FROM THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM

Study Lesson Number: 20

THE REDEMPTION

"I believe in Jesus Christ Who suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to jedge the living and the dead.

What is meant by the Redemption?

By the Redemption is meant that Jesus Christ, as the Redeemer of the whole human race, offered His sufferings and death to God as a fitting sacrifice in satisfaction for the sins of men, and regained for them the right to be children of God and heirs of heaven.

THE VICTORY OF JESUS CHRIST, AND COOPERATION OF THE MOST VERGIN MARY REVERSED THE DEFEAT OF ADAM AND EVE.

BRIEFLY: The Redemption means CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS.

It was Christ's loving obedience to His Father, even to the extreme point of dying on the Cross, which redeemed us. The disobedience of Adam, and of all others who have listened to the devil and sinned, or will sin, had offended the Father deeply, because He loves us. But the act of love of Christ, dying on the Cross, was more pleasing to the Father than our sins were displeasing to Him.

Because He was pleased, the Father accepted the sacrifice of His Son. He took Him to heaven as a sign that He will take all others there who will share in the Sacrifice of His Son.

The one who shared most in this was Mary. She reversed Eve's action. Eve refused God's will and brought death into the world. Mary accepted God's will and brought the Redeemer into the world, who won eternal life for us.

What were the chief sufferings of Christ?

The chief sufferings of Christ were His bitter agony of soul, His bloody sweat, His cruel scourging, His crowning with thorns, His crucifixion, and His death on the cross.

When did Christ die?
Christ died on Good Friday.

Should we keep Good Friday holy?
Yes, we should keep Good Friday holy, and we do this best by saying special prayers, going to Church, not eating any meat whatsoever, and not looking at television or listening to any music.

Where did Christ die?
Christ died on Golgotha, a place outside the city of Jerusalem.

What do we learn from the sufferings and death of Christ?
From the sufferings and death of Christ we learn God's love for man and the evil of sin, for which God, who is all-just, demands such great satisfaction.

Discussion questions:

1. Did God plan the death of His Son? Explain.

. Was God mean and ugly in His plan to use His Son in His plan of redemption? Explain.