



## Enthusiasm for the Faith

### Q What is the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults?

The *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, released in 2006, is an adaptation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* for members of the Church in the United States. Intended to be a catechetical resource for adults, this Catechism consists of 36 chapters, a conclusion, and three appendices: a glossary, texts of traditional Catholic prayers, and suggestions for further reading.

This Catechism is unique in many ways. It is a product in English, of the Catholic Church in America. While being pedagogically sensitive to adult learning processes, it dialogues with uniquely American cultural values. A significant portion of the Catechism engages in a dialogue between Catholicism and American culture. Narrative theology is used effectively by beginning each chapter with brief biographical stories of mostly American Catholics who personify the lesson of the chapter. The use of inclusive language, except when quoting from the Catechism of the Catholic Church or when referring to God, is also quite unique for church documents.

The format is also rather unique. While adhering to a catechism's four-part structure of Creed, Sacraments, Moral Life, and Prayer, this Catechism formats the chapters with sidebars, questions for discussion, and a concluding meditation and prayer. The sidebars provide additional information from other sources, especially from the Catechism. The open-ended questions allow interaction and discussion in a group setting. The meditation and prayer emphasize the reality of conversion of heart, and not just head knowledge.

Why not pick up a copy for yourself and peruse it. It might just surprise you.

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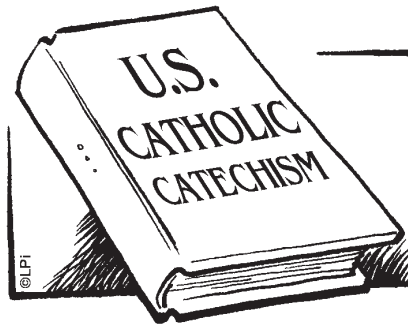
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A significant portion of the Catechism engages in a dialogue between Catholicism and American culture.



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# Q

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# A

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