

Assignments – CC101 Intro to the Catholic Faith

Fall 2011

Instructor: Eric J. Westby

How to Read/Study

The following excerpt is from Dcn James Keating's "A Seminarian's Lection: Reading to Know and to Receive Divine Love" in the Institute for Priestly Formation *Spiritual Directors Manual*.

1. Approach the text that is assigned or the classroom notes to be reviewed in prayer. Ask the Spirit to guide you through your study and enlighten you as to concepts that quicken your affection for communion with God. No study will be completely irrelevant to you; it will serve the truth, serve the needs of your people, or deep your own intimacy with Christ.
2. What does this text say? What does this text say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?
3. Remember you are receiving the text on two levels, discursive and contemplative. The first level is what the text says in itself ("Will this be on the test?"). The second level is what God is saying to you about your conversion journey. They have an interpenetrating, symbiotic relationship, not oppositional. Record both levels in your notebook. To keep academic notes distinct from personal insights it can be helpful to divide your notebook. Use one side of the book as a spiritual journal and the other side to record discursive notes for academic study. The "journal" side of your notebook does not have to be elaborate but simply provides a place for you to briefly record what is personally relevant to your spiritual life. After class or study, these records can then be prayed over and shared with your spiritual director.

Reading Assignments

Please read all readings listed in the Course Syllabus from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Written Assignments

Week One

Read *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) #26-49: Man's Capacity for God.

Please write a one-page, double-spaced short answer on the following:

- a. In two to three paragraphs, show how one 'Golden Thread' (see handouts from class) is present in this section in the CCC.
- b. Focus on the contemplative level, answering the following questions in one paragraph based on that same section in the CCC: What does this text from the heart of the Church say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?

Due Date: Beginning of second class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Week Two

Choose one of the following sections in the Catechism:

- CCC #50-73: God Comes to Meet Man
- CCC #74-100: Transmission of Divine Revelation
- CCC #101-141: Sacred Scripture

Please write a one-page, double-spaced short answer on the following:

- a. In two to three paragraphs, show how one 'Golden Thread' (see handouts from class) is present in this section in the CCC.
- b. Focus on the contemplative level, answering the following questions in one paragraph based on that same section in the CCC: What does this text from the heart of the Church say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?

Due Date: Beginning of third class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Week Three

Choose one of the following sections in the Catechism:

- CCC #144-184: I Believe/We Believe
- CCC #199-231: I Believe in God the Father Almighty

Please write a one-page, double-spaced short answer on the following:

- a. In two to three paragraphs, show how one 'Golden Thread' (see handouts from class) is present in this section in the CCC.
- b. Focus on the contemplative level, answering the following questions in one paragraph based on that same section in the CCC: What does this text from the heart of the Church say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?

Due Date: Beginning of fourth class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Week Four

Choose one of the following sections in the Catechism:

- CCC #232-278: The Father/The Almighty
- CCC#279-324: The Creator
- CCC#325-354: Heaven and Earth

Please write a one-page, double-spaced short answer on the following:

- a. In two to three paragraphs, show how one 'Golden Thread' (see handouts from class) is present in this section in the CCC.
- b. Focus on the contemplative level, answering the following questions in one paragraph based on that same section in the CCC: What does this text from the heart of the Church say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?

Due Date: Beginning of fifth class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Week Five

Choose one of the following sections in the Catechism:

- CCC #355-384: Man

- CCC #385-421: The Fall

Please write a one-page, double-spaced short answer on the following:

- a. In two to three paragraphs, show how one 'Golden Thread' (see handouts from class) is present in this section in the CCC.
- b. Focus on the contemplative level, answering the following questions in one paragraph based on that same section in the CCC: What does this text from the heart of the Church say to me? What does this text lead me to say to God? What do I detect God is saying to me through this text?

Due Date: One week after last class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Extra Credit

Please write a two-page, double spaced essay on the following

Describe an agnostic person that you either:

- Serve at your parish
- Work with at your employment or
- Meet at family gatherings.

Include in this description the person's socio-economic background, cultural background and influences, age, gender and family background. Based on this description, how would you respond to this person if they said to you that the Catholic Faith is simply a fairy-tale?

Due Date: One week after last class. Please email assignment in *.doc format to ewestby@diocesephoenix.org.

Grading

Class Attendance and Participation: 40%

Assignments: 60%

All late work will automatically incur a reduction in grade.

Additional Recommended Readings

CC101 Intro to the Catholic Faith

Fall 2011

1. Vatican II. Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation *Dei Verbum*.
2. John Paul II. *God, Father and Creator: A Catechesis on the Creed*. Boston: Pauline Books and Media, 1996.
3. *The Companion to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. San Francisco: Ignatius 1994.
4. Denzinger, Henry (ed). *The Sources of Catholic Dogma*. Fitzwilliam: Loreto Publications, 1955.
5. Dupuis, Jacques (ed). *The Christian Faith*. New York: St. Pauls/Alba House, 2001.
6. Kreeft, Peter (ed.). *Suma of the Summa*. San Francisco: Ignatius 1990.
7. Ott, Ludwig. *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*. Rockford: Tan Publications, 1974.
8. Ratzinger, Joseph. *Introduction to Christianity*. San Francisco: Ignatius 2004.
9. Ratzinger, Joseph, and Schönborn, Christoph. *Introduction to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. San Francisco: Ignatius 1994.
10. Schönborn, Christoph. *Living the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. San Francisco: Ignatius. 1995.
11. Willey, Petroc; de Cointet Pierre; Morgan, Barbara. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Craft of Catechesis*. San Francisco: Ignatius 2008.