

Common Catholic Prayers

These Common Catholic prayers are included in the Baltimore Catechism.

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The Lord's Prayer

Q. 1. Say the Lord's Prayer.

A. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Q. 2. Who made the Lord's Prayer?

A. Our Lord Himself made the Lord's Prayer for the use of His disciples and of all the faithful.

The Angelical Salutation (Hail Mary)

Q. 27. Say the Angelical Salutation.

A. Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee:
blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. *Amen.*

Q. 28. What is a salutation?

A. A salutation is the customary words or actions by which the people of a country greet one another.

Q. 29. Why is this salutation called Angelical?

A. This salutation is called Angelical because it was given by an angel.

Q. 43. What is the Angelus?

A. The Angelus is a prayer giving a brief history of the Incarnation.

Q. 44. Say the Angelus.

A. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
And she conceived of the Holy Ghost.[Hail Mary]
Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it done unto me according to Thy Word.[Hail Mary]
And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.[Hail Mary]
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God!
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Let us pray:
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts
that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known
by the message of an angel, may, by His Passion and cross,
be brought to the glory of His resurrection,
through the same Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Q. 45. At what time is the Angelus usually said?

A. The Angelus is said in the evening, in memory of the Incarnation; in the morning, in memory of the Resurrection, and at noon in memory of the Passion of Our Lord.

Q. 47. What is the Litany of the Blessed Virgin?

A. The Litany is a form of prayer in which we address our Blessed Lady by many beautiful titles, such as Mother of God, Virgin Most Pure, Refuge of Sinners, &c., asking her after each to pray for us.

Q. 48. Are there any other Litanies in use besides the Litany of the Blessed Virgin?

A. Besides the Litany of the Blessed Virgin there are other Litanies in use, especially the Litany of the Saints, the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus, the Litany of the Sacred Heart, &c.

The Apostles' Creed

Q. 49. Say the Apostles' Creed.

A. I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried.
He descended into hell:
the third day He arose again from the dead:
He ascended into heaven,
sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Q. 50. What is a creed?

A. A creed is a summary or list of the chief truths we believe or profess to believe. It is a compendium of doctrine.

Q. 51. Why is this creed called the Apostles'?

A. This creed is called the Apostles' because it came down to us from the Apostles, and also to distinguish it from longer creeds in use in the Church, such as the Nicene Creed, which is said in the Mass; the Athanasian Creed, which is said in the priests' divine Office, and the Creed of Pope Pius IV, which is used on solemn occasions.

The Nicene Creed

Q. 90. Say the Nicene Creed

A. I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is adored and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins,
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Confiteor

Q. 90. Say the Confiteor and verses after it.

A. I confess to Almighty God, to blessed Mary, ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and to all the Saints, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I beseech blessed Mary, ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and all the Saints, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

May the Almighty God have mercy on me, and forgive me my sins, and bring me to ever-lasting life. *Amen.*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant me pardon, absolution, and remission of all my sins. *Amen.*

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

An Act of Faith

Q. 94. Say the Act of Faith.

A. O my God! I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three Divine persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; I believe that Thy Divine Son became man, and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.

An Act of Hope

Q. 97. Say the Act of Hope.

A. O my God! relying on Thy infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Thy grace, and life ever-lasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

An Act of Love

Q. 99. Say the Act of Love.

A. O my God! I love Thee above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of Thee. I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

Q. 100. Give the substance of an Act of Love.

An Act of Contrition

Q. 107. Say the Act of Contrition.

A. O my God! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.

The Blessing before Meals

Q. 110. Say the Blessing before Meals.

A. Bless us, O Lord! and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*

Grace after Meals

Q. 111. Say the Grace after Meals.

A. We give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits, O Almighty God, who livest and reignest for ever; and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

The Manner in Which a Lay Person is to Baptize in Case of Necessity

Q. 118. How is Baptism given by a "lay person"?

A. Whoever baptizes must:—

Pour common water on the head or face of the person to be baptized, and say while pouring it:

"I baptize thee, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

N.B.—Any person of either sex who has, reached the use of reason can baptize in case of necessity.

Q. 119. What else is to be observed?

A. In baptizing:

- The water must touch the skin and flow;
- The same person who pours the water must say the words;
- Parents should not baptize their own children, if there be any other person present who knows how to baptize;
- A man, if he be present and knows how to administer the Sacrament, should baptize in preference to a woman;
- The person baptizing must have the intention of doing what the Church does;
- He must not repeat the baptism after giving it once correctly.

Daily Prayers

Said in addition to the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, and Apostle's Creed

TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN — My Lady, and my Mother, remember I am thine; protect and defend me as thy property and possession.

TO SAINT JOSEPH — Saint Joseph, model and patron of those who love the Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.

TO THE GUARDIAN ANGEL — Angel of God, my guardian dear, To whom His love commits me here, Ever this day be at my side, To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

God bless Papa and Mamma. God bless Brothers and Sisters, and all my friends. God bless me, and make me a good child.

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED — Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Make the Sign of the Cross.