



Doing Good, Acting Justly

Exploring social doctrine

DAVID O'BRIEN

This quiz can help you, your students, and your students' families review our Catholic faith. Check answers against the answer key on page 3 of this pdf.

1 When you help someone, Jesus said you should _____.

- a) tell no one
- b) tell everyone so people are impressed
- c) make sure to get service hours
- d) tell the person they owe you

2 "Faith without works is _____" (James 2:26).

- a) invisible
- b) boring
- c) difficult
- d) dead

3 The prophets of the Old Testament reminded the Israelites to especially take care of the _____.

- a) teenagers
- b) rich
- c) poor
- d) leaders

4 Because of the separation of church and state, the government cannot promote an official _____ for all US citizens.

- a) mascot
- b) religion
- c) fan club for Notre Dame
- d) type of church music

5 Jesus said: "All who take the sword will perish by _____" (Matthew 26:52).

- a) accident
- b) a Samurai warrior
- c) Roman soldiers
- d) the sword

6 Pope Francis said: "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."

True | False

7 The first _____ shared all their money and property to make sure everyone had enough.

- a) millionaires
- b) country music singers
- c) English kings
- d) Christians

8 _____ means that we are part of one human family so we need to help one another.

- a) Armageddon
- b) School spirit
- c) Solidarity
- d) Peer pressure

9 After Pope John XXIII died, Pope _____ was elected by the cardinals to lead the Church.

- a) Paul VI
- b) Francis
- c) Benedict
- d) John Paul

10 By serving those in need, we are serving _____.

- a) Pope Francis
- b) Jesus
- c) the Church
- d) the American dream

11 According to Catholic social teaching, people are more important than things.

True | False

12 St. Thomas Aquinas defined _____ as "willing the good for another."

- a) love
- b) sportsmanship
- c) wishful thinking
- d) social justice

13 Pope Paul VI famously wrote the encyclical entitled _____ explaining the Catholic teaching on artificial birth control.

- a) *Be Fruitful and Multiply*
- b) *The Song of Songs*
- c) *Rerum Novarum*
- d) *Humanae Vitae*

14 By _____, we contribute to God's creation of the universe.

- a) singing
- b) eating
- c) dreaming
- d) working

15 Ignoring Catholic social doctrine is a mortal sin.

True | False



16 Catholicism teaches that _____ are the central social institutions of our society.

- a) marriage and family
- b) the presidency and Congress
- c) Facebook and Snapchat
- d) the Army and the Navy

Kids' quiz

Doing Good for Others

Find the answer key on the next page of this pdf.

17 “If [one] part [of the body] suffers, all the parts _____” (1 Corinthians 12:26).

- a) pray
- b) suffer with it
- c) avoid it
- d) call for help

18 It is _____ to pick on someone if they are different.

- a) never okay
- b) sometimes allowed
- c) fun
- d) American

19 “If you want peace, work for _____.” – Pope Paul VI

- a) the United Nations
- b) the military
- c) justice
- d) Google

20 Like the Ten Commandments, you can find a list of the principles of Catholic social teaching in the Bible.

True | False

1 Mother Teresa took care of _____ in the slums of Calcutta.

- a) priests
- b) the poor
- c) rich children
- d) animals

2 Jesus told the story about the Good _____ who helped the injured man on the side of the road to Jericho.

- a) Samaritan
- b) Amigo
- c) Catholic
- d) Doctor

3 At the Last Supper, Jesus served his disciples by washing their _____.

- a) dishes
- b) clothes
- c) hands
- d) feet

4 The pope sometimes is called “The servant of the servants of God.” True | False

5 St. Francis of Assisi helped _____ when everyone else avoided them due to their disease.

- a) Franciscans
- b) his parents
- c) lepers
- d) the kings of Italy

6 Children can serve at Mass as _____

- a) teachers
- b) deacons
- c) altar servers
- d) priests

7 Beginning in the Middle Ages, vocations of service included teachers, lawyers, clergy, and _____.

- a) farmers
- b) doctors
- c) inn keepers
- d) butchers

8 Pope _____ recently said that “politics is one of the highest forms of charity.”

- a) Francis
- b) Leo XIII
- c) Julius I
- d) Gregory the Great

9 In the 1960s, _____ served his community by fighting for civil rights and equal treatment for African Americans.

- a) Abraham Lincoln
- b) Gandhi
- c) Jesus
- d) Martin Luther King Jr.

10 Marching in a protest against a bad law such as legal abortion is a form of service to society. True | False



DAVID O'BRIEN teaches theology at St. Leo University in Florida and is the author of *There's a Beer in My Handbag: Unusual Thoughts about Everyday Faith*.

Thoughts about Everyday Faith.



ANSWERS TO Catholic I.Q.

1. a) "But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing . . . and your Father who sees in secret will repay you" (Matthew 6:3-4).
2. d) Faith should lead us to act like Jesus, who served others, sacrificed for others, and helped everyone he could.
3. c) Catholic social teaching follows the prophetic insight that those who need the most help should be taken care of first.
4. b) The first amendment of the U.S. Constitution states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . ."
5. d) Jesus practiced nonviolence and called his disciples to do the same. St. Paul echoes this teaching in Romans 12:21: "Conquer evil with good."
6. False. Pope Paul VI, who is to be canonized a saint, offered this wisdom in his encyclical *On Evangelization in the Modern World*.
7. d) "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 4:34-35).
8. c) "Whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences, we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world." – *U.S. Bishops*. See CATmag.us/2nihl9x.
9. a) Pope Paul VI guided the Church through the final years of Vatican II.
10. b) "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).
11. True. "Every person is precious, people are more important than things, and the measure of

every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person" (U.S. Bishops).

12. a) Aquinas said that true love wants what is best for the other, even when it requires sacrifice from us. "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).
13. d) *Of Human Life (Humanae Vitae)* taught that nothing should artificially impede the conception of a new baby.
14. d) "Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation" (U.S. Bishops).
15. True. However, a sin isn't mortal unless it is a serious offense, and that you know it is a sin and you do it anyway. To selfishly ignore the needs of the poor and vulnerable when you can help is a mortal sin (see CCC, 1855).
16. a) Marriage is a reflection of God's love, and the family is where faith and virtues are learned.
17. b) We are all interconnected spiritually as the body of Christ and as a part of God's human family. If anyone suffers, it should affect us all and cause us to try to help.
18. a) Discrimination and attacking those who are weak is always a sin and violates God's will (see CCC, 1935).
19. c) "The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict" (U.S. Bishops). Peace requires justice to avoid wars started by people who have legitimate grievances.
20. False. Neither is the Creed or the word *Trinity* in the Bible. However, all these teachings and many others are based on the Bible. Guided by the Holy Spirit, it is the job of the magisterium (pope and bishops) is to interpret and apply the Bible's wisdom to every generation.

Kids' Quiz

1. b) Mother Teresa said she was taking care of Jesus who came to her in the "distressing disguise of the poor" (see Matthew 25:31ff).
2. a) Jesus' story was surprising because the Samaritans and Jews hated each other. No one expected the Samaritan to help the hurt Jewish man, but he did (see Luke 10:25-37).
3. d) By washing their feet, Jesus gave his disciples a powerful example of humble service (see John 13:1-17).
4. True. The pope has various titles to describe his different roles. This title emphasizes how his job is to help the other clergy do their ministry of serving the people of God.
5. c) The first time St. Francis embraced a leper, it changed his life because he realized that all people were his brothers and sisters in the family of God.
6. c) Young people are welcome to serve as lectors and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist once they are 21 years old according to the U.S. bishops.
7. b) Only recently did doctors and lawyers become high-paying jobs. Previously people chose those careers only to serve humanity.
8. a) By passing good laws, politicians serve the common good and help a lot of people.
9. d) Martin Luther King Jr. recognized racism to be a sin and an offense against God's will. He dedicated his life to the fight for justice, equality, and fair treatment for African Americans.
10. True. Love requires action, which can be through charity (responding to immediate needs) or justice (seeking to address the cause of the problems). Changing bad laws is a work of justice.