

Grade 7 - Lesson 10

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

Sanctifying grace is a supernatural gift from God that is a share in his own life and necessary for salvation. The seven Sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ to be visible signs that confer grace.



Catechetical Points

- Sanctifying grace is necessary to be in right relationship with God and to reach heaven.
- Mortal sin separates us from God's grace.
- Jesus continues his work of salvation through the seven Sacraments.

Materials

- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348
 - Mortal vs. Venial Sin by Fr. Mike Schmitz
 - <https://youtu.be/eGghX65-9Zg>
 - The Seven Sacraments by ODB Films
 - <https://youtu.be/qmfSwi3ZKH4>

Note: Father will be hearing confessions in the **Sacristy** tonight, starting at 6:00. Please send two or three students at a time up to church during today's lesson to line up for confession.

[10 min] **Silent Prayer**

- Bring the class into church for a few minutes of silent prayer.
- You can start sending some of the teens to line up for Confession during this time.

[20 min] **Grace**

- **Why did God create us?** (Or in other words, what is the meaning of life?)
 - God created us to know, love, and serve him in this life on earth and to spend eternity with him in heaven.
- Read pages 75 in the student text (page 131 in the teacher's manual).
- We stay in the state of sanctifying grace as long as we avoid mortal sin. We need prayer and the Sacraments to achieve this. We can't do good and avoid sin without God's help.
- **Mortal sin** breaks a person's relationship with God.
- For a sin to be mortal these 3 conditions have to be met:
 1. It is a serious sin.
 2. You know it is wrong.
 3. You freely choose to do it.
- You should not receive communion while in a state of mortal sin. When a person commits a mortal sin, they should go to confession as soon as possible. God forgives any sin, no matter how serious it is, as long as the person is truly sorry and tries to be a better person. If a person dies while in a state of mortal sin, they cannot enter heaven. The word "mortal" means "death". Our soul "dies" when it is a state of mortal sin, but God's forgiveness restores us to life with his sanctifying grace. If a person dies in the state of mortal sin, their soul goes to hell because they refused God's mercy and chose eternal separation from God through sin.
- Anyone over the age of seven (the "age of reason") can commit a mortal sin, which is why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is first offered for kids in second

grade. Here are some examples of sins that can be mortal depending on the situation: skipping Mass on Sunday or on a Holy Day of Obligation (when you're not sick or can't get a ride to church), not telling a priest all of your sins in confession, viewing inappropriate movies or websites, feeling strong hatred for someone, bullying, telling a serious lie, stealing something valuable, gossiping about others, hating God, saying God's name in vain, disrespecting sacred things (especially the Eucharist).

- **Venial sin** is a sin that weakens a person's relationship with God, but does not destroy it. We have to purify ourselves of venial sin either here on earth or in purgatory before we can enter heaven.
- Watch **Mortal vs. Venial Sin** by Fr. Mike Schmitz
 - <https://youtu.be/eGghX65-9Zg>

[20 min] **Skit: Actual Grace**

- Read page 76.
- Divide the class into groups. One student will play a human, one student will play a demon, who gives evil inspirations to the human, and one student will play an angel, who gives good inspirations to the human and fends off the attacks of the demon. If a group has more than 3 students, the others can play other humans in the scenario.
- Each group should think of a specific situation where we encounter temptations and actual graces to overcome evil thoughts and actions.
- Give the groups time to plan, then perform for the class.
- Example:
 - Human: I'm so tired from a long day at school. I told my mom that I would make dinner tonight, but I don't feel like it. I'd rather play my Nintendo Switch.
 - Demon: That's right, you deserve to take a break. You can make it up to your mom tomorrow, she'll understand. You should play that new Doom game - it's really cool and full of blood and gore.
 - Angel: Your mom asked you to cook tonight because she has the flu and she's counting on you to make her soup so she can feel better. Remember the Corporal Works of Mercy: Feed the hungry and comfort the sick!
 - Mom: Thanks so much for making chicken soup for me! You are such a good and obedient child.

[15 min] **Sacraments**

- Read the first 2 paragraphs on page 87 (page 133 in the teacher's manual).
- Read the first full paragraph on page 88 until the end up page 89.
- Watch The Seven Sacraments by ODB Films
 - <https://youtu.be/qmfSwi3ZKH4>
- **Which 3 Sacraments help us become holy and spread the Gospel message to the world?** Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation
- **Which 2 Sacraments do we receive when we are wounded, either in body or in soul?** Reconciliation (also called Penance or Confession) and Anointing of the Sick (also called Extreme Unction or Last Rites)
- **Which 2 are Sacraments of vocation which are directed toward the salvation of others?** Marriage and Holy Orders

[10 min] **Matter and Form**

- In order for a Sacrament to be valid, it must have the correct materials and intention (matter) and the proper words and gestures (form).
- For example: For a Baptism to be valid, it requires water (*matter*) and the words (*form*), "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." [Fun Fact: A priest isn't needed to baptize a person - anyone can baptize another person, as long as they use water (it doesn't even have to be holy water), and say the proper words.]
- Divide the students into pairs and assign one of the 7 Sacraments. Have each group think about the matter and form of each Sacrament, and fill in the chart for their Sacrament on page 63 (Matter and Form) in their workbook. After each group has finished, share and discuss with the class.
- Answers are on page 135 in the teacher's manual.

[1 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Pray the **Memorare** on page 179 in the student text (page 318 in the teacher's manual).

