

## Life in Grace: Our Roadmap to Heaven

### Week 5: The Ten Commandments

- “If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” (Matthew 19:17)
- Decalogue (“ten words”)
- Permanence: Exodus 31:18 and CCC 2072
- Two tables of the Law
  - Commandments 1-3 (Our love for God)
  - Commandments 4-10 (Our love for neighbor)

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment: You Shall Worship the Lord Your God and Him Only Shall

#### You Serve

- Exodus 20:2-6
- Duties
  - Prayer (CCC 2098)
  - Sacrifice
- Sins against this commandment:
  - Voluntary doubt
  - Incredulity
  - Heresy (CCC 2089)
  - Apostasy
  - Schism
  - Despair
  - Presumption
  - Indifference
  - Ingratitude
  - Lukewarmness
  - Acedia

- Hatred of God
- Superstition
- Idolatry
- Divination and magic
- Tempting God
- Sacrilege
- Simony
- Atheism

“Believers can have more than a little to do with the rise of atheism. To the extent that they are careless about their instruction in the faith, or present its teaching falsely, or even fail in their religious, moral, or social life, they must be said to conceal rather than to reveal the true nature of God and of religion.”

*(Gaudium et spes 19.3)*

- Agnosticism
- Veneration of images (not a sin)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Take the Name of the Lord Your God in Vain

- Exodus 20:7
- Sins against this commandment
  - Abuse of God’s name or the names of the Virgin Mary and other saints
  - Breaking oaths made in God’s name
  - Blasphemy
  - Perjury

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment: You Shall Keep the Sabbath Holy

- Exodus 20:8-10
- CCC 2172, 2177
- “You cannot pray at home as at church, where there is a great multitude, where exclamations are cried out to God as from one great heart, and where there is something more: the union of minds, the accord of souls, the bond of charity, the prayers of the priests.” (St. John Chrysostom)
- Sunday is for:
  - Worship of God
  - Works of mercy
  - Relaxation of the mind and body

### 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Honor Your Father and Your Mother

- Exodus 20:12
- Respecting parents and those with legitimate authority
- Responsibilities as citizens
- “[Christians] reside in their own nations, but as resident aliens. They participate in all things as citizens and endure all things as foreigners.... They obey the established laws and their way of life surpasses the laws....So noble is the position to which God has assigned them that they are not allowed to desert it.” (*Epistle to Diognetus*)
- Rights and responsibilities of the family

### 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Kill

- Exodus 20:13
- Humanity’s intrinsic dignity (Exodus 23:7; CCC 2258)
- Legitimate defense of life

- Capital punishment (*CCC 2266-2267*)
- Sins against this commandment:
  - Murder
  - Exposing someone to mortal danger without grave reason
  - Refusing assistance to a person in danger
  - Direct abortion (Jeremiah 1:5)
  - Euthanasia
  - Suicide
  - Scandal
  - Disregard of one's own health
  - Kidnapping
  - Terrorism
  - Torture
  - Non-therapeutic amputation/mutilation
  - Failing to respect bodies of the dead
  - Deliberate anger or hatred
- Organ donation (*CCC 2296*) – Dr. Tom McNamara will share the latest thinking from the medical community.
- Just war doctrine (*CCC 2309*):

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Commit Adultery

- Exodus 20:14
- Created male and female
- Universal call to chastity
- Sins against this commandment:
  - Lust

- Masturbation
- Fornication
- Use, production, or sale of pornography
- Prostitution
- Rape
- Homosexual acts
- Direct contraception or sterilization
- Infertility treatments that disrupt either the unitive or procreative aspects of the marital act
- Divorce
- Incest
- Polygamy, polyamory

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Steal

- Exodus 20:15
- Sins against this command:
  - Theft
  - Deliberate retention of goods lent or of objects lost
  - Business fraud
  - Paying unjust wages
  - Forcing up prices by taking advantage of the ignorance or hardship of another
  - Speculation in which one contrives to manipulate the price of goods artificially to gain an advantage to the detriment of others
  - Corruption in which one influences the judgment of those who must make decisions according to law

- Appropriation & use for private purposes of the common goods of an enterprise
- Work poorly done
- Tax evasion
- Forgery of checks and invoices
- Excessive expenses and waste
- Willfully damaging private or public property
- Enslaving others/trafficking

8<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Bear False Witness Against Your Neighbor

- Exodus 20:16
- Sins against this commandment:
  - Lying
  - Rash judgment
  - Detraction
  - Calumny

9<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Covet Your Neighbor's Wife

Exodus 20:17

10<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You Shall Not Covet Your Neighbor's Goods

- Exodus 20:17
- Greed and envy