

## Catechist Glossary

This expanded Glossary includes the definitions from the Children’s Book, in blue type, followed by expanded definitions to help the catechist explain a term more fully. Each expanded definition is followed by an example.

### A

#### **Advent** [Adviento]

The four weeks before Christmas. During Advent, we prepare for the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

The liturgical season that lasts the four weeks before Christmas. Advent is a time of joyful preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Savior. The color for the season of Advent is violet.

*We light a candle on an Advent wreath on each of the four Sundays of Advent.*

#### **All Saints Day** [Todos los Santos, Día de]

A special day when we honor those who have died and gone to heaven.

A solemnity of the liturgical year on which we honor those who have died and gone to heaven. All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation. All Saints Day is celebrated on November 1.

*On All Saints Day, we think about those who now live with God in heaven.*

#### **Alleluia** [Aleluya]

A word we use to offer praise to God.

A prayer of praise to God. *Alleluia* means “Praise God.” We sing “Alleluia!” before the Gospel at Mass (except during Advent and Lent) to praise the risen Christ.

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

#### **angel** [ángel]

A messenger sent by God from heaven.

A heavenly messenger and protector sent by God. Angels continuously praise God in heaven.

*God sent the angel Gabriel to tell Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus.*

### B

#### **Baptism** [Bautismo]

The first sacrament. Baptism makes us part of God’s family, the Church.

The first sacrament. Baptism takes away Original Sin and makes us part of God’s family, the Church. Baptism is one of the Sacraments of Initiation.

*Baptism is a sacrament of welcoming.*

### C

#### **choice** [decisión]

Something we freely decide to do.

Something we freely decide to do. We can make good choices and bad choices. The Church, following the teachings of Jesus Christ, helps us make good choices.

*The Ten Commandments help us make good choices.*

## Christmas | Eucharist

**Christmas** [Navidad]

The season of the Church year that celebrates the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

The liturgical season that lasts from Christmas Eve until the Feast of the Epiphany. The color for the Christmas season is white.

*Christmas is a time to thank God for the birth of Jesus.*

**Church** [Iglesia]

God's family; The people who follow Jesus Christ. When spelled with a small c, a church is a building where we gather to pray to God.

The people of God throughout the whole world, or diocese (the local Church), or the assembly of those called together to worship God. The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

*The Church is the family of God all over the world.*

**create** [crear]

To make something. Only God can create something from nothing.

God created everything out of nothing to share his life and his love.

*God creates the world and everything and everyone in it.*

**D****disciple** [discípulo]

A follower of Jesus.

A follower of Jesus who makes a commitment to live as he did and proclaim the Gospel. Jesus chose twelve disciples to be his Apostles.

*A disciple of Jesus prays, loves, and serves others.*

**E****Easter** [Pascua]

The season of the Church year that celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The liturgical season that celebrates Jesus' Resurrection from the dead. Easter lasts for 50 days. It begins on Easter Sunday and ends on Pentecost. The color for the Easter season is white.

*Easter is a season of joy and hope.*

**Eucharist** [Eucaristía]

The sacrament in which we give thanks to God for our Savior, Jesus Christ. We celebrate the Eucharist at Mass. It is our most important way of praising God. At Mass, we listen to the Word of God and we receive the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ.

The sacrament in which we give thanks to God for our Savior, Jesus Christ. We celebrate the Eucharist at Mass. It is our most important way of praising God. At Mass, we listen to the Word of God and we receive the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion. The Eucharist is a spiritual sacrifice and sacred banquet. The Eucharist is presided over by a priest. The Eucharist is one of the Sacraments of Initiation.

*The Sacrament of the Eucharist brings us into union with Jesus Christ and his saving Death and Resurrection.*

## faith | Holy Family

## F

**faith** [fe]

A gift from God that enables us to trust in God.

A gift from God that we receive at Baptism that enables us to place our trust in God. Faith is also our response to God's invitation to trust in him.

*Faith helps us believe in God and live as he wants us to live.*

**forgiveness** [perdón]

The act of responding with goodness to people who have done wrong to us.

The act of responding with goodness and pardon to people who have wronged us through their actions or words.

*When we sin, we say we are sorry and ask God and others for forgiveness.*

## G

**God** [Dios]

The Creator of all that exists. God is one being who is a Trinity of Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The loving and eternal being who created all that exists. God is one being who is a Trinity of Three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

*God created the world.*

**grace** [gracia]

God's gift of his life to us.

God's gift to us, given to us without our meriting it. Grace is the Holy Spirit alive in us, helping us live our Christian vocation. Grace helps us live as God wants us to live.

*Grace helps us love and follow Jesus.*

## H

**heal** [sanar]

To make well. Jesus can heal us.

To make well. Jesus can heal our bodies, our hearts, our minds, and our souls.

*We ask Jesus to heal us.*

**heaven** [cielo]

The state of living with God forever.

The state of living with God that is full of joy and never ends.

*Jesus saves us from sin so that we can be with God in heaven.*

**Holy Family** [Sagrada Familia]

The family made up of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

The family made up of Jesus; his mother, Mary; and his father on earth, Joseph.

*A Nativity scene shows the Holy Family in a stable.*

**Holy Spirit** [Espíritu Santo]

The Third Person of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit is our helper and our guide.

The Third Person of the Trinity, who comes to us first in Baptism and fills us with God's life. The Holy Spirit helps, guides, and sanctifies the Church and its members.

*The Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on Pentecost.*

**Holy Week** [Semana Santa]

The week before Easter. During Holy Week, we celebrate the events leading up to Jesus' Resurrection.

The week leading up to Easter. During Holy Week, we celebrate and reflect on the Passion and Death of Jesus.

*Holy Week comes at the end of Lent.*

**honor** [honrar]

To love and respect others.

To show someone love and respect through our words and actions. We are called to honor God and one another.

*People in a family honor and care for one another.*

**J****Jesus** [Jesús]

The Son of God and the Second Person of the Trinity. Jesus is our Savior.

The Son of God and the Second Person of the Trinity. God the Father sent Jesus to save us. Jesus is both true God and true man.

*Jesus loves us.*

**Holy Spirit | Light of the World****Joseph** [José]

Jesus' father on earth.

Jesus' father on earth. God asked Joseph to love and care for Jesus.

*Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are the Holy Family.*

**L****Lent** [Cuaresma]

The Church season leading up to Easter. During Lent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection.

The liturgical season leading up to Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days. During Lent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' suffering, Death, and rising from the dead. The color for the season of Lent is violet.

*Lent is a time of praying, fasting, and almsgiving.*

**Light of the World** [Luz del Mundo]

A name we use for Jesus to remind us that he lights our way to the Father.

One of the titles we give to Jesus to remind us that he destroys the darkness of sin and lights our way to the Father.

*Jesus is the Light of the World.*

## Lord's Prayer | Ordinary Time

**Lord's Prayer** [Padrenuestro]

The prayer that Jesus gave us to show us how to pray to God the Father. This prayer is also called the Our Father.

The prayer that Jesus himself taught his disciples, to show them how to pray to God the Father. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to give us what we need most: to love him and to love others.

*The Lord's Prayer shows us how to love God and how to love our neighbors.*

**love** [amar]

To care unselfishly for others. God loves us and wants us to love him and love others.

The unselfish giving of ourselves to others. God is love itself. God loves us and wants us to love him and love others.

*[Jesus said,] "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." (John 15:12)*

**M****Mary** [María]

The mother of Jesus and Mother of God. Mary is also our Mother.

The mother of Jesus and Mother of God. She is called "full of grace" because God chose her to be Jesus' mother. Mary is also our Mother and the Mother of the Church.

*Mary, the mother of Jesus, loves and cares for us.*

**N****need** [necesidad]

Something a person must have to be well cared for.

That which a person must have to be safe and well cared for physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

*Some needs that all people have are water, food, shelter, and love.*

**O****Ordinary Time** [Tiempo Ordinario]

The longest season of the Church year. During this time, we learn about Jesus' life, teachings, and actions. We also learn about our call to follow him as disciples.

The longest of the liturgical seasons. Ordinary Time has two periods. The first comes after Christmas. During this time, we learn about Jesus' life, teachings, and actions. The second period comes after Pentecost. During this time, we learn about Christ's reign as King of Kings and our call to follow him as disciples. The last day of Ordinary Time is the Feast of Christ the King of the Universe.

*The color for Ordinary Time is green.*

## Original Sin | pray

**Original Sin** [pecado original]

The sin of Adam and Eve, who disobeyed God. We are all born with Original Sin.

The result of the sin of Adam and Eve. Because they disobeyed God, we are all born with Original Sin.

*Baptism takes away Original Sin.*

**P****parish** [parroquia]

A community of Catholics, led by a priest, that meets to worship and serve God together.

A community of Catholics that meets to worship God together and to share in his mission as believers in Jesus Christ.

*A parish is led by a pastor.*

**peace** [paz]

A state of calmness and happiness; a state of being right with God and one another.

A feeling of calmness, happiness, and contentment; a feeling of being right with God and one another. We know peace when we know that we have done our best to love God and know that God loves and forgives us.

*We are at peace when we have been forgiven.*

**Pentecost** [Pentecostés]

The day when the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven to the disciples.

The 50th day after Jesus was raised from the dead. On this day, the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven to the disciples.

*The Church was born on Pentecost.*

**people** [personas]

Men, women, and children.

All human beings. God creates people in his image and likeness.

*God loves and cares for all the people of the world.*

**pray** [rezar]

To listen to and talk to God.

To listen to and talk to God. We can pray to thank God, to ask for help, to say we are sorry, and to give God praise.

*We pray with words, songs, gestures, and in the silence of our hearts.*

## sacrament | Trinity

**S****sacrament** [sacramento]

One of the seven signs that Jesus gave the Church so that we might receive God's grace. The seven sacraments are Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Penance and Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

One of the seven visible signs instituted by Jesus Christ and entrusted to the Church through which God's life enters our lives through the Holy Spirit. The seven sacraments are Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Penance and Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

*Through the sacraments, we receive God's grace.*

**Savior** [Salvador]

Jesus, the Son of God, who came to save us from our sins.

Jesus, the Son of God, who became man to forgive our sins and heal our friendship with God. The name *Jesus* means "God saves."

*God sent his Son to be our Savior.*

**serve** [servir]

To share time, talent, and care with those who need it.

To share time, talent, and care with those who need it. Being a disciple means we are all called to serve.

*God calls us to serve others.*

**T****Trinity** [Trinidad]

The mystery of one God in three divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The mystery of one God in three divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This truth is at the root of our faith.

*When we pray the Sign of the Cross, we praise the Holy Trinity.*