7th Grade – Confirmation First Year Sacrament of Confirmation – The Didache Series

Lesson Plan Week 4 - 10/9/2022

Topic: Wrap up chapter 1 (Divine Revelation); begin chapter 2 (Salvation History)

Review of last time: Supernatural (Divine) Revelation, Jesus Christ, Deposit of Faith (Scripture and Tradition), Magisterium

Chapter 1 (continued) - God Reveals Himself to Man

Supernatural Revelation

By natural reason man can know God with certainty, on the basis of his works. But there is another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers: the order of divine Revelation...God has revealed himself and given himself to man Catechism of the Catholic Church 50

Revealed over time, starting with Adam and Eve, then through the prophets, and ultimately through His Son

Christ, the Son of God made man, is the Father's one, perfect and unsurpassable Word. In him he has said everything there will be no other word than this one. (CCC65)

The Deposit of Faith: Scripture and Tradition

- Where did the bible come from?
- Road to Emmaus (Luke 24), Great Commission (Matthew 28)
- Scripture is a product of tradition and tradition is necessary to properly interpret scripture

Bible Familiarization: Old & New Testament, Typology, Gospels, Epistles

Chapter 2: The History of Salvation

Creator and Father

- Every human being has an immortal soul, rational intellect, and free will
- We become God's adopted children through the sacrament of Baptism
- We are called to a personal relationship with God our Father

Blessed Trinity & Creation

- One God, three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Creation is the work of the Holy Trinity
- We profess the Trinity in the Creed(s)

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- Word of Fire: What is the Trinity? <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMI4rA4cuiM</u>
 - Lover, beloved, love

Original Sin and the Promise of Redemption

- The Fall affected the entire human race for all of history
- Instead of condemning or destroying creation, God immediately promises our salvation
- Mary's obedience to the will of God reversed the harm done by Eve's disobedience
- Damage done by the selfish act of Adam is restored by the selfless act of Jesus Christ

Apologetics 101: Inclination to Sin (What does "Apologetics" mean?)

- We suffer from weakness in our will, intellect, and passions; this is call concupiscence
- Original Sin is "transmitted by propagation to all mankind"
- We must rely on God's grace in our struggle to overcome our disordered passions
 - Do not let ourselves be convinced that our disordered desires are acceptable; this can lead us away from the truth of divine revelation and into relativism
- This struggle lasts our lifetime
- Christ's forgiveness the grace given especially in the Sacrament of Penance as well as the practices of prayer and self-denial for self-mastery is an invaluable help in our continuing battle against sin

The Problem of Evil

- God did not create evil; evil is experienced wherever there is an absence of good
- Evil is really the failure of created beings to act as they ought
- God respects our freedom, even our freedom to choose evil over good

Why did God not create a world so perfect that no evil could exist in it? With infinite power God could always create something better. But with infinite wisdom and goodness God freely willed to create a world "in a state of journeying" towards its ultimate perfection.

- CCC 310

God's Covenants

- **Covenants** are solemn agreements between God and his people that involve both sides making commitments to each other: I am yours and you are mine
 - As opposed to a contract: this is yours and that is mine
- Adam: God promised to send a Redeemer who would reconcile God and mankind
- Noah: God saved Noah's family and promised never again to destroy the world in a flood
- Abraham: God promised the multitude of his descendants would become his chosen people
- Moses: God gave Moses the Law which helped prepare Israel for the coming of the Messiah
- David: God grants David kingship over all of Israel

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Christ Fulfills the Covenants

- In all the Old Testament covenants, God uses a human mediator; in his final covenant that would bring redemption to the word, God willed that his son would be the human mediator
- Therefore, the Son would need to be born of a woman
- ...as a woman (Eve) had a share in the coming of death (Original Sin), so also should a woman contribute to the coming of life (CCC 488)