [I choose to live this day] for love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners
and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Amen.

Activity 1: Verbal repetition

Repeat orally the questions and answers from the Baltimore Catechism.

208. Q. What is Confession? A. Confession is the telling of our sins to a duly authorised priest, for the purpose of obtaining forgiveness.

209. Q. What sins are we bound to confess? A. We are bound to confess all our mortal sins, but it is well also to confess our venial sins.

210. Q. What are the chief qualities of a good confession? A. The chief qualities of a good confession are three: it must be humble, sincere, and entire.

211. Q. When is our confession humble? A. Our confession is humble when we accuse ourselves of our sins, with a deep sense of shame and sorrow for having offended God.

212. Q. When is our confession sincere? A. Our confession is sincere when we tell our sins honestly and truthfully, neither exaggerating nor excusing them.

213. Q. When is our confession entire? A. Our confession is entire when we tell the number and kinds of our sins and the circumstances which change their nature.

214. Q. What should we do if we cannot remember the number of our sins? A. If we cannot remember the number of our sins, we should tell the number as nearly as possible, and say how often we have sinned in a day, a week, or a month and how long the habit or practice has lasted.

215. Q. Is our confession worthy if, without our fault, we forget to confess a mortal sin? A. If without our fault we forget to confess a mortal sin, our confession is worthy, and the sin is forgiven; but it must be told in confession if it again comes to our mind.

216. Q. Is it a grievous offense wilfully to conceal a mortal sin in confession? A. It is a grievous offense wilfully to conceal a mortal sin in confession, because we thereby tell a lie to the Holy Ghost, and make our confession worthless.

217. Q. What must he do who has wilfully concealed a mortal sin in confession? A. He who has wilfully concealed a mortal sin in confession must not only confess it, but must also repeat all the sins he has committed since his last worthy confession.

218. Q. Why does the priest give us a penance after confession? A. The priest gives us a penance after confession, that we may satisfy God for the temporal punishment due to our sins.

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O Jesus, [I choose to live this day] for love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners
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222. Q. Which are the chief spiritual works of mercy? A. The chief spiritual works of mercy are seven: to admonish the sinner, to instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to comfort the sorrowful, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive all injuries, and to pray for the living and the dead.

223. Q. Which are the chief corporal works of mercy? A. The chief corporal works of mercy are seven: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to ransom the captive, to harbour the harbourless, to visit the sick, and to bury the dead.

Activity 2: Prayer

As a family, pray the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel together, asking his powerful intercession.



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

English

Saint Michael Archangel, defend us in battle; be our protection against
the malice and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do Thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and all evil spirits
who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

Latin

Sancte Michael Archángele, defénde nos in praelio, contra nequítiam et insídias
diáboli esto præsídium. Imperet illi Deus, súpplices deprecámur:
tuque, Princeps militiæ cœlestis Sátanam aliósque spíritus malignos,
qui ad perditionem animárum pervágantur in mundo,
divína virtúte, in inférnum detrúde. Amen.

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Activity 3: Artwork

Research the following painting and statue of St. Michael the Archangel.

- Guido Reni's painting *St. Michael the Archangel* painted around 1636
- The statue of St. Michael which stands guard over the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

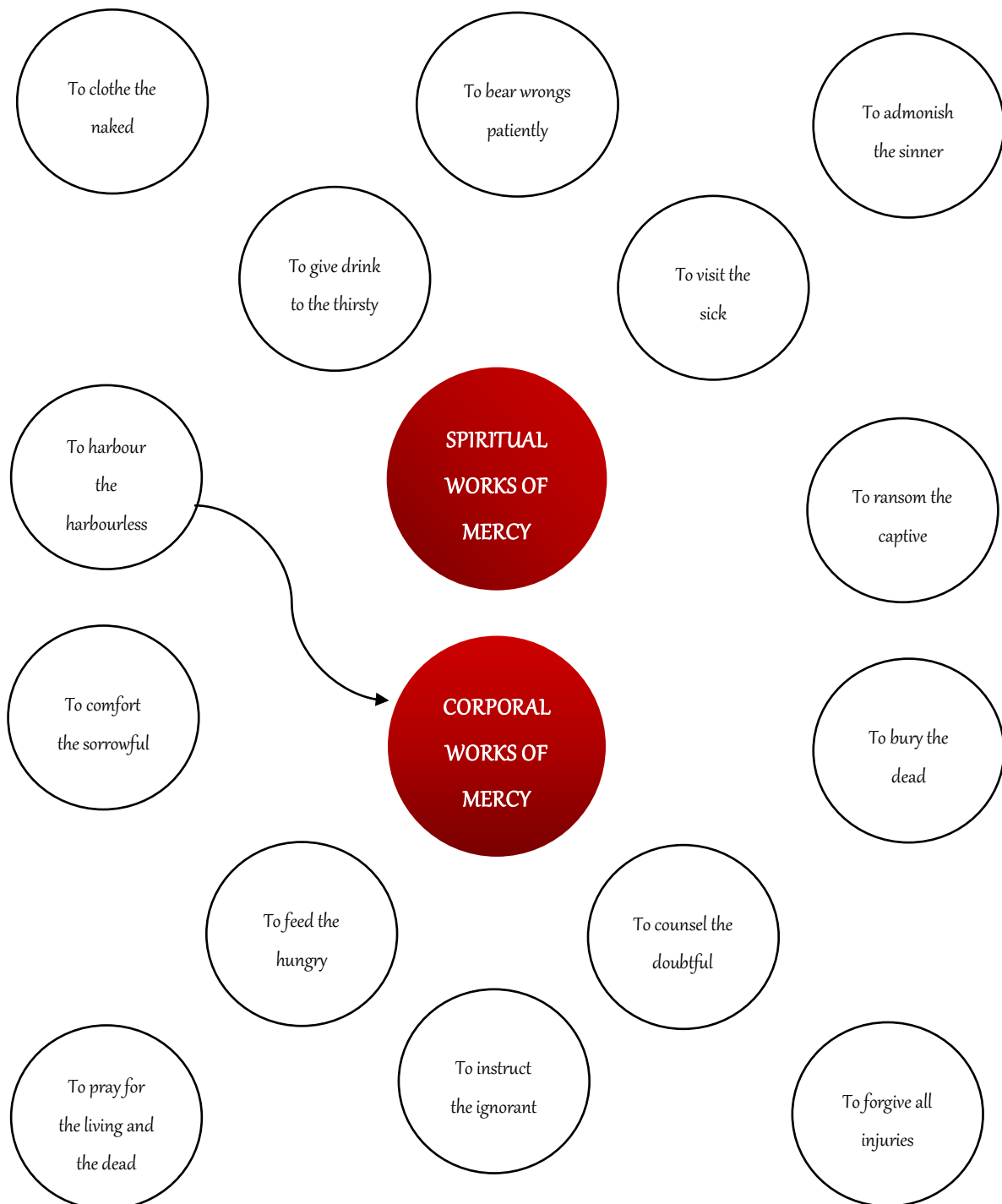
Choose one of the above. Paint or create a clay model of either the painting or the statue.

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Activity 4: Assignment

Use an arrow to match the works of mercy with their correct category; spiritual or corporal.



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Activity 5: Word search

Words

1. CONFESSION
2. HUMBLE
3. SINCERE
4. ENTIRE
5. MORTAL
6. VENIAL
7. SIN
8. PRIEST
9. FORGIVENESS
10. SPIRITUAL
11. CORPORAL
12. MERCY

S	M	F	L	S	E	C	M	G	S	H	C	B
P	I	C	I	H	I	O	L	C	A	L	O	F
I	C	N	S	V	E	N	I	A	L	Z	R	H
R	A	F	E	G	D	F	C	V	S	V	P	Z
I	H	U	M	B	L	E	M	E	P	I	O	M
T	L	G	O	I	L	S	E	N	R	Y	R	F
U	M	E	R	C	Y	S	C	T	B	E	A	I
A	H	E	T	A	F	I	P	I	D	Y	L	S
L	A	S	A	H	D	O	P	R	I	E	S	T
L	C	V	L	E	P	N	H	E	T	T	S	T
F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S	I	B

Activity 6: Fill in the gaps to the questions and answers from Activity 1. Can you do this from memory?

208. Q. What is Confession? A. Confession is the telling of our _____ to a duly authorized _____, for the purpose of obtaining _____.

209. Q. What sins are we bound to confess? A. We are bound to confess _____ our _____ sins, but it is well also to _____ our venial sins.

210. Q. What are the chief qualities of a good confession? A. The chief qualities of a good confession are three: it must be _____, _____, and _____.

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211. **Q. When is our confession humble?** A. Our confession is humble when we accuse ourselves of our sins, with a deep sense of _____ and _____ for having _____ God.

212. **Q. When is our confession sincere?** A. Our confession is sincere when we tell our sins _____ and _____, neither exaggerating nor excusing them.

213. **Q. When is our confession entire?** A. Our confession is entire when we tell the _____ and _____ of our sins and the circumstances which change their nature.

214. **Q. What should we do if we cannot remember the number of our sins?** A. If we cannot remember the number of our sins, we should tell the number as _____ as possible, and say how _____ we have sinned in a day, a week, or a month and how _____ the habit or practice has lasted.

215. **Q. Is our confession worthy if, without our fault, we forget to confess a mortal sin?**

A. If without our fault we _____ to confess a mortal sin, our confession is _____, and the sin is forgiven; but it must be told in _____ if it again comes to our mind.

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Activity 7: Match the questions and answers

Use an arrow to join up the questions with their corresponding answer.

Once you have done this, cut out the questions and answers and stick them together to make **FLASH CARDS**.

Alternatively, you may wish to use them to play **MEMORY PAIRS**.

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