

**CATECHESIS, OR, CHRISTIAN
INSTRUCTION PREPARATORY
TO CONFIRMATION AND
FIRST COMMUNION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649159093

Catechesis, or, Christian instruction preparatory to confirmation and first communion by
Charles Wordsworth

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES WORDSWORTH

**CATECHESIS, OR, CHRISTIAN
INSTRUCTION PREPARATORY
TO CONFIRMATION AND
FIRST COMMUNION**

Catechesis;

OR,

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION

PREPARATORY TO CONFIRMATION

AND

FIRST COMMUNION.

BY THE REV.

CHARLES WORDSWORTH, M.A.

WARDEN OF TRINITY COLLEGE, GLENALMOND.

"That thou mayest *further* know (*ἐπιγινώσκῃς*) the certainty of those things wherein thou wast instructed" (or "catechized," *κατηχούσης*).

LUKE i. 4.

Second Edition.

LONDON:

FRANCIS & JOHN RIVINGTON,

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD, AND WATERLOO PLACE,

EDINBURGH: R. GRANT AND SON.

1850.

1307

467

350

LONDON:
GILBERT AND RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,
ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

78442

JUN 19 1968

CONTENTS.

CHRISTIAN COVENANT.

CHAP.	PAGE
I. Holy Baptism.....	1
II. Confirmation.....	13

BAPTISMAL VOW.

III. Of Renouncing.....	22
IV. Of Believing—in God.....	33
V. ———— the Church.....	50
VI. Of Obeying—Duty towards God.....	64
VII. ————Duty towards Man.....	76

MEANS OF GRACE CONTINUAL.

VIII. Prayer, Public and Private.....	89
IX. Holy Communion.....	105
Form of Preparation for Holy Communion.....	119

APPENDIX.

I. The Order of Public Baptism, from the Book of Common Prayer.....	141
II. The Catechism.....	152
III. The Order of Confirmation.....	160
IV. The Order of the Ministration of the Holy Communion.....	164
V. Another Order of the same, used by the Church in Scotland.....	194
VI. Rubrics and Canons of the Church, relating to Holy Baptism, Public Worship, and Holy Communion.....	212
VII. The Three Creeds, in the Originals.....	220
An Admonition for the Young.....	224
A Prayer for Wisdom.....	226
A Thanksgiving.....	227

ADVERTISEMENT.

This Work presupposes a good verbal knowledge of the Church Catechism ; which should be ascertained in the first instance. See Appendix, Chap. II.

The passages of Holy Scripture referred to after the word See, being the more important, should be written out, and learnt by heart ; those which follow the word Compare or Comp. may be looked out and read, or passed over, at the discretion of the Catechiser.

It is recommended that the Devotional extracts from the Prayer Book, appended to each Chapter in illustration of the doctrine it contains, should be learnt by heart ; and one or more of them repeated before or after each Catechizing.

And that a copy of Bp. Ken's Manual of Prayers, to which reference is made in the following pages, be placed in the hands of each Catechumen.

The references to the Psalms are made to accord with the Prayer Book Version.

The Canons referred to are those of the Church of England, except when otherwise specified.

Catechesis,

&c.

CHAPTER I.

OF HOLY BAPTISM.

Faithful is HE that calleth you, Who also will do it.—1 Thess. v. 24.
The foundation of the Doctrine of Baptisms.—Heb. vi. 1, 2.

¶ READ over the Baptismal Service. See Appendix, Chap. I.

I. Why is it necessary first to understand HOLY BAPTISM in preparing for CONFIRMATION ?

Because Confirmation is the *confirming*, that is, the strengthening and completing, of what took place in Baptism. See below, Chap. II.

II. What were the conditions "required" of you beforehand, in order to your receiving Holy Baptism ?

1. *Repentance*, "whereby I," &c. See Acts ii. 38.
2. *Faith*, "whereby I," &c. See Acts viii. 35—38. Mark xvi. 16. "He that believeth and is baptized," &c. Comp. Heb. xi. 6.

See also Acts viii. 12, 13. (Samaritans and Simon Magus.) xvi. 14, 15. (Lydia of Thyatira.) xvi. 31, 33. (Jailor of Philippi.) xviii. 8. (Crispus, and other Corinthians.)

III. How are these *two* conditions elsewhere in the Catechism represented as *three*?

"They" (my Sponsors) "did promise and vow," &c.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <i>Renouncing,</i> | <i>i. e.</i> Repentance. |
| 2. <i>Believing,</i> | } <i>i. e.</i> Faith. |
| 3. <i>Purpose of Obeying,</i> | |

Compare *Bapt. Serv.* "Dost thou renounce," &c. "Dost thou believe," &c. "Wilt thou then obediently keep," &c.

IV. What warrant had others to become your *Sponsors* (spondeo), and to *promise* these things in your name, when you were too young to promise them for yourself?

1. The charge, encouraging invitation, and gesture of Christ. See Mark x. 13—16. Comp. Luke xviii. 15. ("Infants," τὰ βρέφη.) *Bapt. Serv. 2nd Exhort.*
2. Practice of the Jews in circumcising infants, as commanded by God. See Gen. xvii. 9—14. Luke i. 59. (John the Baptist.) ii. 21. (Jesus Christ.)
3. Practice of the Apostles in baptizing whole families. See Acts xvi. 15. (Household of Lydia.) Comp. xvi. 33. (Of the Philippian Jailor.) 1 Cor. i. 16. (Of Stephanas.)
4. Practice of the Church in all ages.—See *Art. XXVII.*

Repentance and Faith, gifts of the Holy Ghost, through the Church, to Infants¹, by their Sponsors². See *Bapt. Serv. 2nd Exhort.* "this charitable work of OURS." Comp. Mark ii. 3—5. (Friends of Paralytic.) Matt. xv. 21—28. (Woman of Canaan.)

¹ "Secundum Ecclesie observantiam etiam parvulis Baptismus datur." Orig. in Levit. Hom. viii. 84. Vol. ii. p. 230.

² "Offeruntur quippe parvuli ad percipiendam spiritualem gratiam non tam ab iis quorum gestantur manibus (quamvis et ab ipsis, si et ipsi boni fideles sunt) quam ab universa societate sanctorum atque fidelium: tota hoc Mater Ecclesia, quæ in sanctis est, facit, quia tota omnes, tota singulos parit." St. August. ad Bonif. Episc. Epist. xcvi. Vol. ii. p. 397. Ed. Par. 1836. Comp. Hooker, *Ecc. Pol.* Book V. ch. lxiv. § 5.

V. By what other names are Sponsors commonly called? Why do they bear these names?

1. *Sureties*¹: i. e. securities to the Church that we shall be brought up so as to fulfil the promises they have made for us; and that, in due time, we shall be brought to be confirmed by the Bishop. See *Exhort. at the end of Bapt. Serv.*
2. *Godfathers and Godmothers*: i. e. Three Persons who act as God's instruments in bringing us to be *born again* of God at the holy font (*font*, fountain of Baptism). See below, § x.

¹ In the case of adult Baptism they are called *Witnesses*. See *Exhort. at the end of Bapt. Serv. for such as are of riper years*.

VI. What else, besides these *new Parents*, was given you in your Baptism, to remind you still further of your being *born anew*?

A new Name. See Is. lxii. 2. Comp. Gen. xvii. 4, 5. 15. (Abraham and Sarah.) Luke i. 59—63. (John Bapt.) ii. 21. (Jesus.) Comp. also Is. xlv. 1. 5. The Christian name, though received *after*, stands *before* the Surname.

Surnames (i. e. *Name of Sire*) not known in England before the Norman Conquest. A man's Christian name was his only name. See Bp. Lowth's life of *William of Wykeham*. Hume, Hist.