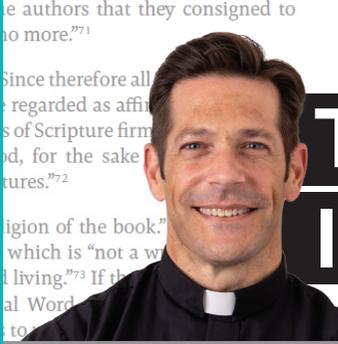


# Week 11

Paragraphs 495–546



# THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR

WITH FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

*f* faith.<sup>82</sup> By “analogy of faith” we mean the

## What We Believe PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

### WE CAN ONLY KNOW HIM THROUGH HIS CHURCH

**J**esus redeemed us from sin and restored us to the Father, and he made us capable of living in the Kingdom of God on earth and ultimately in heaven. The grace we need flows through his Church via the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. The King of Kings calls us to enter and take part in his kingdom. This begins with our identity as God’s sons and daughters through the Sacrament of Baptism. We are called to “a radical choice: to gain the kingdom, one must give everything” (CCC 546).

#### Keep in Mind

- The greatest events in history were Mary’s virginal conception of Jesus, his birth, and his Passion and Resurrection.
- Jesus’ conception “by the Holy Spirit without human seed” was supernatural and “surpasses all human understanding and possibility” (CCC 496–497).
- Mary is the Mother of God, yet she remained a perpetual virgin. Scriptural references to “brothers of Jesus” refer to Jesus’ relatives, not siblings.
- Freely and fully receiving God’s grace, Mary is an image of the Church. As she brought the Son of God into the world, so the Church also brings him into the world.
- Through the Church, we are conceived by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and born to new and eternal life.
- Jesus’ circumcision is a sign of Baptism. Jewish males entered the Old Covenant via circumcision; we enter the New Covenant through Baptism.
- Becoming a child of God in Baptism is the condition for entering the kingdom.



*Christ Among the Doctors at the Temple*  
by Paolo Veronese (circa 1560)

#### Dive Deeper

We know little about Jesus’ early years. Here we see Jesus in the Temple among the teachers. Even at twelve, Jesus exhibited profound wisdom and understanding (see CCC 534).

God gave the Church the authority to teach the world.

Do you struggle with the word *authority*? Do you wrestle with any Church teachings? Ask for God’s grace to know him better in his Church.

- Jesus did not create a new religion, but rather obeyed the Law of Moses and fulfilled the Old Covenant.
- Jesus' obedience is the heart of his sacrifice and redemption. He submits himself entirely to his Father's will out of love for the Father and love for us. He is tempted by the devil yet does not sin.
- In the Old Covenant, God promised a kingdom that would never end. Jesus establishes this kingdom in the tangible Church with a pope and the bishops, who teach with Christ's authority.
- The Church belongs to Jesus, but he entrusted its keys to Peter, and then to every pope who has followed.
- The Kingdom of God in heaven is the Church triumphant; on earth the Church militant; in purgatory, the Church suffering. Christ stands at the heart of the kingdom, his Church.
- We cannot live in or come to know Christ without his Church.

Use the space below to reflect on this week's content.

---



---



---

## Take It to Prayer

God our Father, thank you for sending your Son to save us from our sins, establish the kingdom, and make us part of your family. In Baptism, you made us your sons and daughters and members of the Kingdom of God. We are part of your family, your Church, your kingdom on earth and in heaven. Thank you! We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



The best place to listen along is the Ascension app. Scan the QR code to get exclusive bonus content and transcripts for every episode.

*The Catechism in a Year* is a daily podcast produced by Ascension and hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz. It helps us understand what it means to be Catholic by reading the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and allowing those truths to shape our lives. This bulletin was adapted from the books that complement the podcast: *The Catechism in a Year Companion* by Petroc Willey, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and Matthew Doeing.