

130. **What signs of the Holy Spirit's work should you hope and pray to see as a result of your Baptism?**

I should hope and pray that the Holy Spirit, who indwells me, will help me to be an active member of my Christian community, participate in worship, continually repent and return to God, proclaim the faith, love and serve God and my neighbor, and seek justice and peace. (*Matthew 22:35-40; Hebrews 10:19-28; 12:14; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 John 1:9; 2:1*)

HOLY COMMUNION

131. **Why did Christ institute the sacrament of Holy Communion?**

He instituted it for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his atoning death, and to convey the benefits of that sacrifice to us. (*Exodus 24:1-10; Psalm 23:5-6; Luke 22:17-20; John 6:25-51; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17*)

132. **What is the outward and visible sign in Holy Communion?**

The visible sign is bread and wine, which Christ commands us to receive. (*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)

133. **What is the inward gift signified?**

The inward gift signified is the Body and Blood of Christ, which are truly taken and received in the Lord's Supper by faith. (*Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Psalm 78:17-29; John 6:52-56; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4, 16-18*)

134. **What benefits do you receive through partaking of this sacrament?**

As my body is nourished by the bread and wine, my soul is strengthened by the Body and Blood of Christ. I receive God's forgiveness, and I am renewed in the love and unity of the Body

of Christ, the Church. (*1662 Catechism*; *Psalms 28:6–9; 104:14–15; Jeremiah 31:31–34; John 6:52–56; 17:22–24; Revelation 19:6–9*)

135. What is required of you when you come to receive Holy Communion?

I am to examine myself: Do I truly repent of my sins and intend to lead a new life in Christ? Do I have a living faith in God’s mercy through Christ and remember his atoning death with a thankful heart? And have I shown love and forgiveness to all people? (*Leviticus 10:1–5; Psalm 50; 1 Corinthians 11:27–32*)

136. What is expected of you after partaking in Holy Communion?

I should continue to grow in holiness, avoiding sin, showing love and forgiveness to all, and serving others in gratitude. (*Leviticus 20:26; 1 Corinthians 10:14–32; 1 Peter 4:1–11*)

CONFIRMATION

137. What is confirmation?

Confirmation is the laying on of the bishop’s hands with prayer for strengthening by the Holy Spirit, following a period of catechetical formation. In confirmation, I make a mature confession of faith, publicly renewing the vows and promises made at my Baptism. (*Deuteronomy 6:4–25; Psalm 119:33–40; Acts 8:14–17; 2 Timothy 1:6–7*)

138. What grace does God give you in confirmation?

In confirmation, I am further empowered and gifted by the Holy Spirit for daily growth in wisdom, courage, and humility before God in every aspect of my life and work. (*Psalms 37:3–31; 71:17–18; Isaiah 11:2–5; Acts 19:6; Jude 3, 17–25; “Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation,” Book of Common Prayer 2019*)

139. What is the work of all Christians?

All Christians are to bear witness to Christ in their lives; to care for the poor, strangers, widows, and orphans; and, according to their gifts, to serve Christ in the world and in the Church. (*Zechariah 7:9–10; Psalms 1; 15; Micah 6:6–8; Colossians 3:1–17; James 1:27; 1 Peter 4:8–11*)

ORDINATION

140. What is ordination?

Ordination is the laying on of the bishop's hands with prayer, which confirms the gifts and calling of the candidates, consecrates them, and grants them authority to serve Christ and his Church in the office to which they have been called. (*Isaiah 6:1–8; Luke 9:1; Acts 6:1–7; 13:1–3; 1 Timothy 3:1–13; 4:14; 5:22; Titus 1:5–9*)

141. What grace does God give in ordination?

In ordination, God conveys the gift of the Holy Spirit for the office and work of the order being conferred. (*Numbers 27:12–23; Ephesians 4:7–16; 2 Timothy 1:6–7*)

142. What are the three ordained ministries in the Anglican Church?

The three orders are bishops, priests, and deacons, which we have received from Scripture and the historic Church. (*Acts 6:1–7; 1 Timothy 3:1; 5:17–22; 2 Timothy 4:5; Titus 1:5; Ignatius of Antioch, Letter to the Trallians 2.1–3; 3.1–2*)

143. What is the work of bishops?

Bishops represent and serve Christ and the Church as chief pastors, catechists, and missionaries in the tradition of the apostles. They are to confirm and ordain, and to guard the faith, unity, and

discipline of the Church. (*Isaiah 61:1-11; John 20:19-23; 21:15-19; Acts 20:17-35; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Ignatius of Antioch, Letter to Polycarp 1.2-2.2*)

144. What is the work of priests?

Serving Christ with their bishops, priests (or presbyters) nurture God's people through the ministry of Word and Sacrament and pronounce absolution and blessing in God's Name. (*Genesis 14:17-20; Psalm 132:8-18; Luke 10:1-9; John 10:1-16; Ephesians 4:7-13*)

145. What is the work of deacons?

Serving Christ under their bishops, deacons care for those in need, assist in public worship, and instruct both young and old in the catechism. (*Deuteronomy 15:7-11; Psalm 119:1-8; Luke 12:35-40; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:8-13*)

MARRIAGE

146. What is Christian marriage?

Christian marriage, or Holy Matrimony, is a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman, uniting them in self-giving love, joy, and faithfulness. It is ordained by God for the procreation and spiritual nurture of children, the sanctification of husband and wife, the mutual support of their common life, and the flourishing of family, church, and society. Husband and wife enter into this covenant by exchanging vows before God and in the presence of witnesses. (*Genesis 2:18-25; Song of Solomon 4:7-10; Matthew 19:3-9; John 2:1-11; Romans 7:2-3; Hebrews 13:4; see questions 322-23*)

147. What is signified in marriage?

The union of husband and wife in one flesh signifies the communion between Christ, the heavenly bridegroom, and the Church, his holy

bride. Not all are called or able to marry, but all Christians are joined to Christ as members of his Body. (*Song of Solomon* 8:6–7; *Isaiah* 54:4–8; *1 Corinthians* 7:6–11; *Ephesians* 5:22–33; *Revelation* 19:6–10; 21:1–4)

148. What grace does God give in marriage?

In Christian marriage, God unites husband and wife and blesses their common life, that they may grow together in love, wisdom, and godliness, patterned on the sacrificial love of Christ. A Christian marriage embodies this grace in the world, especially through hospitality and care for those who are lonely or in need. (*Genesis* 2:18–25; *Psalms* 128; *Proverbs* 18:22; *Matthew* 1:18–25; *1 Corinthians* 13:1–13; “*Holy Matrimony*,” *Book of Common Prayer* 2019)

ABSOLUTION

149. What is absolution?

In absolution, a priest, acting under God’s authority, pronounces God’s forgiveness in response to repentance and confession of sin. (*2 Samuel* 12:1–13; *Proverbs* 28:13; *John* 20:22–23; *James* 5:15–16)

150. What grace does God give to you in absolution?

In absolution, God conveys his pardon through the Cross, removes and cancels my sin, declares me reconciled and at peace with him, and grants me the assurance of his grace and salvation. (*Psalms* 32; *Matthew* 18:18; *Acts* 5:30–32; *1 John* 1:8–10)

151. What is necessary to receive the grace of absolution?

Repentance, in which I intend to resist further sin, accept responsibility for my actions, and endeavor to repair damage I have caused; and faith, by which I thankfully receive God’s forgiveness. (*1 Kings* 8:46–53; *Psalms* 51; *Daniel* 9:1–23; *Matthew* 3:1–12; *Romans* 2:1–11; *2 Corinthians* 7:5–13)