



RCIA

Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults
Introduction to the Ten Commandments
The Ten Commandments: 1



Opening Prayer



Typical Child – Parent relationship

- **Child:**
“Daddy knows everything.”
- **Youth:**
“Dad does not understand anything.”
- **Adult:**
“I better check with dad.
He may know something.”



Adult – Parent relationship

- **Still a Child attitude**
“Better obey dad or he may not be happy”
- **Still a Youth attitude**
“I know better” (The rebellious one)
- **A Fully matured Adult**
“Dad is always happy.
He knows something that I don't.
I want to be like him”
- **Growth in maturity**



“Our relationship with God”

- “I will obey, otherwise, I might not go to Heaven.” (God as a Severe Judge)
 - “I will do it my way. God will understand.” (God is all Mercy)
 - “I will obey *because* God loves me and I want to be like Him” (God as a Loving Father and trusting Him with a childlike attitude)
- **Spiritual Growth.**
The important thing is to make progress




The Ten Commandments

1. I AM God — Week 1
 2. Honour God's name
 3. Holy God's day
 4. Honour your father and mother.
 5. Do not kill
 6. Do not commit adultery
 7. Do not steal
 8. Do not lie
 9. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's wife
 10. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's goods
- Week 2: 2, 3, 4
Week 3: 5, 6, 7
Week 4: 8, 9, 10

The Decalogue forms a coherent whole. Each "word" refers to each of the others and to all of them; they reciprocally condition one another (CCC#2069)


Commandment	Jewish (Talmudic)****	Anglican, Reformed, and other Christian	Orthodox	Catholic, Lutheran**
I am the Lord your God	1	preface		
You shall have no other gods before me	2	1	1	1
You shall not make for yourself an idol		2	2	
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of your God	3	3	3	2
Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy	4	4	4	3
Honor your father and mother	5	5	5	4
You shall not murder*	6	6	6	5
You shall not commit adultery	7	7	7	6
You shall not steal***	8	8	8	7
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor	9	9	9	8
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife	10	10	10	9
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor				10

The Catholic division of the commandments was first established by St. Augustine




The Ten Commandments

- Exodus 20:1-17
- Deuteronomy 5:7-21




Deuteronomy 5:7-21 (The Ten Commandments)

You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.
Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy.
Honour your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
Neither shall you commit adultery.
Neither shall you steal.
Neither shall you bear false witness against your neighbour.
Neither shall you covet your neighbour's wife;
Neither shall you desire your neighbour's house, or field, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.




I don't want to go to hell. Therefore a life of fearful submission

What is your reaction?



This is an autocratic God. What about my freedom?




If God is Perfect Love and Mercy, Why such a stern face?

Exodus 20:2-5 (The First Commandment)
I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

You shall have no other gods before me.


You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

Why so stern?



The First Commandment

- Exodus 32:15-20 (The Golden Calf)
- Background Recap
 - The 1st born were just spared from death
 - God worked great wonders to free them from Egypt
 - God manifested His presence powerfully in the column of cloud and fire leading them through the desert
 - God gave them water from the rock, manna from heaven
 - Moses going up to the mountain was surrounded by the power of God in lightning, thunder, smoke, fire



Exodus 32:15-20 (The Golden Calf)

Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back. The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets. When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, 'There is a noise of war in the camp.' But he said, 'It is not the sound made by victors, or the sound made by losers; it is the sound of revellers that I hear.' As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.

Exodus 32:7-11 (The Golden Calf)

7 The LORD said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ' ⁹The LORD said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.'
11 But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, 'O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?

21 Moses said to Aaron, 'What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?'

²²And Aaron said, 'Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the people, that they are bent on evil. ²³They said to me, "Make us gods, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

²⁴So I said to them, "Whoever has gold, take it off "; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!

Humankind excuse for sin:

The woman you gave me .. (The man)

The Serpent tricked me .. (The woman)

Now, Aaron gave us these gods. Again refusing personal responsibility and thus no repentance.

Questions to modern day "Aarons"

- Spiritual maturity of believers
- Practical guides to protect the less discerning




The First Commandment

- Forbids the worship of false gods
- Forbids Superstition
 - Number 13
 - Black cat crossing your path
 - Breaking a mirror
 - Chain mails
- Forbids Divination
 - Palm reader
 - Fortune teller
 - Horoscope
 - Feng Shui




The First Commandment

- Forbids Spiritism
 - Communicate with the dead through medium
- Forbids Irreligion
 - Tempting (testing) God in words & deeds
 - Profaning or treating unworthily the sacraments / liturgical actions (Sacrilige)
- Forbids Atheism / Agnosticism
 - Denying the existence of God
- Forbids Idolatry
 - Worshiping creatures / objects



The First Commandment

- Modern day false gods
 - Beauty } 1 John 2:16 (Love of the world)
 - Sex } Desire of the flesh
 - Fortune } Desire of the eyes
 - Power } Pride in riches
 - Fame } Pride in riches
 - Knowledge } Pride in riches
- An attempt to look at it from God's point of view (God's Heart)



What is the purpose of civil laws?

- For the well being of the people (Like traffic rules/signs/speed bumps)
- The penalty for breaking a law is meant for a greater good



What is the purpose of the Commandments?

- For our well being
- For our greater good
- What is the fundamental desire of humankind?
 - To be loved
 - To love
 - Never ending
- Only God can fill this desire
 - We are created out of Love, for Love and to love
 - "You have made us for yourself and our heart is restless until it rests in you O God" (St Augustine)
- They are Commandments of Love
 - Thou shall love your God with Your neighbours ...

God gave only One Commandment at the beginning of creation

"You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Genesis 2:16-17

What happened?

- She saw it was nice to behold & desires wisdom (Unjust desire in the heart. Doubting God's Word)
- A Lie from the serpent (Open to temptations) (You will not die. God is lying)
- You shall become God (Pride of the mind. Commits Idolatry in the heart)
- The woman ate the fruit and also gave it to the man who also ate it (Sinned with the Body. We do not sin alone)

Matthew Chapter 15

¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'

Matthew Chapter 5

“You shall not commit adultery.”²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.*³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 22:34-40
(Dt 6:5; Lv 19:18)

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35 and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ 37 He said to him, ‘“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Jesus will show the depth of His Love for God and neighbour (us) on the Cross and gave A New Command to “Love as I have loved” (John 15:12)

The First Commandment

Love of God

Meeting us at the Eucharistic table,
Uniting with our little sacrifices

To Truly Worship God
The Mass – the 8th day

We will then see Him as He is (1 John 3:2)
What a Joy to be able to believe!




The Ten Commandments

1. Do not have other gods
2. Do not dishonour God's name
3. Keep the Sabbath day Holy
4. Honour your father and mother
5. Do not kill (Kill for lust of the flesh/worldly goods/pride)
6. Do not commit adultery (Consummated sin)
7. Do not steal (Consummated sin)
8. Do not lie (Pride of the mind)
9. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's wife
10. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's goods (Desiring what God has not given) (The TREE OF KNOWLEDGE)

Relationship with God (Commands 1-3)


Relationship with our neighbours (Commands 4-10)



Commandment of Love

Obedience to God's will

1. Do not have other gods
2. Do not dishonour God's name
3. Keep the Sabbath day Holy (Genesis 2:3)
(Holy because God rested. Jesus rested in the tomb on Holy Saturday)
4. Honour your father and mother
(A child of God. To Love as Jesus Loved)
5. Do not kill (Seeking Eternal Life in Christ)
6. Do not commit adultery (Faithful to God)
7. Do not steal (My Soul belongs to God)
8. Do not lie (Seeking the Truth in God with our Mind)
9. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's wife
10. Do not wrongfully desire your neighbour's goods (Love of God must also begin from our Heart)



The First Commandment

- What about statues and images?

CCC 2130

Nevertheless, already in the **Old Testament**, God ordained or permitted the **making of images that pointed symbolically toward salvation by the incarnate Word**: so it was with the **bronze serpent**, the ark of the covenant, and the **cherubim**.

CCC 2131

Basing itself on the mystery of the incarnate Word, the seventh ecumenical council at Nicaea (787) justified against the iconoclasts the veneration of icons - of Christ, but also of the Mother of God, the angels, and all the saints. **By becoming incarnate, the Son of God introduced a new "economy" of images.**



The First Commandment

- Incarnation Principal
 - Jesus Christ made God visible
 - Permissible to have images of Him as a reminder to draw us closer to Him
 - We worship not the image but the person it represents (Our Risen Lord)
- Images of Mary/Saints/angels
 - Similar to having images of loved ones, dead or alive (God's master pieces)



The Rosary

- Originated about the year 1208. Our Lady appeared to **St Dominic** in the chapel of Notre Dame at Prouille, holding a Rosary in her hand.
- She taught him how to said it and bade him teach it to the world, promising that it would **convert sinners and obtain graces for the just**.
- 16th Century practice of reciting 150 Hail Mary's in decades of 10.



The Rosary

- Blessed Alan de la Roche composed 150 themes for meditation:
 - The Incarnation during the first 50 "Hail Marys"
 - The Passion during the next 50 "Hail Marys"
 - The Resurrection, Ascension and Glorification of Christ during the final 50 "Hail Marys"
- In 1569, the Dominican Pope St Pius V standardised the Rosary in its Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries.
- Pope John Paul II added the Mysteries of Light (Luminous Mysteries) in 2002, which consider the public life of Christ



The Rosary

- In 1569, the Dominican Pope St Pius V standardised the Rosary in its present form.
- The victory of the Christian navy over the Turks in the battle of Lepanto in 1571 was *attributed greatly to the recitation of the Rosary*.
- Pope Pius V instituted the **feast of Our Lady of Victories on October 7, 1572**: the first anniversary of the battle.



The Rosary

- The following year, his successor changed the name of the **feast to Our Lady of the Rosary**.
- In 1883, Pope Leo XIII proclaimed that the month of **October be dedicated to the Holy Rosary**.
- The beloved Pope John Paul II added the **Mysteries of Light (or Luminous Mysteries)** in 2002, which consider the public life of Christ.



The Rosary

- This devotion came to be called the “Rosary” from the beginning of the 14th Century.
- The Latin name *Rosarium*, or “rose garden”, was applied to medieval love lyrics and hence this is the love lyric of Mary for her beloved son. We imitate her



The Rosary

- Divided into five decades (1 decade=10 beads)
- Each decade represents a mystery or event in the life of Jesus.
- Not just a series of repeated prayers, but a meditation on some central mysteries of our faith



The Rosary

- 4 sets of Mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous)
- Each set of Mysteries are said on specific days of the week
- 20 Mysteries in total



Joyful Mysteries (Mon and Sat)

- The Annunciation (Luke 1:28)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Humility
- The Visitation (Luke 1:14-42)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Love of Neighbour
- The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:7)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Poverty of Spirit
- The Presentation (Luke 2:22-23)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Purity of mind and body
- Finding Jesus In The Temple (Luke 2:46)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Obedience




Sorrowful Mysteries (Tue and Fri)

- Agony in the Garden (Luke 22:44-45)
 - Spiritual Fruit: God's Will be done
- Scourging at the Pillar (John 19:1)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Mortification of the senses
- Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:28-29)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Reign of Christ in our heart
- Carrying of the Cross (John 19:17)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Patient bearing of trials
- The Crucifixion (Luke 23:46)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Pardoning of Injuries



Glorious Mysteries (Wed and Sun)

- The Resurrection (Mark 16:6)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Faith
- The Ascension (Mark 16:19)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Christian Hope
- Descend of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- The Assumption (Revelation 12:1)
 - Spiritual Fruit: To Jesus through Mary
- The Coronation (Revelation 12:1, Judith 15:10-11)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Grace of Final Perseverance




Luminous Mysteries (Thu)

- Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 3:13-17)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Gratitude for the gift of Faith
- Wedding of Cana (John 2:1-9)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Fidelity
- Proclamation of the Kingdom (Matthew 4:23-24)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Desire for Holiness
- The Transfiguration (Mark 9:2-7)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Spiritual Courage
- Institution of the Eucharist (Luke 22:14-20)
 - Spiritual Fruit: Love of our Eucharistic Lord




To Help You Remember ...

- Mon: Joyful
- Tue: Sorrowful
- Wed: Glorious
- Thu: Luminous
- Fri: Sorrowful
- Sat: Joyful
- Sun: Glorious




Tea Break




Discussion

- In what ways can we show in our daily lives that we put God above all things?
- Do you find crucifixes, statues, holy pictures, medals, etc. useful in bringing you closer to God? How?




Recap

- The Ten Commandments: Guidelines for Christian Life
- The First Commandment: Worship God




Q&A




Further Readings


- *Path Through Catholicism*
(ISBN 0-7829-0971-X)
Chapter 19



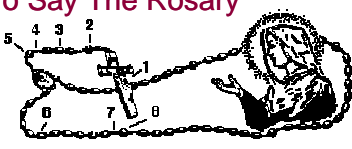
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How To Say The Rosary



1. Sign of the cross, Apostles' Creed
2. Our Father
3. 3x Hail Mary's
4. Glory Be To The Father
5. Announce 1st Mystery, Our Father
6. 10x Hail Mary's, Meditate on the Mystery
7. Glory Be To The Father, Fatima Prayer
8. Announce 2nd Mystery, Our Father. Repeat 6 & 7
9. After the Rosary, pray the Hail Holy Queen

Lets now say a decade together 🙏



Sorrowful Mysteries

1. Agony in the Garden

Abandonment


Denial

Betrayal

Asleep

Only the thief believed

Faith



Mockery


Rejection

Indifference

Even the Roman soldiers believed

Trust


Obedience 🙏



Sorrowful Mysteries



2. Scourging at the Pillar






Sorrowful Mysteries

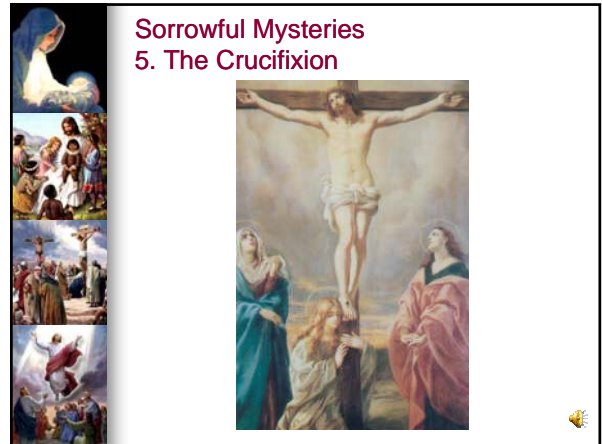
3. Crowning with Thorns

Sorrowful Mysteries
4. Carrying of the Cross



Sorrowful Mysteries
5. The Crucifixion



HAIL, HOLY QUEEN, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
 R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

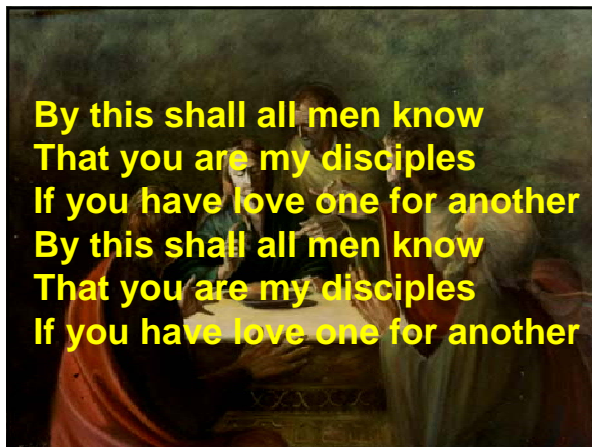
Let us pray.
 O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

A NEW COMMANDMENT

**A new commandment
 I give unto you
 That you love one another
 As I have loved you
 That you love one another
 As I loved you**

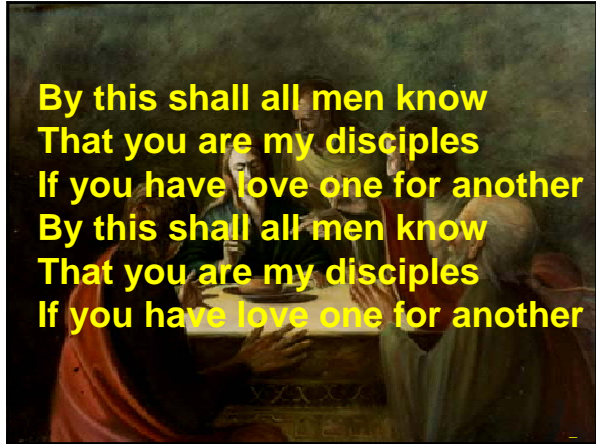


**By this shall all men know
 That you are my disciples
 If you have love one for another
 By this shall all men know
 That you are my disciples
 If you have love one for another**



**A new commandment
 I give unto you
 That you love one another
 As I have loved you
 That you love one another
 As I loved you**





**By this shall all men know
That you are my disciples
If you have love one for another
By this shall all men know
That you are my disciples
If you have love one for another**