

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FROM: YOUCAT Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church

Man Responds to God

22. How does one go about believing?

Someone who believes is seeking a personal union with God and is ready to believe God in everything that he shows (reveals) about himself. [150-152]

At the beginning of faith, there is often an emotional disturbance or uneasiness. The person senses that the visible world and the normal course of things cannot be all there is. He feels touched by a mystery and follows the traces that point to the existence of God and gradually finds the confidence to speak to God and finally to unite himself to him in freedom. In John's Gospel it says, "No one has ever seen God; the only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known" (Jn 1:18). That is why we must believe Jesus, the Son of God, if we want to know what God would like to communicate to us. Believing, therefore, means accepting Jesus and staking one's whole life on him.

23. Is there a contradiction between faith and science?

There is no insoluble contradiction between faith and science, because there cannot be two kinds of truth. [159]

There is not one truth of faith that is in competition with another truth of science. There is only one truth, to which both faith and scientific reason refer. God intended reason, with which we could recognize the rational structures of the world, just as he intended faith. That is why the Christian faith demands and promotes the (natural) sciences. Faith exists so that we might know things that are not apparent to reason yet are real above and beyond reason. Faith reminds science that it is supposed to serve creation and not set itself up in place of God. Science must respect human dignity instead of violating it.

"VOCATION SEEDS"

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon,

call Fr. Hansoo Park 416-968-0997
email: vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

ROMAN MISSAL PEW CARDS

Parishioners are kindly asked to ensure that these cards remain in the pews of the church as they are intended to assist our family of faith at all Masses. These cards also help us ensure that all parishioners have the necessary tools to more actively and consciously participate in the Eucharistic celebration. **Thank You.**

November 27, 2011

ROMAN MISSAL - THE NEW TRANSLATION

The Mystery of Faith

For Catholics, a 'mystery' is not a puzzle that cannot be solved. It is a truth that is so deep that we know we'll never be able to get to the bottom of it; a truth we'll never completely be able to understand. One example of this is our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We believe that Christ is truly present but we can't wholly explain it. The priest shows us the host and then the chalice. Then he genuflects and says 'The mystery of faith'. We continue with one of three responses. These are all different from ones we have been used to and they come directly from the New Testament. So when the priest says 'The mystery of faith' he is inviting us to welcome this Real Presence of Christ. We then make our response, which we address to God.

Lord I am not Worthy

As the priest invites us to receive Holy Communion, he will say 'Behold', rather 'This is', 'the lamb of God'. 'Behold' means 'to look at' and is our invitation to adore Christ who we are about to receive in Holy Communion. We are used to saying 'Lord I am not worthy to receive you' This will change to: 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed'. This is almost exactly what the Roman Centurion said when he came and begged Jesus to heal his servant.

When Jesus says he will come to the Centurion's house, the man knows that Jesus doesn't need to do that, that just his word will be enough. The Centurion says: 'Lord I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word and my servant will be healed'. Our new reply changes only one word of the Centurion's speech - my servant becomes my soul will be healed.

For more information on the Roman Missal and its changes, visit www.archtoronto.org/romanmissal anytime to continue your reflection.

ADVENT SEASON

We are approaching Christmas. We all know how much this involves by way of preparation. It is a feast that gives rise to humanitarian thoughts, and feelings of joy and peace. The children, the poor, the unfortunate are in the minds of all.

This is one of the most heartening and praiseworthy aspects of our society. It educates us in spirit of brotherhood, and so to an awareness of the needs and sufferings of others.

We must include in our Christmas planning some genuine reflection on Christ in the manger and a resolution for personal and social renewal. He Himself came among us as one who was lowly, humble, poor. At the same time He was the Messiah who redeemed us from every moral misery, as well as the prophet of hope of the kingdom of heaven. (Pope Paul VI)

The Advent Wreath

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudette Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the death.

Shepherds' Trust collection was \$4,450.00. Thank you for your generous support.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

is held every Friday from 10:00 am to 7:30 pm
starting with a Mass at 9:30 am.

Pre-Authorized Giving

PAG allows parishioners to make their regular Sunday offering, and if they wish their ShareLife offering using the "Direct Debit" system. PAG is an option, not a requirement. It is being widely used in the Toronto Archdiocese and we want to make PAG available to all parishioners who would like to take advantage of it.

If you are interested, please fill out the PAG authorization form that was distributed last weekend and put it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

Secret of the Rosary by St. Louis Marie Montfort is available in the gift shop for \$5.00 per copy.

Parish News: If you wish to know what's going on in the parish such as activities, functions, etc., please take a moment to look at the monitor in the foyer before and after weekend Masses.

Win Great Prizes!

It is time once again for the Friars' Student Writing Award. Students aged 14 - 18 are invited to write a five hundred-word essay on the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated January 18-25, 2012. The Theme for the coming year is "**We Will All be Changed.**" Deadline for entries is January 9, 2012. Please see poster in the bulletin board for more info.