

1. truthful preaching of God's will ;
 2. right administration of the *sacraments* ;
 3. loyal obedience to the will of Christ.
- c. The Church is catholic, or universal,
- (a) because it is the same that it was when first founded by the Apostles.
 - (b) because it is found everywhere in the whole world, the only difference to be found in it are those which arise from differences of climate or position in the world. The doctrine taught is the same.
 - (c) because it is most in harmony with the revealed will of God.
 - (d) It is *Holy* because it was founded by God, it is ruled by Christ, and guided by the Holy Ghost.

B. The Communion of Saints.

- a. Who are the saints? They are the persons who have been dedicated to God by Baptism. Throughout the Old Testament the word "saint," or "holy" is applied to all Israelites as dedicated to God in Circumcision; and throughout the New Testament the title is given to all who are baptised into the body of Christ. See Dent. vii. 6, xiv. 2, 21; Acts ix. 13, 32, 41.*
- c. "Communion" means intercourse, and sharing with one another in certain blessings --
- 1, Prayer together or for each other;
 - 2, Baptism unites all in one family bond;
 - 3, The Holy Sacrament.

Children to learn for next Sunday:

Collect

Catechism -- Answer to "What is required of them who come to the Lord's Supper?"

Text -- S. Matt. xviii, 19, 20.

LESSON XXI.

ARTICLE X.: *The forgiveness of sins.*

This article requires us to know --

- A. In what does sin consist?
 - B. How we obtain the forgiveness in which we believe?
 - A. In what does sin consist?
- a. Sin is transgression, or breaking of God's law. This law we find,
- 1st, in the Ten Commandments; these we are to keep not only in the

letter, but in the spirit. Our Saviour, in the Sermon on the Mount, comments on three of the Ten Commandments -- on the third, in S. Matt. v. 33-37; on the sixth, in S. Matt. v. 21-26; and on the seventh, in S. Matt. v. 27-32. In each of these comments one thing is most noteworthy, viz., our Saviour places the sin in the *thought* which gives rise to the open breaking of the commandment.

2ndly, Our Saviour says, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another" (S. John xiii. 34). This commandment was new because: it shewed a new reading of the old commandments. All action is to be done for love of one another rather than because it is *law*, and all law is to be kept because we *love the law ever*.

3rdly, We find a new law given by our Lord in the case of the Sacraments which He Himself ordered, and so they are, as the Catechism says, "generally necessary," i.e. necessary for *everybody*. The law of Baptism is found in S. Matt. xxviii, 19, 20, the law of the Holy Communion in S. John vi, 53-58, and S. Matt. xxvi, 26-28.

- b. Sin does not consist in *being tempted to do wrong* by thought, word, or deed; but it does consist in *doing wrong* in either or all of these ways -- thought, word, or deed.

B. How are we to obtain forgiveness of sin?

- a. In exactly the same way that we obtain forgiveness from any *man* whom we have offended -- by the acknowledgement of our fault either to the person offended himself, or to any person properly authorised by the person offended.
- b. There are examples in the Old Testament of persons who had offended God, confessing their sins to *man* --
David (2 Sam. xii, 13);
Saul (1 Sam. xv, 24-31);
Achan (Joshua vii. 19-21).
- c. In the New Testament the following should be marked, Ananias and Sapphira refuse to confess (Acts v. 30); confession of sin is necessary in order to obtain forgiveness (1 S. John i, 9).

Children to learn for next Sunday:

Collect.

Catechism -- Answer to "Who gave you your Christian name?"

Text -- 1 S. John i, 8, 9.

* Saddler's Church Teachers' Manual.