

The Catechism Clock

(originally designed by Mother Mary Claudia Honsberger, I.H.M.)

The original Catechism Clock was designed by world-renowned catechist Mother Claudia, I.H.M. It serves as a useful tool to learn, memorize and apply the Truths of the Catholic Faith, using all the numbers on the clock face as a mnemonic device.

About Mother Claudia: Mother Mary Claudia Honsberger, I.H.M., served many years as the Mother General of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Born in 1912, professed August 14, 1935, her stature as a religion teacher took her all over the world lecturing on catechesis. Mother Claudia was invited to offer comments on a draft version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. While in residence at St. James School in Falls Church, VA, she authored a series of articles published in the Arlington Catholic Herald entitled "The Little Church: The Family." Mother Claudia died in 1993.

One

ONE True GOD, ***ONE*** Father of all creation, who made us to know Him, love Him and serve Him.

The circle of the clock face reminds us that God has no beginning and end; He is infinite. God always was and always will be.

ONE person who is the Vicar of Christ. Our current Vicar is Pope Francis.

Two

TWO NATURES IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity: His divine nature (truly God) and human nature (truly man)

TWO TESTAMENTS OF THE BIBLE: Old Testament and New Testament

TWO sons of Adam and Eve: Cain and Abel

TWO KINDS OF ACTUAL SIN: Mortal sin and Venial sin

TWO KINDS OF GRACE: Sanctifying (sacramental) and Actual Grace

TWO KINDS OF VIRTUES: Theological - (Faith, Hope, and Love) and Moral - (Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude...also called "cardinal virtues" or "chief moral virtues")

TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS that Jesus taught, which contain the whole law of God:

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind, and with thy whole strength, and

“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”

TWO JUDGEMENTS: Particular (at death when we see our sins) and General (at the end of the world when we see the effect of our sins)

Three

THREE PERSONS IN ONE GOD: God the Father (the creator), God the Son (the redeemer), and God the Holy Spirit (the sanctifier)

THREE ARCHANGELS: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael

THREE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES: Faith, Hope and Love (Charity)

THREE WISEMEN: Gaspar, Melchior, Balthasar

THREE GIFTS OF THE WISEMEN: Gold, Frankincense, Myrrh

THREE DISCRPTIONS OF GOD: All-Powerful (Omnipotent), All-Knowing (Omniscient), All-present (Omnipresent)

THREE WAYS WE CAN SIN: In our thoughts, in our words and in our deeds

THREE THINGS THAT MAKE UP A MORTAL SIN

- Grave matter (it is a serious sin)
- Sufficient reflection (you know it is wrong)
- Full consent of the will (you do it anyway)

THREE CHIEF ATTRIBUTES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (Qualities perfecting the nature of the Church): Authority, Infallibility, Indefectibility

THREE WAYS TO SEPARATE FROM THE CHURCH: Heresy, Apostasy, Schism

THREE EVANGELICAL COUNSELS: Poverty, Chastity, Obedience

THREE TYPES OF BAPTISM: Water, Blood (Killed for the Faith before baptism), and Desire (Wishes to be baptized but dies before event)

THREE PARTS TO A SACRAMENT

- Outward sign (evident to one of more of our physical senses)
- Instituted (started) by Christ
- To give grace

THREE STEPS TO PERFECTION IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE: Purgation (Reject our sinful practices), Illumination (Open our eyes to God's presence) and Unification (Embrace the Trinity)

What are the *THREE* "transcendentals in viewing God?"

- The Good (St. Augustine who focuses on Plato's philosophy)
- The True (St. Thomas Aquinas who focuses on Aristotle in confronting the Islamics)
- The Beautiful (Cardinal Balthasar and the "school of phenomenology"; see also Edith Stein)

Four

FOUR GOSPEL WRITERS:

- Matthew—apostle, tax collector (Angel as symbol)
- Mark—disciple of Peter (Lion as symbol)
- Luke—disciple of Paul (Ox as symbol)
- John—apostle, the “beloved disciple” (Eagle as symbol)

FOUR CARDINAL VIRTUES: Prudence, Justice, Temperance, Fortitude

FOUR MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY: Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, Glorious

FOUR MARKS OF THE CHURCH: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

FOUR Ways to Pray to God: Adoration, Glorification (Contrition), Thanksgiving, Petition

Five

FIVE WOUNDS OF CHRIST: (1) Side, (2) Hands, (2) Feet

FIVE PARTS OF A GOOD CONFESSION:

- Examination of conscience
- Contrition (Be sorry for your sins)
- Resolution (Avoid the sin in the future; not want to sin again)
- Confession (Tell your sins to the priest)
- Penance (Accept the penance the priest asks of you)

FIVE decades of each mystery of the Rosary:

Joyful Mysteries

1. Annunciation
2. Visitation
3. Nativity
4. Presentation
5. Finding the Child in the Temple)

Luminous Mysteries

1. Baptism in River Jordan
2. Wedding Feast of Cana
3. Proclamation of the Kingdom
4. Transfiguration
5. Institution of the Eucharist)

Sorrowful Mysteries

1. Agony in the Garden
2. Scourging at the pillar
3. Crowning of thorns
4. Jesus carries His cross
5. Jesus dies upon His cross.

Glorious Mysteries

1. Resurrection
2. Ascension
3. Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. Presentation of the Blessed Mother
5. Mary is crowned queen of heaven and earth

Six

SIX HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION IN THE United States (In addition to every Sunday)

- January 1–Mary, Mother of God
- Ascension Thursday– (date varies)
- August 15–Assumption of Mary
- November 1–All Saints
- December 8–Immaculate Conception
- December 25–Christ’s birth

SIX PRECEPTS (Laws) of the Church

- Assist at Mass on all Sundays and Holy days of Obligation
- Fast and abstain on the days appointed
- Confess our sins at least once a year
- Receive Holy Communion during the Easter time
- Contribute to the support of the Church
- Observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage

Seven

SEVEN SACRAMENTS: Baptism, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick

SEVEN Capital Sins: Pride, Covetousness (Greed), Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, Sloth

SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude, Fear of the Lord

SEVEN CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Visit the imprisoned
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the Sick
- Bury the Dead

SEVEN SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY:

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead.

Eight

EIGHT BEATITUDES (Matthew 5:3-10)

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.
- Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice, for they shall be satisfied.
- Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
- Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.
- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.
- Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Nine

NINE FIRST FRIDAYS

Our Lord promised St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that those who receive Holy Communion on nine consecutive First Fridays, and receive the Sacrament of Penance will not die in God's displeasure.

NINE Days of Devotional Prayer...A novena is a devotional prayer lasting nine days. The first novena took place from Ascension Thursday to Pentecost when the apostles and Mary prayed in the Upper Room.

NINE Choirs of Angels

Seraphim

Cherubim

Thrones

Dominions

Powers

Principalities

Archangels

Angels

Ten

TEN COMMANDMENTS

- #1 I am the Lord your God; you shall not have other gods besides 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 your 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.

Eleven

ELEVEN Apostles Remained Faithful after Judas betrayed Jesus

Peter (Simon)
Andrew
James the Great
John
Thomas
James the Less
Philip
Bartholomew
Matthew
Simon the Zealot
Jude
Thaddeus

Twelve

TWELVE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Charity
Joy
Peace
Patience
Goodness
Long-suffering
Humility
Faithfulness
Modesty
Continenence
Chastity
Kindness

TWELVE APOSTLES Chosen by Christ

Simon/Peter

Andrew

James the Great

John

Philip

Bartholomew

Thomas

Matthew

James the Less

Thaddaeus

Simon the Zealot

Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus and was replaced by Matthias)