A Message from Mary

Dear Parents,

God, who is a divine unity, created us as social beings, meant for community. You might say that after food and shelter our next greatest need is to be connected with others. However, many social scientists and public health experts today believe that, despite the many tools available to help us interact with others, we are experiencing an epidemic of loneliness.

In *Loneliness: An Epidemic of Our Time*, Karen Dolva, CEO and co-founder of No Isolation, writes:

> In this time of incredible innovation, we have never been more connected. Major advancements in technology mean that with one swipe of a smartphone, we can instantly cross oceans and time zones to communicate with someone on the other side of the world. The sad irony however, is that as communication becomes increasingly effortless, people are actually getting lonelier.

Even if we frequently interact with people, we may still be lonely. This is because what we really desire and really need is *intimacy*. Fr. Thomas Keating, OSCO, describes four levels of relationship between persons: Acquaintanceship, Friendliness, Friendship, and Intimacy. Think of a time when you just met someone. Your conversation was probably informational and formal, perhaps somewhat awkward. Now, think of people with whom you are friendly. Your interactions are conversational and more informal than with acquaintances. You probably feel a sense of being at ease. Next, think of someone who is a friend. Interactions with friends are more spontaneous and free. Friends feel a sense of confidence in and gratitude for one another; they share their joys and their sufferings. Friendship, however, depends on self-disclosure and it requires commitment. We discover that as our friendship deepens so does the trust and love we have for the other person.

These levels are also present in our relationship with God. God is not simply a force in the universe, but rather a Person, who desires a relationship with each of us. Perhaps we are simply acquainted with God from reading the Bible or memorizing Catholic doctrine. Many of us are friendly with God, conversing with God and feeling at ease in our prayers. When we are ready to commit ourselves to God in friendship, we must open our hearts to God, and we must take time to know the heart of God.

The fourth and deepest level of personal relationship is Intimacy. As Christians, we are each called to have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, who is truly God and truly a human being. Intimacy requires self-surrender, which leads to an experience of oneness. Intimacy places demands on us, primarily a commitment to faithfulness. An intimate relationship with Jesus brings abundant joy and fills the deepest desires of our heart. The sacraments help us to experience in a real, physical way our intimacy with Christ.

May you know God’s love!

Mary
School Cancellation Procedures

SRRE follows Montgomery County Schools for weather-related closings. When Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are closed because of inclement weather, SRRE classes do not meet. When MCPS cancel after school, evening, and/or weekend activities because of weather, SRRE after school, evening, and/or weekend classes are also canceled. See www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org or call 301-279-3673 or listen to WTOP radio (103.5 FM). If MCPS “school activities” are called off, but “community events” in MCPS buildings are taking place, we may or may not have SRRE. This is a relatively rare occurrence and the DRE will make a decision based on the time of the class and the expected weather event. In all cases, parents and volunteers should make their most prudent decision regarding personal safety.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

-- Drop Off --

Parents must park and accompany younger children into the school building and to their classroom. Older children may be dropped off using the drop off lane nearest the school building or by parking and having the children cross at the crosswalk. There are crosswalks directly in front of the main door (across to the island) and at the end of the sidewalk near the church (across to the island).

On Monday afternoon, Monday night, and on Tuesday afternoon, the lane of parking nearest the school building is blocked off and used as a drop-off lane. There is no drop off lane on Sunday nights because RE classes begin immediately after Mass when the parking lot is full.

Drivers must be especially careful to stop for pedestrians at each of these crosswalks.
No one may ever park or stop in the fire lane – where the curb is painted yellow.

-- Pick Up --

Parents must collect their children in the school building and, for younger children, in the RE classroom. Students will be released only to their parents or an adult explicitly authorized by the parents. Please inform the DRE of any custody situations or if someone other than the child’s parent has permission to collect the child.

We expect parents to walk with their child to the car, crossing only at the crosswalks as outlined above. All drivers must move slowly and carefully, stopping at the crosswalks to allow pedestrians to cross.

If a parent needs to pick up a child before the dismissal bell, the parent must go to the SRRE office. A staff member will go to the classroom and bring the child to the office to meet the parent. This is to ensure minimum disruption of class and safety for the child.

No one may ever park or stop in the fire lane – where the curb is painted yellow.
Important Dates: To help you track the seasons along with your children in class, we will list important dates in the newsletter as they occur throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

See the calendar below for some important St. Raphael’s dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17, 18, 19</td>
<td>Religious Education Program classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 26 or Oct. 5</td>
<td>First Penance Parent Meeting, 7:00 PM, Duffy Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 27 or Oct. 3</td>
<td>Confirmation I Parent and Student Meeting, 7:00 PM, Trumpet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 27, Oct. 3</td>
<td>Confirmation II Parent and Student Meeting, 8:00 PM, Trumpet Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>First Eucharist Enrollment Rite and Reception, 10:00 AM, Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>NO 7:05 PM CLASS – Fall Break; morning classes will meet as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 30, Oct. 31</td>
<td>NO CLASSES – Fall Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4-5</td>
<td>Confirmation Retreat (option 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>First Eucharist Listening Rite and Reception, 10:00 AM, Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>Confirmation I Enrollment Rite, 6:00 PM, Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>NO MORNING CLASS; night classes will meet as usual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Family Advent Fair, 2:30 PM, Trumpet Room</td>
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St Raphael’s Children’s Choir News

Children’s Choir is starting off this week! There is still time to join. We are recruiting all 3-8th graders with a heart for song and service. We will sing at the 11:30 AM Mass five times this year in addition to Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday.

Please email Catherine Benskin at cbensk@gmail.com or Vince Natali at vnatali@straphaels.org to set up an appointment for a vocal check. Registration forms can be found on the parish website under Music Ministry.

Our first Mass will be Oct 22 @ 11:30 AM.
## Helpful Websites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Websites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Raphael website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.straphaels.org">www.straphaels.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archdiocese of Washington</td>
<td><a href="http://www.adw.org">www.adw.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Conference of Catholic Bishops</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usccb.org">www.usccb.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Vatican</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vatican.va">www.vatican.va</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usccb.org/bible/books-of-the-bible/index">www.usccb.org/bible/books-of-the-bible/index</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td><a href="http://www.foryourmarriage.org">www.foryourmarriage.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saints</td>
<td><a href="http://www.franciscanmedia.org/saints">www.franciscanmedia.org/saints</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td><a href="http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus">www.virtusonline.org/virtus</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Sexuality</td>
<td><a href="http://www.parentsandkidstalking.com">www.parentsandkidstalking.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Reviews</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usccb.org/movies/index.htm">www.usccb.org/movies/index.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Mass wherever you are</td>
<td><a href="http://www.masstimes.org">www.masstimes.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women of St. Raphael Blog</td>
<td>womenofstraphael.blogspot.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living more simply but abundantly</td>
<td><a href="http://www.susanvogt.net/blog">www.susanvogt.net/blog</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The *SRRE Parent Handbook* is available on the Religious Education page of the St. Raphael website. Please note the following excerpts from the handbook:

**Cell Phones / IPods / Other Electronic Devices**

Except when being used for instruction, cell phones and other electronic devices may not be turned on during SRRE classes. Catechists have permission to take phones and other devices from students when necessary; these devices will be returned at the end of class. Occasionally the catechist may ask students in upper grades to use an electronic device as part of a catechetical lesson, but this will be done in a controlled manner.

**Food**

It is preferable that food and drink not be brought into the school. Please try to provide your child with a snack (afternoon) or dinner (night) before arriving for class.

*Important Notice: The St. Raphael school building is a nut free facility.* No type of food

**Peanut/Nut Free Snack Ideas**

- Orange slices
- Bananas
- Sliced Grapes
- Apple slices
- Dried fruit
- Raisins or craisins Melon
- balls in Dixie cups Mixed fruit cups Applesauce cups Carrot sticks
- Celery sticks
- Fruited jello
- Pudding
- Yogurt
- Bread sticks
- Pretzels or hot pretzels
- String Cheese
- Rice cakes Graham crackers Cheese
- Crackers (preferably whole grain)
- Salsa and chips
- Fig cookies
- Mini muffins
- Popcorn (ages 4 and up)
- Cereal mixes such as Chex Mix without nuts
- Granola Bars without nuts
- Dips for veggies and fruit

*When preparing foods at home, please be sure to start with clean utensils and cutting boards. When purchasing products from the store, be sure to read the ingredients list for nut products. Many companies process foods with nuts and cross contamination is possible unless the ingredients list states “Does not contain nuts or nut products”. Parents of children with allergies will need to approve of the snack being shared with the class or should provide a snack for their own child.*
Our Catholic Heritage: Consecrated Life Outside of the Rectory

Our Catholic tradition contains a rich tapestry of consecrated religious congregations whose sole purpose is to serve the Lord in ways that may not seem familiar. Our parish priests have a priestly vocation to commit their lives in service to the Lord in a parish community; however, there are other individuals who commit their lives to service in religious communities. In this series of articles, we will explore just a few of these groups but there are many more with equally rich stories.

The Benedictines

It’s unlikely that you have seen many members of the Benedictine Order. Most men and women of the Order of St. Benedict live in monastic communities away from the world as we know it. Benedictines live their lives according to the Rule of St. Benedict that dates back to medieval times. The Rule describes how to live in a loving prayerful community devoted to God’s service. The communities are self-supporting and autonomous; the Abbott or Abbess is the leader of the community. Members of the community live as an extended family. From the earliest days, each monastic community has had a fair amount of autonomy to discern how best to serve the Lord. Therefore, many different groups of Benedictine communities arose; some were contemplative (spending their days alone in prayer and self-sustaining labor) while others became teachers or great artists. Other abbeys devoted themselves to specialty crafts and making products for sale (breads, wines, even beer!). Members of the Benedictine community add the initials “OSB” after their name to designate their affiliation with the group. Locally, the Benedictines operate St. Anselms’s School in DC.

Source:
www.osb.org/intl/confed/nacong.html
Prayer, Reading, and Discussion

 Gather each week* with parents and other parishioners while the children are in RE classes.

*NOTE: The FIRST night we will gather in the Trumpet Room with adults and children for a brief General Welcome, and then gather separately with other adults for an Introductory Meeting and more information about the program.

Sundays – in English
7:05-8:20 PM
Room 12
Begins Sept. 17, 2017

Facilitator: Quyen Metzger
Theme: The Human Journey of Faith, Vol 1
Topics:
• The Inborn Hunger for God
• The Response to Revelation is Faith
• Made in God’s Image
• The Human Inclination to Sin
• Mercy, Grace, and Sin
• The Dignity of the Human Person
• The Communion of Saints and the End of Life

Mondays – in Spanish
7:00-8:15 PM
Youth Center
Begins Sept. 18, 2017

Facilitator: Ana Fernández-Daza
Theme: Drawing Closer to Christ, Vol. 3
Topics:
• Jesucristo: el hijo único de Dios
• María: madre de Dios y madre de la Iglesia
• El Reino de Dios
• La pasión de Cristo
• La resurrección y ascensión
• Sociedad y dignidad
• De la gracia y mérito

Fee: $10 per semester, payable at the 1st meeting.

For more information:
Quyen (English) at 714-679-4451 or quyenmetzger@rocketmail.com
Ana (Spanish) at 202-679-4303 or anafdaza@gmail.com

To sign up:
Please email Suzanne at suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com
Please come to the 38th annual Care & Share fundraiser on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017.

Venue: Trumpet Room       Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Enjoy an Indian meal, get Henna design and win at the Silent Auction!

Your contribution makes a difference to these faces -

St. Raphael’s Social Ministries, Archdiocese of Trichur Ministries, Mercy Home, Janey foundation, and Infant Jesus School for the Hearing impaired.

Meal Tickets - $20 - To buy your tickets please contact Joseph @ josephgp@gmail.com

We value your generous support and assistance. Please make checks payable to St. Raphael’s Church: Care and Share Fund
Finish the Mysteries

The Joyful Mysteries
The Annunciation: Mary learns she will be Jesus’ __ ___.

The Visitation: Mary visits her __ __ __ __ __ Elizabeth.

The Nativity: Jesus is __ __ __ __ in Bethlehem.

The Presentation: Mary and __ __ __ __ take baby Jesus to the temple.

The __ __ __ __ __ __ of Jesus in the temple: The boy Jesus amazes the teachers.

The Luminous Mysteries
The __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ of Jesus: God’s voice proclaims that Jesus is his beloved Son.

The Wedding Feast at Cana: Jesus performs his first __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

The Proclamation of the __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __: Jesus teaches us how to live.

The Transfiguration: Jesus is revealed in __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

The Institution of the Eucharist: Jesus offers his __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ at the Last Supper.

The Sorrowful Mysteries
The Agony in the __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __: Jesus prays the night before he dies.

The Scourging: Jesus is __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ with whips.

The Crowning with __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ _
The Glorious Mysteries

The __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ : God the Father raises Jesus from the dead.

The Ascension: Jesus returns to his Father in __ __ __ __ __ __.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit comes to the __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

The Assumption: At the end of her life on earth, Mary is taken, body and __ __ __ __ __ __, into heaven.

The Coronation: Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

Word Bank

disciples  Baptism  Garden  Resurrection
cousin  earth  hurt  heaven
mom  kingdom  Thorns  finding
Joseph  glory  Cross  soul
nails  Body and Blood  born  miracle

Collect the letters in the boxes here:

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

And unscramble them to spell this special prayer:

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
Catholic IQ

What's Your Catholic IQ?
A Self-assessment for your Fun and Enlightenment

1. The summary of the central beliefs of the Christian faith stated at every Mass is called a ________. a) creed b) manifesto c) encyclical d) papal bull
2. The Apostles’ Creed was originally used to prepare new converts for the sacrament of _________. a) Confirmation b) Matrimony c) Holy Orders d) Baptism
3. How many articles of faith make up the Apostles’ Creed? a) 2 b) 7 c) 12 d) 10
4. The Apostles’ Creed was first used in ________ by the disciples of St. Peter. a) Jerusalem b) Rome c) Corinth d) San Francisco
5. The creeds are structured around the Christian understanding of God as _________. a) judge b) invisible c) lover d) trinity
6. The Apostles’ Creed was written by Jesus’ Twelve Apostles. True / False
7. “I believe in ... Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was ________ by the Holy Spirit... .” a) visited b) anointed c) conceived d) inspired
8. According to the Apostles’ Creed, faith in which person of the Trinity is affiliated with faith in the forgiveness of sins? a) the Holy Spirit b) the Father c) the Son d) the Blessed Virgin Mary
9. The Apostles’ Creed mentions all of the following about Jesus except his _________. a) miracles b) birth c) death d) resurrection
10. The ________ Creed was written to clear up confusion about Jesus’ human and divine natures. a) Incarnation b) Nicene c) Apostles’ d) Chalcedonian
11. Consubstantial is a theological term describing that God the Father and God the Son are both fully and totally God. True / False
12. The Catholic Nicene Creed is used by all except _________. a) Anglicans/Episcopalians b) Eastern Orthodox c) Buddhists d) the major Protestant churches
13. The four marks of the Church are: one, holy, catholic, and _________. a) international b) institutional c) technological d) apostolic
14. When Catholics profess the creed at Mass, they are renewing their ________ vows. a) baptismal b) marriage c) poverty, chastity, obedience d) loyalty to the pope
15. Christians believe in the same God of Abraham as do Jews and Muslims. True / False
16. “I believe in one God, the Father ________.” a) of the Church b) of the saints c) of humankind d) almighty
17. Of the Holy Spirit, the Nicene Creed states: “With the Father and the Son is adored and ________.” a) feared b) glorified c) trinityfied d) obeyed
18. The Nicene Creed states that ________ “will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.” a) Jesus b) Elijah c) Moses d) Adam and Eve
19. Along with other reasons, the great Eastern and Western Churches (Orthodox and Roman Catholic) split apart in 1054 A.D. over the doctrine called the _________. a) Hypostatic Union b) Real Presence c) Incarnation d) Filioque
20. The Emperor Constantine called for the Council of Nicaea. True / False
Answers to What's Your Catholic IQ?

1. a) Catholics should use the creed as a mirror to examine their faith. “Look at yourself in it, to see if you believe everything you say you believe. And rejoice in your faith each day” (CCC, 1064).
2. d) Early Christians used the Apostles’ Creed as the curriculum for teaching interested people the fundamental beliefs of Christianity before they were baptized.
3. c) Tradition breaks the Apostles’ Creed into 12 articles to match the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles, symbolizing the fullness of faith.
4. b) St. Peter, along with St. Paul, brought the faith to Rome, and they were both martyred in Rome (see CCC, 194).
5. d) When Catholics profess the creeds, we affirm our belief in the Father who creates, the Son who redeems, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies (see CCC, 190).
6. False. The Apostles’ Creed is based on the teachings of the apostles, but they did not write it. “The Apostles’ Creed is so called because it is rightly considered to be a faithful summary of the apostles' faith.” (CCC, 194)
7. c) Jesus Christ did not have an earthly father. God’s Spirit impregnated the Virgin Mary; therefore, Jesus is truly the “only begotten Son of God.”
8. a) In John 20:22-23, Christ gave his Spirit to the apostles (and therefore to the Church) to forgive sins. It is through the Holy Spirit that priests have the power to forgive sins through the sacraments, particularly in the sacrament of Reconciliation (see CCC, 976).
9. a) “Concerning Christ's life the Creed speaks only about the mysteries of the Incarnation (conception and birth) and Paschal mystery (passion, crucifixion, death, burial, descent into hell, resurrection and ascension). It says nothing explicitly about the mysteries of Jesus’ hidden or public life.” (CCC, 512)
10. b) A popular priest named Arius taught that Jesus was fully human but not fully divine, which was not true and confused many Catholics.
11. True. Meaning in Latin “of the same substance,” consubstantial indicates that the Father and the Son are both equally divine. Jesus is not a saint or a gifted or inspired person. He is the Son of God, the second person of the Trinity.
12. c) The central beliefs of Christianity found in the Nicene Creed are common to most historical Christians (see CCC, 195). Buddhists, however, are not Christians.
13. d) Catholics and Orthodox Christians trace their roots back to Christ’s original 12 apostles (see CCC, 870, 811).
14. a) Baptism is the first and most important profession of faith because it signals our incorporation into the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church.
15. True. Rooted in the Old Testament revelation, Christians profess with Judaism and Islam that “there is only one God, ... God is one in nature, substance, and essence” (CCC, 200).
16. d) “Once our reason has grasped the idea of God's almighty power, it will easily and without any hesitation admit everything that (the Creed) will afterwards propose for us to believe --- even if they be great and marvelous things, far above the ordinary laws of nature” (CCC, 274).
17. B) “The mission of the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in the name of the Son (John 14:26) and by the Son ‘from the Father’ (John 15:26), reveals that, with them, the Spirit is one and the same God” (CCC, 263).
18. a) Christians believe that Christ's return will bring about a new heaven and earth (see Revelation 21) that will fully establish the kingdom of God.
19. d) After almost 1,000 years of separation, both Eastern and Western Church leaders recognize that both positions on the filioque are reconcilable because of their “legitimate complementarity” (see CCC, 248).
20. True. Despite not being baptized yet, Constantine recognized the growing appeal of Christianity in the fourth century and sought to use the faith as a source of unity throughout the sprawling and contentious Roman Empire.
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