

Course VI. Life in Jesus Christ

		CONFORMITY YES/NO/PARTIAL	REQUIRED CHANGES Recommendations and Suggestions
1.	I. What Is Life in Christ? A. God's plan for us (CCC, nos. 302-314, 1692). 1. God creates us to share eternal love and happiness with him in Heaven. a. Desire and longing for God (CCC, no. 27).		
2.	b. Fall and promise of redemption (CCC, no. 410).		
3.	c. Jesus Christ fulfills this promise (CCC, nos. 456-460).		
4.	2. God created us in his image and likeness (CCC, nos. 1700-1706). a. The dignity of the human person (CCC, no. 1700). b. Endowed with reason, intellect, and free will (CCC, nos. 1703-1706).		
5.	B. Our response to God's plan. 1. Response of love (CCC, no. 1828).		
6.	2. He calls us to beatitude or joy. a. The Beatitudes (CCC, no. 1716).		
7.	b. Effects of the Beatitudes (CCC, nos. 1718-1724). c. God's gift of joy (CCC, no. 1720).		
8.	3. What it means to be a follower of Christ. a. Baptism and divine filiation (CCC, no. 1279).		
9.	b. Focused on Christ (CCC, no. 1698).		
10.	c. Moral life and happiness (CCC, nos. 1988ff.).		
11.	II. God Has Taught Us How to Live a New Life in Christ A. God rules the universe with wisdom and directs its divine fulfillment (CCC, no. 1719).		
12.	1. Eternal law (CCC, nos. 1950-1951).		
13.	2. Divine Providence (CCC, no. 1975).		
14.	3. Natural moral law. a. Reason participating in eternal law (CCC, nos. 1954-1955).		
15.	b. Basis for human rights and duties (CCC, no. 1956). c. Found in all cultures, basis for moral rules and civil law (CCC, nos. 1958-1960).		
16.	B. Revelation. 1. Teachings revealed by God under the Old Covenant. • Context of the Ten Commandments (CCC, nos. 2052-2074).		
17.	• Principle of interpretation (CCC, no. 2083).		
18.	a. Ten Commandments.		

	<p>1) First Commandment: I am the Lord, your God; you shall not have strange gods before me.</p> <p>a) Theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity (CCC, nos. 2087-2094).</p>		
19.	<p>b) Sins to avoid: superstition, idolatry, divination and magic, irreligion, atheism, agnosticism (CCC, nos. 2110-2132).</p>		
20.	<p>2) Second Commandment: You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.</p> <p>a) Reverent speech about God (CCC, nos. 2142-2145).</p>		
21.	<p>b) Sins to avoid: blasphemy or other abuse of God's name, perjury, misusing God's name in oaths or false oaths (CCC, nos. 2146-2155).</p>		
22.	<p>3) Third Commandment: Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.</p> <p>a) Meaning of Lord's Day (CCC, nos. 2168-2176).</p>		
23.	<p>b) Serious obligation to attend Mass (CCC, nos. 2180-2185).</p>		
24.	<p>c) Day of grace—rest from work (CCC, nos. 2184-2188).</p>		
25.	<p>d) Sins against Third Commandment: missing Mass on Sundays and holy days (CCC, nos. 2180-2182), failing to pray (CCC, nos. 2744-2745), failing to keep holy the Lord's Day (CCC, nos. 2184-2188).</p>		
26.	<p>4) Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.</p> <p>a) Obedience in the family.</p> <p>(1) Context of Christian family (CCC, nos. 2201-2206).</p>		
27.	<p>(2) Duties of family members (CCC, nos. 2214-2231).</p>		
28.	<p>b) Duties of civil authority and duties of citizens (CCC, nos. 2234-2243).</p>		
29.	<p>5) Fifth Commandment: You shall not kill.</p> <p>a) Respect human life in all its stages and situations (CCC, nos. 2258-2262).</p>		
30.	<p>b) Legitimate self-defense and the death penalty (CCC, nos. 2263-2267).</p>		

31.	c) Principles regarding health, science, bodily integrity (CCC, nos. 2292-2301).		
32.	d) Sins against the Fifth Commandment: murder; suicide; abortion; euthanasia; embryonic stem cell research; abuse of alcohol, drugs, food, or tobacco; abuse of the body (CCC, nos. 364, 2268-2283, 2290-2291). e) Scandal (CCC 2326) f) War (CCC 2327 – 2329)		
33.	6) Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery. a) Vocation to chastity (CCC, nos. 2337-2350).		
34.	b) Offenses against chastity (CCC, nos. 2351-2359).		
35.	c) Christian vision of marriage— theology of the body (CCC, nos. 2360-2379).		
36.	d) Offenses against the dignity of marriage (CCC, nos. 2380-2391).		
37.	e) Natural family planning.		
38.	7) Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal. a) Right to private property and just treatment (CCC, nos. 2401-2407).		
39.	b) Sins to avoid: theft, keeping something loaned or lost, the destruction of the property of others, business fraud, paying unjust wages, breaking contracts (CCC, nos. 2408-2418).		
40.	c) Overview of the social doctrine of the Church (CCC, nos. 2419-2449). d) Economic activity and social justice (CCC, nos. 2426-2436). e) Justice and solidarity among nations (CCC, nos. 2437-2442).		
41.	8) Eighth Commandment: You shall not bear false witness against another. a) Living and witnessing truth (CCC, nos. 2468-2474).		
42.	b) Sins to avoid: lying, perjury, rash judgment, detraction, calumny, boasting, making fun of others (CCC, nos. 2475-2487).		
43.	c) Keeping secrets and confidences (CCC, no. 2489).		
44.	d) The responsibilities of the media and art (CCC, nos. 2493-2503).		

45.	9) Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. a) Respect the sanctity of marriage vows (CCC, nos. 2364-2365).		
46.	b) Practice modesty and purity of heart in thought, words, actions, and appearance (CCC, nos. 2517-2527).		
47.	c) Sins to avoid: lust and pornography (CCC, nos. 2351, 2354).		
48.	10) Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. a) Practice simplicity of life and trust in God (CCC, nos. 2541-2548).		
49.	b) Sins to avoid: envy and greed (CCC, nos. 2535-2540).		
50.	2. Teaching revealed by God in the New Covenant. a. Two Great Commandments of Jesus (CCC, no. 2083). 1) First Great Commandment relates to the first three Commandments of the Decalogue. 2) Second Great Commandment relates to the rest of the Decalogue.		
51.	b. The grace of the Holy Spirit (CCC, nos. 1966, 2003).		
52.	c. The Sermon on the Mount (CCC, nos. 1966-1970). 1) Beatitudes: Christ's answer to the question about happiness (CCC, nos. 1716-1723). a) Blessed are the poor in spirit. b) Blessed are they who mourn. c) Blessed are the meek. d) Blessed are the merciful. e) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. f) Blessed are the pure in heart. g) Blessed are the peacemakers (CCC, nos. 2302-2317). h) Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.		
53.	2) Other teaching. a) Love your enemies (CCC, no. 2844).		
54.	b) Absolute trust in God (CCC, nos. 2828, 2861).		
55.	c) Non-violence (defense of innocent) (CCC, nos. 2306, 2263-2265).		

56.	d) Charity to others in judgment and action (CCC, nos. 1823-1827, 2478).		
57.	e) Avoidance of hypocrisy (CCC, no. 579).		
58.	C. The Church: her teaching authority and responsibility. 1. The Magisterium (CCC, nos. 2030-2040, 888-892).		
59.	2. Role of the law in Christian tradition (CCC, nos. 1950-1974).		
60.	3. The Church as teacher of moral principles (CCC, nos. 2032-2035).		
61.	4. Church law. a. Canon law (CCC, nos. 736-738; see CCC, Glossary).		
62.	b. The precepts of the Church (CCC, nos. 2042-2043).		
63.	c. Magisterium and natural law (CCC, no. 2036).		
64.	5. Church teaching forms one's conscience for moral decision making (CCC, nos. 1776-1782, 1795-1797). 6. Explain that the object, the intention, and the circumstances make up the three "sources" of the morality of human acts (CCC 1757)		
65.	III. Living New Life in Christ Jesus and the Gospel Message Are the Basis for Catholic Moral Teaching A. God's love and mercy through Jesus Christ (CCC, nos. 2011, 2196, 2448).		
66.	B. Our vocation—a universal call to holiness as disciples of Jesus Christ. 1. Discipleship (CCC, nos. 520-521, 901-913). a. "Love one another as I have loved you."		
67.	b. Discipleship—lived witness. 1) Daily life and work. 2) Married and unmarried.		
68.	3) Service to the Church (CCC, no. 898).		
69.	4) Missionary activity (CCC, nos. 904-907, 931).		
70.	5) Religious movements (e.g., charismatic renewal).		
71.	c. The radical demands of the Gospel for all believers.		
72.	2. New movements which involve the laity (e.g., Focolare; Communion and Liberation).		
73.	3. Consecrated life and societies of apostolic life (CCC, nos. 914-933).		
74.	4. Third orders and associates; life in the Spirit (CCC, nos. 825, 1694).		
75.	C. Grace (CCC, nos. 1996-2005). 1. Definition. 2. Types of grace.		

76.	D. Virtue (CCC, no. 1803). 1. Definition of virtue (CCC, no. 1803).		
77.	2. Types of virtue (CCC, nos. 1804-1832). a. Theological virtues (CCC, nos. 1812-1829).		
78.	b. Cardinal virtues (CCC, nos. 1804, 1810-1811).		
79.	E. Sustaining the moral life of the Christian. 1. Seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (CCC, nos. 1830-1831).		
80.	2. The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit (CCC, no. 1832).		
81.	F. Conscience. 1. Definition of conscience (CCC, nos. 1777-1782).		
82.	2. Types of conscience (CCC, nos. 1785, 1790-1794).		
83.	3. Proper formation of conscience (CCC, nos. 1783-1785). 4. Moral responsibility of following an informed conscience (CCC, nos. 1783-1785).		
84.	5. Freedom of conscience (CCC, no. 1782).		
85.	G. Sacraments and prayer offer us the grace and strength to live a moral life. 1. Baptism and Confirmation (CCC, nos. 1262-1274).		
86.	2. Eucharist (CCC, nos. 1391-1405).		
87.	3. Penance (CCC, nos. 1468-1484).		
88.	4. Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony (CCC, nos. 1533-1535).		
89.	5. Prayer (CCC, nos. 2623, 2673-2677, 2700-2719).		
90.	H. Appropriating and living the moral teaching of Jesus Christ and his Church (CCC, no. 1694). 1. The importance of regular participation in Mass (CCC, nos. 1742, 2011, 2014, 2016).		
91.	2. The importance of personal prayer on Jesus Christ's teachings (CCC, nos. 2014-2016).		
92.	IV. The Reality of Sin A. Original innocence (CCC, nos. 369-379).		
93.	B. Effects of Original Sin (CCC, nos. 396-406).		
94.	C. The reality of sin (CCC, nos. 1849-1869). 1. Definition of sins of omission and commission (CCC, no. 1853).		
95.	2. Types of sin: mortal and venial—conditions for mortal sin (CCC, nos. 1855-1860).		
96.	3. Sins of omission (CCC, no. 1853). 4. Sins of commission (CCC, no. 1853).		
97.	5. Effects of sin (CCC, nos. 1861-1864).		
98.	6. Capital sins (CCC, no. 1866).		
99.	D. Scriptural images of sin (CCC, nos. 1852-1853, 1867).		
100.	V. Challenges		

	<p>A. If God created me free, doesn't that mean that I alone can decide what is right and wrong (CCC, nos. 1776-1794, 1954-1960)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No. The freedom God gave us is the capacity to choose what is right, true, and good and to resist temptation to sin (CCC, nos. 1730-1742); education for freedom (CCC, nos. 2207, 2223, 2228, 2526). The use of freedom to do whatever we want is a misuse of that freedom and actually lessens our freedom (CCC, no. 1742). 2. Freedom is following the natural law God planted in our hearts (CCC, nos. 1954-1960). 		
101.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. In reality, sinful acts diminish freedom; moral acts increase it (CCC, no. 1733). 		
102.	<p>B. Isn't it wrong to judge other people by telling them something they are doing is wrong?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No. We have a responsibility to each other to encourage one another to live a life free of sin. To do that, we must remember that sin is real (CCC, nos. 1849-1869) and be willing to call what is sinful "sin." 2. You would warn friends against doing something that could harm them; sin harms them more than physical evil (CCC, no. 1787). 		
103.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The Church reminds us that we are to love the sinner, hate the sin (Jn 8:1-11; CCC, nos. 1465, 1846). 		
104.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The pressure in society to practice tolerance toward all, no matter what they do, is a distorted understanding of what tolerance means; moral actions must always be measured by truth (CCC, nos. 2477-2478). 		
105.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Fraternal correction is an act of charity (CCC, nos. 1793-1794). 		
106.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Objective moral judgment prevents chaos; moral relativism is a common problem today (CCC, nos. 2488-2492). 		
107.	<p>C. Isn't it wrong for the Church to impose her views of morality on others (CCC, nos. 1949-1960)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Church has the responsibility to teach everyone as persuasively as possible about what God has revealed about how people should live, act, and treat each other; fulfilling this responsibility is not the same as the Church's imposing her own views on others. In the development of public policy, the Church promotes the universal moral law and the common good, not her own ecclesiastical disciplines (CCC, nos. 1716-1724). 		
108.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Human dignity and the moral code revealed by God are universal, that is, meant for every person (CCC, no. 1700). 3. All people have the ability to understand the Church's basic moral teaching because God has 		

	<p>written the natural law on the heart of every person (CCC, nos. 1954-1960).</p> <p>4. If every person were to live by a relative moral code dependent on choice, this would lead to chaos and a loss of happiness.</p>		
109.	<p>D. Why can't we make up our own minds and be in control over everything?</p> <p>1. The Church does teach that everyone can and should make up their own minds about their actions. The key is that the decision is made on the basis of an informed or educated conscience. The Church teaches us what is right and wrong to help us form our consciences correctly.</p>		
110.	<p>2. It is always important to remember that we are finite human beings. This means we cannot know everything and we cannot be in control of everything.</p> <p>3. We have to remember that God knows, sees, and understands more than any of us can.</p> <p>4. The tragic conflicts that still exist in the world point to the imperfection of human beings (CCC, no. 2317).</p>		
111.	<p>5. Our sinfulness can only be overcome by Christ's salvation (CCC, nos. 619-623).</p>		
112.	<p>E. There's an old saying about charity beginning at home. Doesn't this mean that I don't have to worry about helping anyone else until I have enough to take care of me and my family?</p> <p>1. No; concern for others is always a responsibility and characteristic of a disciple of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>2. In the Parable of the Widow's Mite (Mk 12:38-44; Lk 20:45-21:4), Jesus teaches us that real charity is measured not by how much one gives but by the degree of generosity with which something is given or done for another.</p>		