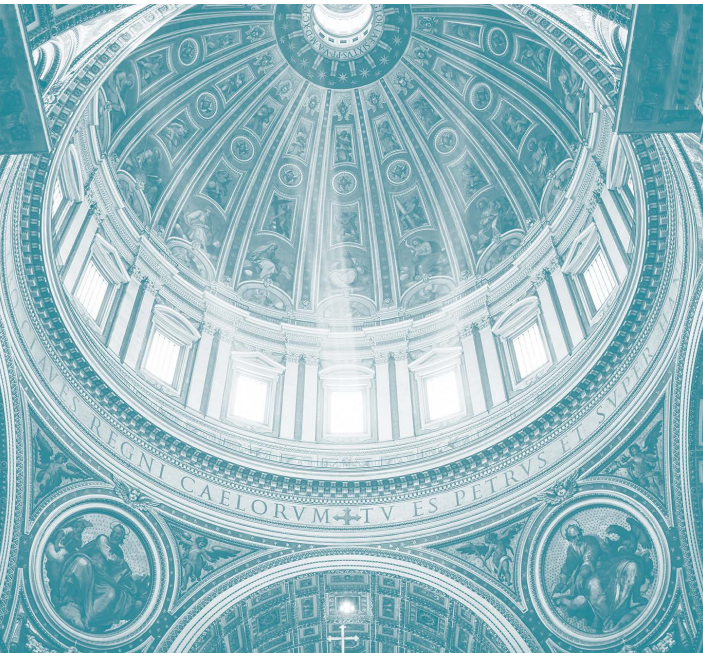


# The *Catechism* Helps Catholics Understand Why the Church Teaches What It Does



The *Catechism* is the 2nd most important book for the Church, yet many Catholics have never read it. Drawing from 2,000 years of Church history, the writings of over 50 saints, and almost every book of the Bible, this foundational document reveals what Catholics are called to believe and how they are called to live, worship, and pray on earth to spend eternity with God in heaven. See a summary of the 4 pillars of the *Catechism* and what teachings they reveal to Catholics below.



## PILLAR 1: WHAT WE BELIEVE

Leads Catholics through Divine Revelation and the Creed, explaining what the Catholic Church teaches and how these teachings have been revealed over time.

- The desire for God is written in the human heart.
- God teaches us about himself through Divine Revelation.
- Humanity responds to Divine Revelation with faith.
- The Nicene and Apostles' Creeds give Catholics the common language they need to profess their faith.
- "I believe in God" is the most fundamental profession of faith.

## PILLAR 2: HOW WE WORSHIP

Shows Catholics how the sacraments and the Mass praise God, helping all believers participate more fully in these acts of worship.

- In the liturgy, humanity has the opportunity to participate in Jesus' continuous work of redemption.
- The Mass is a visible sign of the communion between God and humanity.
- The sacraments give birth, healing, and mission to the Christian's life of faith.
- The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.





### PILLAR 3: HOW WE LIVE

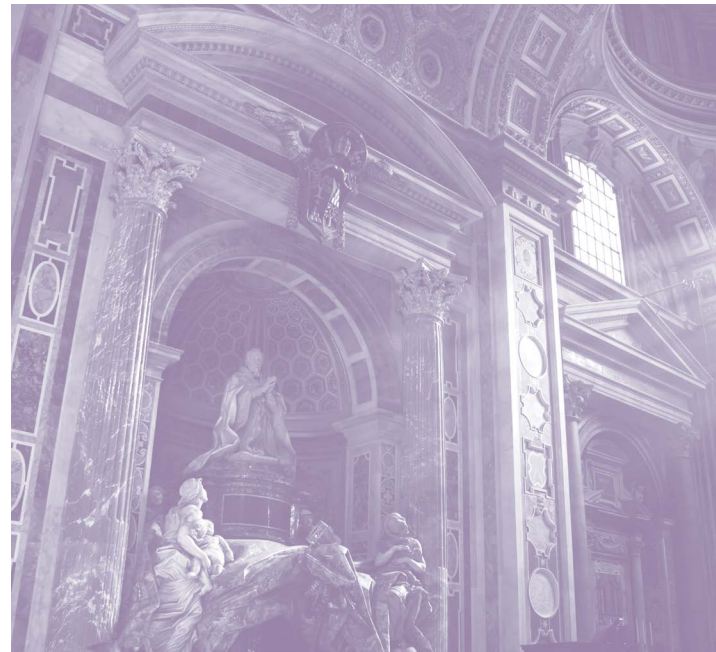
Presents the Ten Commandments, human dignity, faithful community, and salvation, showing Catholics how to live to attain the glory of heaven.

- Every human being is created for eternal life in heaven.
- Called to holiness but wounded by sin, man needs salvation from God.
- God loves humanity and makes a covenant with us, freely giving us the salvation we need for eternal life.
- The commandments show Catholics how to respond to God's love.
- The goal of human life is to be conformed to the image of Christ.

### PILLAR 4: HOW WE PRAY

Expands on the other three parts by teaching Catholics how to enter into a relationship with God through prayer.

- Prayer is the living relationship of the children of God with their Father.
- All of humanity is called to pray, but first we must learn how.
- Christ meets each one of us individually in prayer.
- The Our Father gives Catholics a prayer that is a summary of the whole Gospel.
- The goal of human life is to be conformed to the image of Christ.



## Built-In Tools Make the Wisdom of the Church Easier to Understand

The first-ever edition of the *Catechism* with added supplemental content makes this life-changing book easy to understand. A book that has long been considered only a reference document now helps Catholics see where Church teachings come from and understand how every paragraph fits into the big picture of their Faith. If you want to understand why Catholics believe what they do, this *Catechism* will guide you every step of the way! Get a copy at [ascensionpress.com/Catechism](https://ascensionpress.com/Catechism).