



Catechesis Corner

"Catechesis is the echo of the Word of God."

Pope Francis January 30, 2021

Statement of Faith

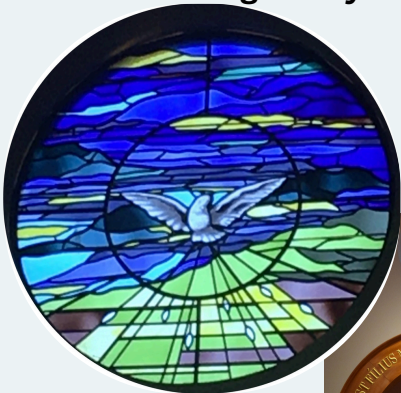
Before the foundation of the world, God "destined us in love to be His sons" and gave us the freedom to embrace this plan. Nevertheless, even when we reject it and become "dead in our transgressions," He never abandons us.

Related Scripture and Catechism of the Catholic Church

Scripture : CCC

Wisdom 2:23, 24; 1:12-14, 16	374-379
Ephesians 1:3-5; 2:1, 3	397-409
Genesis 2:8, 15-17; 3:1-19	411-412
Sirach 25:1	1263-1270
Ezekiel 18:4	
Romans 5:12-20; 3:23; 8:21-22; 6:4	
1 John 2:16	
Psalms 139:13-15	
1 Corinthians 15:21-22	
2 Corinthians 5:17	
Galatians 4:4-5	
Hebrews 2:14	
John 1:29	
1 Peter 3:21	
2 Peter 1:4	

Understanding the Symbols



Videos to Explore

[Man and Woman in the Beginning](#)

[The Story of Salvation: Creation, Fall, & Redemption](#)

FORMED parish code: **CM7TFZ**

[Sofia Sketchpad: Baptism](#)
Sofia Institute for Teachers

[What is Original Sin?](#)

St. Paul Center

[Savior of All](#)
PJAnderson

[The Exsultet](#)
Glenstal Abbey

The Holy Spirit

An image of a dove, in stained glass, sits high above in the sanctuary. Most are familiar with the image of the dove to represent the Holy Spirit as described by all four gospel writers (Mt. 3:16, Mk. 1:10, Lk. 3:22, Jn. 1:32) in relation to Jesus' baptism. Perhaps that is all that we notice, given that our attention is rightly focused on the liturgy. There is much more to this specific image than we realize. There are seven drops of water beneath the dove representing the gifts of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2): wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, [piety](#), and fear of the Lord. The dove flies over fields which represent Brentwood's agricultural roots. In the distance are mountains which have the distinct shape of Mt. Diablo. Other depictions of the Holy Spirit that we find in art and/or in the Bible are as a flame (Acts 2:3; Lk 12:49), as the Breath of God - Greek "ruach" - (Gn 1:2), as "a mighty wind" (Acts 2:2), and as living/flowing water (Jn 4:13-14).

This image is a wonderful means of prayer through "[visio divina](#)" (sacred seeing).

Are They All Feasts?

Outside the Sunday liturgy, we have developed a habit of calling all celebrations of the Church "feasts." This word resonates because it indicates the day is to be recognized in a special way. The Church actually has a hierarchy to liturgical celebrations, each with its own "norms." She celebrates the paschal mystery on the first day of the week, known as the Lord's Day or Sunday... Because of its special importance, the Sunday celebration gives way only to solemnities or feasts of the Lord." [General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar](#)

From there flows the hierarchy of celebrations: Solemnity, Feast, Memorial, and Optional Memorial. "A **solemnity** is the highest rank of celebration... Solemnities are like Sundays, though most of them are not days of obligation. **Feasts**... consist of the celebration of certain saints like the feast of the Archangels or most of the Apostles. **Memorials** are the lowest rank and are simply the celebrations of most of the saints. The Gloria is not said on these days. Obligatory memorials... must be observed. Optional memorials... may be observed but such observation is not required." [Catholic Answers](#)

Attending Daily Mass and /or following along with the [USCCB's](#) daily readings, or praying the Divine Office are great ways to live out these celebrations with the Church.

July's Devotion

[The Precious Blood](#)
[of Jesus](#)

Ite missa est - Go! You have been sent.