

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Social Encyclicals

Read the description of each of the social encyclicals below. Then write in the title and author of the encyclical. Choose from the following titles and authors (Popes).

### Titles

*Rerum Novarum* (On the Condition of Workers)

*Quadragesimo Anno* (On the Reconstruction of the Social Order)

*Mater et Magistra* (Mother and Teacher)

*Pacem in Terris* (Peace on Earth)

*Populorum Progressio* (On the Development of People)

*Octagesima Adveniens* (A Call to Action)

*Laborem Exercens* (On Human Work)

*Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* (On Social Concerns)

*Centesimus Annus* (The Hundredth Year)

### Authors

Pius X

John XXIII

Leo XIII

John Paul II

Paul VI

1. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ taught that the state—like the individual—is responsible for social justice issues like housing, education, and healthcare, and it stressed the necessity of people to build authentic community.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ described human economic rights and presented Catholicism as an advocate of a pluralistic, decentralized approach to economic problems.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ affirmed the right to private property, the rights of workers to a living wage and to unionize, but also declared that the state can intervene in economics to defend workers. It also stated that the family is society's prime unit and that religion has a crucial role to play in creating a just society. Finally, it condemned violent revolution and class warfare.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to "all men of good will," listed basic human rights and their corresponding duties, and it laid out a blueprint for peace in the world.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ spoke to authentic human development, criticized both capitalism and communism, and warned that economic development alone is not sufficient to liberate people, but may even enslave them.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ reiterated many of the themes of *Rerum Novarum*. It stressed the immorality of the few holding the reigns of the economy. It promoted the principle of *subsidiarity*, which held that higher levels of authority should act only when lower levels could not deal with a situation.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ delivered in the context of the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, updated *Rerum Novarum*, linking it to "the preferential option for the poor."
8. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ stressed that work is central to the social question and has potential not only to dehumanize but also to be the means whereby the human person cooperates in God's ongoing creation.

# MODERNISM AND THE ESSENTIALS

## Errors of Modernism

- God cannot be known and proved to exist by natural reason.
- External signs of revelation, such as miracles and prophecies, do not prove the divine origin of Christianity and are not suited to the intellect of the modern age.
- Christ did not found a Church.
- The essential structure of the Church can change.
- The dogmas of the Church continually evolve over time, so that they can change from meaning one thing to meaning another.
- Faith is not a real assent of the intellect to divine truth learned by hearing it from an external source, but simply a blind religious feeling that wells up from the subconscious under the impulse of a heart and a will trained to morality.

## The Essentials

The Modernism crisis points out that even serious scholars may run into difficulties when they try to adapt the Gospel and Church teaching to the contemporary scene. There is a delicate balance between preserving orthodoxy and relating it to people's lives.

Imagine that you are an advisor to the Pope. Your job is to review theological topics that may require papal scrutiny or warning. Check any of the following topics that you would encourage the Pope to investigate. Defend your choice(s).

\_\_\_ 1. The doctrine of the Trinity is meaningless. The Church should drop it from the Creed.

\_\_\_ 2. The Church should allow pre-marital sex as long as the couple are engaged and committed to marriage in the future.

\_\_\_ 3. The Church should rescind its teaching on papal infallibility.

\_\_\_ 4. The Church should look more closely at the question of ordaining women.

\_\_\_ 5. The Church should take a much stronger stand on defending the rights of the poor.

\_\_\_ 6. The Church should allow divorced Catholics to remarry.

## *Dulce et Decorum Est*

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs  
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.  
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots  
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;  
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
Of tired, outstripped Five-Nines that dropped behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys! — An ecstasy of fumbling,  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;  
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime . . .  
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light,  
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.  
In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could pace  
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;  
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,  
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—  
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
The old lie: *Dulce et decorum est*  
*Pro patria mori.*

By Wilfred Owen

## Moral Decision Making

### STEP 1: Observe—Get the Facts

- What are the relevant facts?
- What individuals and groups have an important stake in the outcome?
- What is at stake for each?
- Do some have a greater stake because they have a special need, for example, those who are poor or excluded, or because we have special obligations to them?
- Are there other important stakeholders in addition to those directly involved?
- What are the options for acting? Have all the relevant persons and groups been consulted?
- If you showed your list of options to someone you respect, what would that person say?

### STEP 2: Judge—Evaluate Alternative Actions from Various Moral Perspectives

- *Utilitarian Perspective:* Focuses on the consequences that actions or policies have on the well-being (“utility”) of all persons directly or indirectly affected by the action or policy. It asks: *Which option will produce the most good and do the least harm?*
- *Rights Perspective:* Focuses on certain fundamental rights (civil, political, economic) that deserve protection or respect because they pertain to the dignity of the human person. It asks: *Which option respects the rights and dignity of all stakeholders?*
- *Justice Perspective:* Focuses on how fairly or unfairly our actions distribute benefits and burdens among the members of a group. It asks: *Even if not everybody gets all they want, which option assures that everybody will still be treated justly?*
- *Common Good Perspective:* Focuses on a vision of society as a community whose members are joined in a shared pursuit of values and goals they hold in common. It asks: *Which option would best promote the common good and help all participate more fully in the goods we share as a group (society, community, family, etc.)?*
- *Virtue Perspective:* Focuses on attitudes, dispositions, or character traits that enable us to be and to act in ways that develop our human potential. It asks: *Which option would foster the deepening or development of those virtues or character traits that we value as individuals or as a society?*

### STEP 3: Act—Make a Decision and Act on It

Take into account the two questions below, make a decision, and then act on that choice.

- Considering these perspectives, which of the options is the right thing to do?
- If you told someone you respect why you chose this option, what would that person say?

Write your decision here: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A Youth Church Council

**“We** exhort you to open your hearts to the dimensions of the world, to heed the appeal of your brothers, to place your youthful energies at their service. . . . Fight against all egoism. Refuse to give free course to the instincts of violence and hatred which beget wars and all their train of miseries. Be generous, pure, respectful, and sincere; build in enthusiasm a better world than your elders had.”

Closing words of the Fathers of Vatican—addressed to young people—as the Council closed in 1965

The inventory below is designed to help you gather thoughts and make decisions about what you believe to be the pressing concerns the Church needs to consider. Fill out the inventory on your own by rating each of the following statements: **N** for No Concern; **G** for Great Concern, or **U** for Urgent.

- \_\_\_ The Church must work harder on accepting non-Christian religions.
- \_\_\_ The Church needs to do more to accept and learn from the traditions and rituals of Third-World cultures.
- \_\_\_ The Church should stay out of governmental affairs.
- \_\_\_ The Church should work harder at converting non-Christians.
- \_\_\_ Since Scripture tells us that the poor will always be with us, the Church should help the poor be content with their lot in life.
- \_\_\_ The Church should allow more room (opportunities) for young people to work and have a say in the life of the Church.
- \_\_\_ We have too few priests.
- \_\_\_ The Church should stop changing the liturgy once and for all.
- \_\_\_ Bishops need to do a better job of listening to the concerns and needs of the people.
- \_\_\_ The Pope needs to have a tighter control over what goes on in the Church throughout the world.
- \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Now join with others in your group to share opinions and to draft a joint (collegial) statement that shows your resolve to work toward addressing (changing, easing, etc.) your concerns. Use the following format to get started.

We, the youth members of the Church, concur that some of greatest needs and challenges facing us are \_\_\_\_\_

To meet those needs and confront those challenges, we propose that the Church undertake the following \_\_\_\_\_

Toward these goals we join hands in the name of Christ Jesus, the Lord.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## TO ELECT A POPE

Once a Pope dies, the College of Cardinals gathers in conclave to elect a new pontiff. The election takes place not less than fifteen or more than eighteen days after the death of the previous Pope. The election is done in secret and by secret ballot.

- In 1963 Giovanni Montini was elected Pope in three days, after six ballots, and took the name Paul VI.
- In 1978 Albino Luciani was elected Pope in two days, after four ballots, and took the name John Paul I.
- Also in 1978, Karol Wojtyla was elected Pope in three days, after eight ballots, and took the name John Paul II.
- Most recently, in 2005 Joseph Ratzinger was elected Pope in two days, after four ballots.

The 1996 Apostolic Constitution *Universi Dominici Gregis* describes the revised procedure for electing a new Pope.

- The maximum number of electors from the College of Cardinals is 120. If there are more than 120, some would be eliminated from voting.
- Any cardinal who turns eighty before the day the papacy is vacated, either by death or resignation, cannot take part in the election.
- A two-thirds-plus-one majority is required to elect a Pope.
- Two ballots each are held in the morning and afternoon, for a total of four per day.
- If a new Pope is not selected after twelve to thirteen days, the cardinals may choose to impose a majority vote, which would allow selection of a new Pope by a simple majority.

✂ ----- ✂

### Ballot 4

*Eligo in Summum Pontificem* \_\_\_\_\_

✂ ----- ✂

### Ballot 3

*Eligo in Summum Pontificem* \_\_\_\_\_

✂ ----- ✂

### Ballot 2

*Eligo in Summum Pontificem* \_\_\_\_\_

✂ ----- ✂

### Ballot 1

*Eligo in Summum Pontificem* \_\_\_\_\_

✂ ----- ✂