

**PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE (4-23-23): BALTIMORE CATECHISM NO. 2
PART 1, LESSON 14—THE RESURRECTION AND LIFE EVERLASTING**

I. Prayers

- A. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
- B. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit” (Inside Front Cover)
- C. Saint and Virtue:
 - 1. Scholastica
 - 2. Zeal

II. Judgment:

- A. Particular Judgment—Privately at the moment of death—Rewards and Punishments—Three “places” or “states”:
 - 1. Heaven—For those who die in a state of grace:
 - a. Those who die with perfect love go directly to Heaven
 - b. Those who die with imperfect love and who must finish their purification through punishment in Purgatory will arrive in Heaven only after completion of this purification
 - c. Beatific vision, and a share in God’s glory and perfect happiness—perfect life, love, truth, freedom
 - d. Properly ordered and directed desires unite the holy angels and saints as one communion with the Trinitarian God eternally
 - 2. Purgatory—For those who die in a state of grace, but with imperfect love revealed through venial sins, or who have not fully completed the temporal punishment due to sin:
 - a. Imperfect love: Disordered attachment to creatures (self/others/things)
 - b. Suffering purifies, increases, and perfects each soul’s love
 - c. Suffering offered to each soul during life on earth—if embraced and offered up—is sufficient to cleanse, strengthen, and perfect one’s love so as enable the soul to go directly to Heaven at death

- d. Essential problem = denial of The Way of the Cross—rejecting, avoiding, or complaining about permitted or ordained suffering (selfishness versus self-giving)
- 3. Hell—For those souls who die in mortal sin
 - a. Self love and following one’s own “way” (will) replaces love of God and of others, and following “The Way” (The Father’s will)
 - b. The soul’s will—fixed by death in opposition to God’s will—deprives one of vision of God and of the happiness He desired for them
 - c. Souls experience torment of opposition to the fire of God’s love, which they despise, thus experiencing alienation and atomization in suffering and malice
- B. The General Judgment:
 - 1. The Son of Man comes in majesty with all His angels to judge from His throne of glory
 - 2. The Mercy of Calvary ends as the Judgment in glory and justice brings to consummation the plan of God for all creation:
 - a. Eternal separation of “sheep” from the “goats”
 - b. Public judgment brings to light the perfect justice, wisdom, and mercy of God for all to see that God be given glory and all souls given their due punishment
 - c. Bodies of departed souls—whether just or damned—will be reunited with their souls either for eternal happiness or eternal punishment
 - d. Purgatory will no longer exist
- C. “Amen”: “Truly,” “So it is,” “So be it”

III. Discussion Questions

- A. What are the different ways that people suffer? What does it mean to embrace suffering or to offer up suffering?
- B. Because suffering can perfect my soul, does this mean that I should never seek to alleviate my pain or the pain of others, or that I should accept every evil directed towards me or towards others?
- C. How does Jesus’ prayer in Gethsemane teach us how to approach suffering?

IV. Questions for Father Jack

V. Mission/Closing Prayer