

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE (2-11-24): TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT AND INDULGENCES

PRAYERS

- I. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
- II. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit”
- III. Saint and Virtue:
 - A. Saint Gertrude the Great
 - B. Generosity

TRUE/FALSE

1. A person can gain an indulgence for other living persons.
2. Typically, only one plenary indulgence can be gained in a given day.
3. God alone knows exactly how much of the temporal punishment is actually taken away by an indulgence.
4. A general intention is sufficient to gain an indulgence.
5. Only Christ, the Head of the Body, can help members of His Body—members of the Body of Christ cannot help one another overcome eternal or temporal punishment.
6. When a person dies, I can know for certain whether or not he went to Heaven, Purgatory, or Hell.
7. If I offered an indulgence for a departed soul already in Heaven, this would be a waste of time and of no value.
8. Souls in Purgatory can do works that will reduce their temporal punishment and hasten their way to Heaven.
9. No power on Earth could ever bind something in Heaven.
10. Since God is all-powerful, He can change the truth and does not have to fulfill His promises.

TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT AND INDULGENCES

- I. Indulgence: Remission granted by the Church of the temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven (435):
 - A. Plenary = All temporal punishment due to sin (one per day)
 - B. Partial = Part of the temporal punishment due to sin (several times per day)
 - C. Application of Indulgence—Self or soul in Purgatory

- D. Indulgence—Medicine (Healing)/Suffering—Fuel (Sanctification)
 - E. The Power of the Keys and the Spiritual Treasury of the Church:
 - 1. Infinite satisfaction of Jesus Christ (Precious Blood)
 - 2. Superabundant satisfaction of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of the saints (participation in Christ’s satisfaction):
 - a. Merits gained during a lifetime not needed by the saints
 - b. Church applies the merits gained by one member to a member who needs these merits
 - c. Mary’s sorrows and the saints’ sufferings mingle with the Precious Blood of Christ (Whole Mystical Body of Christ)
- II. From The Handbook of Indulgences: Norms and Grants
- A. Persons capable of gaining indulgences (20:1):
 - 1. Baptized
 - 2. Not excommunicated
 - 3. In a state of grace
 - B. Requirements (20:2):
 - 1. At least the general intention of gaining the indulgence
 - 2. Carry out the acts in time stipulated and the manner required
 - C. Along with completing the work required for a plenary indulgence, one must (23:1-5)
 - 1. Exclude all attachment to sin, even venial
 - 2. Make a sacramental Confession
 - 3. Receive Eucharistic Communion
 - 4. Pray for the Pope’s intentions (at least one Our Father and Hail Mary)
 - 5. Recite the Our Father and the Creed if the work consists of a devout visitation to a church or oratory

TABLE-TALK QUESTIONS

Why is it wise to encourage members of the Church to gain plenary indulgences? How does this work benefit those who seek the indulgences and those who receive the “treasure”?

QUESTIONS FOR FATHER JACK/MISSION/FINAL PRAYER AND BLESSING