

Catholic Moral Decision-Making Test

1. What are the three sources of authority for the Catholic Church?

_____ Conscience, scripture and prayer

_____ Tradition, magisterium and scripture

_____ Prayer, worship and scripture

2. Which parable gives an explanation about life after death?

_____ Sheep and the Goats

_____ Good Samaritan

_____ Prodigal Son

3. What type of love does Jesus teach about?

_____ Eros

_____ Philia

_____ Agape

4. What is Jesus' teaching on forgiveness?

_____ Only some sins should be forgiven

_____ Only God can forgive sins

_____ People must forgive in order to be forgiven

5. What is Jesus' teaching on wealth?

_____ People should make as much money as they can

_____ Those who are wealthy should give their money away

_____ Jesus didn't teach about wealth

6. How would you define the Divine Command Theory?

_____ An act is good or bad depending on whether it supports God's commands.

_____ An act is good or bad depending what the person decides

_____ There are no good or bad acts

7. What does a situational approach focus on?

_____ What the Catholic Church says

_____ Each situation should be taken into account

_____ What the most virtuous choice is

8. What is a teleological approach concerned with?

_____ The action itself

_____ The person making the decision

_____ The consequences of the action

9. Which of the following is a positive of an absolutist approach?

_____ Set rules and guidelines for all

_____ Each person is treated differently

_____ Each individual can do what they want

Multiple Choice Questions. Write the letter of the correct answer in the space provided before each question.

_____ 10. What is the purpose of moral laws?

- A. to prevent us from living in a chaotic world
- B. to help us order our lives according to God's plan for us
- C. to govern the relationships we have with one another and with God
- D. All of the above

- _____ 11. Which of the following refers to the Law handed down to Moses on Mount Sinai?
- A. natural law
 - B. the Old Law
 - C. the New Law
 - D. Church law
- _____ 12. Which of the following refers to the inherent moral law that every human being is born with?
- A. natural law
 - B. the Old Law
 - C. the New Law
 - D. Church law
- _____ 13. Which of the following refers to the Law of the Gospel, sometimes also called the Law of Love?
- A. natural law
 - B. the Old Law
 - C. the New Law
 - D. Church law
- _____ 14. Which of the following includes requirements such as doing penance and leading a sacramental life as ways to nourish our moral life?
- A. natural law
 - B. the Old Law
 - C. the New Law
 - D. Church law
- _____ 15. Why must Catholics listen carefully to what the Pope and bishops say about moral matters?
- A. Catholics who ignore Church teaching will be barred from receiving the Sacraments.
 - B. The Magisterium teaches without error, ensuring that the Church remains faithful to the teaching of the Apostles.
 - C. The Magisterium teaches with absolute certainty in all areas, including scientific truth and civil laws.
 - D. Obeying the teachings of the Magisterium is one of the Commandments.

- _____ 16. Which of the following is not a Precept of the Church?
- A. to follow our bishop's guidance in voting for candidates for public office
 - B. to keep holy the Lord's Day
 - C. to obey the Church's marriage laws
 - D. to join in the Church's missionary spirit and work
- _____ 17. All of the following statements are true of the Precepts of the Church except _____.
- A. that they are the bare minimum we must do to grow in love of God and one another
 - B. that we are not obligated to follow them—they are just recommendations
 - C. that they nourish us to live moral lives
 - D. that they are part of the rich faith tradition of the Church
- _____ 18. All of the following statements describe infallibility in the Church except _____.
- A. that it is a great gift of God to the Church
 - B. that it means we can rely on the Church's teaching as being true
 - C. that every statement of the Pope or any bishop is infallible, including statements about science and politics
 - D. that the gift of infallibility applies to all doctrine that is necessary for our salvation
- _____ 19. Which of the following summarizes the two Great Commandments given to us by Jesus?
- A. Love God and keep holy the Lord's Day.
 - B. Love God and love our neighbor.
 - C. Treat others as we want to be treated.
 - D. Give away all our possessions and follow Christ.
- _____ 20. Contraception is:
- A. Permissible only to married couples with the permission of their parish priest and under extenuating circumstances
 - B. Never permissible, no matter what the circumstances
 - C. Permissible if the husband and wife, after honest prayer, conclude it is right for them and do not use it selfishly
 - D. Permissible only if the wife's health would be in danger or if the husband is unable to support a large family
 - E. None of the above

- _____ 22. Sin is:
- A. A failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods
 - B. An offense against reason, truth, and right conscience
 - C. An offense against God
 - D. The love of oneself even to contempt of God
 - E. All of the above
- _____ 23. Venial sins:
- A. Weaken charity in the soul, but does not destroy it
 - B. Can dispose us little by little to commit mortal sin
 - C. Are forgiven during the Penitential Rite at Mass
 - D. All of the above
 - E. Only A and B
- _____ 24. The morning after pill is
- A. Permissible only in situations of incest or rape
 - B. Never permissible, no matter what the circumstances
 - C. Permissible if the person is a minor
 - D. Permissible only if the wife's health would be in danger or if the husband is unable to support a large family
 - E. None of the above
- _____ 25. Which of the following is not a criteria for a sin to be a mortal sin?
- A. The sin must be grave or serious
 - B. The person must give full consent of the will to committing the sin
 - C. The sin must be a sin against another person and not God
- _____ 26. The church's teachings on birth control, extramarital relations, and homosexual acts are:
- A. Ideals that should be honored but are only guidelines given by the Church
 - B. Moral laws that cannot be broken without grave sin
 - C. Justified in some very extreme circumstances.
 - D. Church teaching that were established after the Vatican II Council
 - E. Both B and D

_____ 27. Moral statements are primarily:

- A. Statements of fact or truth (e.g. "Murder is wrong" means "It is a fact that murder is wrong").
- B. Statements of the speaker's desire/emotion?(e.g. "Murder is wrong" means "I hate murder").
- C. Statements of command (e.g. "Murder is wrong" means "I say: don't murder").
- D. None of the above

_____ 28. Which of the following political issues is disqualifying issue meaning that it is one which is of such gravity and importance that cannot be acceptable?

- A. Population control (the use of contraception)
- B. Abortion
- C. Capital Punishment
- D. Preference to the poor
- E. All of the above

_____ 29. Which of the following is NOT a criterion for a war to be just?

- A. War has to be declared by a legitimate authority (a government and not a single person or group)
- B. There must be a just cause for war (protect against genocide, respond to an attack against their nation)
- C. The response must be proportional and not constitute a greater evil (not using a nuclear weapon against a conventional attack)
- D. There must be a probability of success (if the cause is hopeless they should not engage in war)
- E. All of the above ARE criteria

True or False

30. Whether an act is morally right or wrong depends solely on the intention of the person doing the action. If a person has a good intention in doing an act, then the act is morally right.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

31. The passions (the emotions of love, hatred, joy, sadness, anger, fear, daring, desire, dislike, despair, hope) are neither morally good nor bad in themselves.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

32. The Church teaches that BEING homosexual is not in itself sinful, although it is sexual disorientation. The Church teaches that homosexual ACTIVITY is sinful.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

33. It is not a sin to desire to do good in order to gain the respect or esteem of others.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

34. A soldier who kills an enemy who is attacking him has committed a mortal sin.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

35. Mortal sin is a sin specifically against God, while venial sin is a sin against another person.

_____ A. True

_____ B. False

Moral Scenarios.

36. A man, 85 years old, is in the hospital suffering from cancer. The pain is excruciating. The doctor is giving him painkillers to ease his suffering, but the dosage must be increased in order to continue to relieve his pain. The doctor knows that the increased dosage is necessary if the pain is to continue to be relieved, but that it also may be lethal to the man, even though neither the patient nor the doctor desires his death. With the patient's consent, the doctor gives the dosage and the patient dies. Was this action morally allowable according to Catholic moral theology?

_____ A. Yes

_____ B. No

37. There are three presidential candidates on the ballot. The first is pro-abortion with few limits. The second candidate supports abortion but only in the first trimester. The third candidate personally opposes abortion but sometimes votes for it if it is the will of the people he represents. The third candidate opposes abortion except in cases of incest or rape. Is it acceptable to vote for the third candidate even though he is not completely pro-life?

_____ A. Yes

_____ B. No

38. A Catholic has liver disease and his liver is severely damaged. There is a liver donor who is a match for the Catholic. The surgery will be dangerous but a successful surgery will save the life of the Catholic. Is the Catholic morally obliged to have the surgery?

_____ A. Yes

_____ B. No

39. Billy is 16 years old and owns a car. His father is Baptist and his mother is Catholic. The family goes to church at the Baptist parish on one Sunday and the Catholic parish the next Sunday and alternates between the two each week. Are the mother and son fulfilling their Sunday obligation?

_____ A. Yes

_____ B. No