



Prayer Is Never Trivial

But here's some prayer trivia we hope you'll enjoy

DAVID O'BRIEN

This quiz can help you, your students, and your students' families review our Catholic faith. Find the answer key on last page.

1 "Hail Mary, full of grace ... blessed is the fruit of thy _____, Jesus."

- a) womb b) apple tree c) prayers
d) heart

2 According to St. Augustine, _____ is "praying twice."

- a) repeating the same prayer
b) the rosary c) going to two Masses d) singing

3 Which traditional Catholic prayer is associated with a sacrament?

- a) Emancipation Proclamation
b) Pledge of Allegiance c) Act of Contrition d) Serenity Prayer

4 Which saint from the Middle Ages is credited with introducing the rosary?

- a) Margaret b) Dominic c) Mother Teresa d) Peter

5 The Bible teaches that we should pray _____.

- a) when we need something
b) before bed c) at church
d) always

6 Elizabeth, the Blessed Virgin Mary's cousin, was the one who first prayed The Magnificat,

which says: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

True | False

7 *Kyrie Eleison* means "Lord, have _____."

- a) compassion b) kindness
c) patience d) mercy

8 This prayer, familiar to Catholics, is also prayed by many Protestant Christians.

- a) Sign of the Cross b) Lamb of God
c) Our Father d) Hail Mary

9 The prayer book Jesus used as a Jewish boy was _____.

- a) the *Psalms* b) the *Lectionary*
c) the *Interior Castle* d) the *Imitation of Christ*

10 Which prayer is also known as The Lord's Prayer?

- a) Communion Rite b) Our Father
c) Letter to the Corinthians
d) Gospel of John

11 A complete rosary includes 50 Hail Marys.

True | False

12 The two forms of public liturgical prayer in the Catholic Church are _____.

- a) the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours
b) songs and meditation
c) praise and worship d) the rosary and grace before meals

13 Praying in front of a monstrance that displays the Eucharistic Jesus is called _____.

- a) *Lectio Divina*
b) Canon Law
c) beatitude
d) Eucharistic adoration





14 “The Lord is my _____; there is nothing I lack...” (Psalm 23)

- a) creator b) teacher c) king
- d) shepherd

15 Reciting memorized prayers is the only way Catholics are allowed to pray.

True | False

16 _____ of our enemies is a form of prayer.

- a) Forgiveness b) Persecution
- c) Hatred d) Torture

17 One of the great obstacles to prayer is _____.

- a) Netflix b) distractions
- c) screaming babies at church
- d) homework

18 _____ can be transformed into a powerful prayer.

- a) Suffering and sacrifice b) Candy
- c) Sleeping d) Video games

19 The _____ never wants us to pray.

- a) doctor b) mayor c) devil d) bishop

20 Catholics pray with their voices and their bodies.

True | False

Kids' quiz *Prayer is awesome!*

This quiz can help your students and your students' families review our Catholic faith. Check answers against the answer key on next page.

1 “Our Father, who art in heaven, _____ be thy name ...”

- a) Joe b) hallowed c) Abraham
- d) holy

2 “Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the _____ ...”

- a) Holy Spirit b) Mother of God
- c) Pope d) saints

3 When we pray, we are talking to _____.

- a) ourselves b) ghosts c) no one
- d) God

4 St. Peter, the first pope, wrote the Our Father prayer. True | False

5 For Catholics, the most important prayer that unites us as one body in Christ is the _____.

- a) Angelus b) Anima Christi
- c) Mass d) Salve Regina

6 “Bless us, O Lord, and these thy _____, which we are about to receive ...”

- a) miracles b) words c) gifts d) toys

7 The _____ is a repetitive prayer using beads that asks “Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners.”

- a) Act of Contrition b) rosary c) St. Michael prayer
- d) Liturgy of the Hours

8 Prayer includes both talking to the Lord and _____.

- a) listening to him b) having a snack
- c) sleeping d) a play date

9 You can pray _____.

- a) only with your parents b) only at home
- c) only at church d) anytime, anywhere, with anyone

10 Even though Jesus was God, he prayed.

True | False



DAVID O'BRIEN, MDiv, MA, is the faith formation director at St. Timothy parish in Florida. He teaches theology at St. Leo University and is the author of *There's a Beer in My Handbag: Unusual Thoughts about Everyday Faith*.

Permission is granted to copy for use with your classes and families.



ANSWERS TO Catholic IQ

1. **a)** Mary is called the "Mother of God" because she gave birth to the Son of God, Jesus (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 495).
2. **d)** Music is a priceless treasure in the Church. The Scriptures include praise and worship songs that date back to the days of Moses and King David (see CCC, 1156-8).
3. **c)** Catholics pray the Act of Contrition after they confess their sins in the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
4. **b)** The Rosary was revealed in 1208 to St. Dominic by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Dominic's preaching conversion to heretics was greatly aided by this powerful prayer. In time, "Medieval piety . . . developed the prayer of the rosary as a popular substitute for the Liturgy of the Hours" (CCC, 2678). Thus the Rosary served as a popular prayer for illiterate Catholics of the day who couldn't pray with the psalms like the monks.
5. **d)** "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).
6. **False.** Also known as the Canticle of Mary, the Blessed Mother prayed these words after Elizabeth called her "blessed" and said that the baby in her womb leapt for joy when Mary arrived.
7. **d)** Jesus told a parable of a humble tax collector and an arrogant Pharisee. The tax collector prayed: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:9-14).
8. **c)** Many Protestant denominations pray the Our Father, as they rely exclusively on the Bible for their traditions, because all the Gospels describe how Jesus taught the Our Father to his disciples.
9. **a)** "The Psalms both nourished and expressed the prayer of the Chosen People at Jerusalem and in the synagogues. Prayed by Christ and fulfilled in him, the Psalms remain essential to the prayer of the Church" (CCC, 2586).
10. **b)** "The Lord's Prayer is truly the summary

of the whole gospel, the most perfect of prayers. It is at the center of the Scriptures" (see CCC, 2774).

11. **True.** The repetition of the same prayer 50 times in the Rosary frees our minds to focus on the mysteries of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
12. **a)** Catholics — especially religious orders of monks and nuns — pray the Liturgy of the Hours throughout each day. The goal of the prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours is sanctifying every moment of every day through praising God.
13. **d)** "The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world" (CCC, 1380).
14. **d)** King David wrote Psalm 23, which describes how God takes care of us no matter what.
15. **False.** Catholics use all forms of prayer including: singing, silence, meditation, Bible reading, Mass, praise, petitions, memorized traditional prayers, spontaneous personal prayers, etc.
16. **a)** "Christian prayer extends to the *forgiveness of enemies*. . . . Forgiveness is a high-point of Christian prayer. . . . Forgiveness also bears witness that, in our world, love is stronger than sin" (CCC, 2844).
17. **b)** Distractions show us what occupies our hearts and minds. These distractions make clear what we need to let go of so that God can be number one in our hearts. We cannot serve two masters (see CCC, 2729).
18. **a)** By uniting our sacrifices and sufferings to Jesus' passion and death on the cross, we join him in his loving surrender to the Father for the salvation of the world (see CCC, 1499).
19. **c)** To pray, we need to fight distractions, the devil's temptations, as well as our own

laziness and sinful nature. The battle of prayer is part of the "spiritual battle" to act and live like Christ (see CCC, 2752).

20. **True.** Our postures can express our prayer — i.e., kneeling, bowing, reaching up to the heavens, blessing ourselves with holy water when entering the church, and so on.

kids' quiz

1. **b)** *Hallowed* means "respected" or "revered." The name of God is so sacred that the Jewish people never say it or write it. Instead of Yahweh, they write YHWH.
2. **a)** Catholic Christians believe there is only one God who has shown himself to people as a Trinity of persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. **d)** Prayer strengthens our belief that God personally cares about us and listens when we speak to him.
4. **False.** Jesus taught his disciples the Our Father, and they passed it down to all Christians since then (see Matthew 6:9-13).
5. **c)** At Mass, we join the angels in praising God and become part of Christ's great sacrifice of his body and blood in the Eucharist.
6. **c)** Before meals, Catholics thank God for their food and remember that everything good in this life is a gift from God.
7. **b)** The Rosary is one of the most popular Catholics prayers all over the world.
8. **a)** God wants us to talk to him, but he also wants to speak to us so we know how much he personally loves us.
9. **d)** Prayer is conversation with God, and since God is everywhere, all the time, and loves everyone, God invites us to pray no matter when, where, or with whom.
10. **True.** Although Jesus was fully divine (God), he was also fully human. As a person, the way he talked to God the Father was through prayer (see Luke 5:16).