

# From the Heart

A series of essays on basic Catholic doctrines and beliefs

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Vol. 2 No. 3 ©2009

## CATHOLIC QUIZ: TRUE OR FALSE?

*Before reading any further, please fold this page in half, and hide the answers on the right side. Then take this “true or false” quiz to test your knowledge of Catholic Church teachings. After answering true or false to the eight statements below, unfold the page and check your answers.*

1. The Catholic Church teaches the Eucharist is a wonderful symbol of Jesus’ body and blood.
2. The Catholic Church still teaches that Jesus actually, physically rose from the dead, even though this violates the Laws of Nature.
3. The documents of Vatican II say a person can worship God and practice religion in whichever way feels right for him or her.
4. The Catholic Church teaches that abortion is a more serious evil than the death penalty.
5. The Catholic Church teaches all people have the power to become just like God if they only get in touch with their inner spiritual feelings.
6. The Catholic Church does not believe in absolute truth, and instead teaches that whether something is right or wrong depends upon the situation.
7. Catholics believe the “infallible” Pope makes mistakes and commits sin.
8. The Catholic Church teaches that the “separation of church and state” means people should not discuss their religious views in public.

*Answers:*

1. *False. The Catholic Church teaches that Jesus’ body and blood, soul and divinity, are truly present in the Eucharist. It is not merely a symbol. It is a supernatural miracle.*
2. *True. The Resurrection of Jesus is indeed a violation of the Laws of Nature—as are all supernatural miracles. Although many people nowadays dismiss the Resurrection as impossible, the Church has never shied away from teaching this crucial truth.*
3. *False. The Church has been given the “deposit of faith,” handed down directly from Jesus and the apostles. This faith clearly spells out certain religious beliefs and practices that are true and proper, and warns against other religious beliefs and practices that are false and improper. The Church prescribes religious practices because they are true, not because they “feel” right. Just because something feels right to a person, does not automatically make it right.*
4. *True. Although the Church teaches that both the death penalty and abortion violate the sanctity of life, abortion is always and everywhere a grave sin—no exceptions—while the Church acknowledges that in certain situations capital punishment may be the only way a society can protect its citizens. However, in our current modern society, this exception is no longer valid.*
5. *False. The claim that people can be “like God” was Satan’s original lie in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3). We were made by God to be in a loving relationship with Him, and being filled with His Holy Spirit is part of the process. But we must be led by God and His truth, not by our inner feelings.*
6. *False. The Church has always taught that absolute truth is real, personified by Jesus, who said, “I am the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6). Although there are many difficult situations regarding ethics and morality in the modern world, the Church teaches that certain things are always true and good, while other things are always false and wrong.*
7. *True. When the Pope offers a teaching on faith or morals, the Church believes the Holy Spirit ensures the teaching is free from error. However, Popes are human and prone to sin, just like the rest of us.*
8. *False. All Christians are commanded by Jesus to share their faith with others. The “separation of church and state” refers to the government imposing religious beliefs on citizens and has nothing to do with individuals discussing religious opinions.*