LIFE IN GOD

1. Man created like God with intelligence and free will to choose good and reject evil
2. Man destined for eternal life after a time on this world.
3. Man in paradise with God, nourished by grace, the presence and power of God, giving him more life from;
   a. the tree of life = God himself loving his creatures
   b. the tree of knowledge of good and evil = God himself teaching his creatures
4. The devil rejected God and tries to separate man too from God in 5 ways:
   a. temptation: presenting something man should not have ever or at that moment
   b. seduction: getting man to do what man knows he should not do
   c. deception: telling half truths to lead man away from what is right
   d. lying: presenting something false as the truth
   e. accusation: calling man something other than a child of God
5. To depart from God is called sin; sin exists in 3 ways:
   a. iniquity = a desire for evil or for a good that is not right for him then
   b. sin = trying to follow God but failing
   c. transgression = knowing what is wrong and doing it anyway
6. Adam and Eve chose to do the wrong which was to try out everything on their own instead of listening to God.
7. Result of sin: loss of grace which gives power, life, and wisdom, and coming of death.
8. Man, lost and separated God, needs to be brought back to God byGod. Man cannot do it on his own.
9. God's intervention is called salvation and redemption. Redemption means to sell one thing to buy back another. Salvation is to offer health and wholeness / holiness, just as man was originally in the garden of paradise which represents the perfect union of God and man.
10. God's saving acts to help man on the way back to paradise brought finally by Jesus.
    a. On leaving paradise, clothes of leather and instruction on difficulties of life
    b. Conscience, the basic memory of God's teaching in the garden to tell us to do the good and avoid the evil.
    c. With Noah and the flood, an end to sin and new beginning for man
    d. With Abraham, promise / covenant to father lots of people and nations
    e. With Moses, promise / covenant to teach again in the law and give a land again as Adam and Eve had in the promised land
    f. With David, a royal kingship forever. From David comes Jesus in the flesh
    g. In Jesus, the final covenant with the promise of restoration of the way back to God, the truth of God's teaching, and the life in God where man is happy when he follows God's ways; and at the end of time, transformed bodies to live with God forever — back to paradise with God the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of Good and Evil in heaven.
11. Jesus' death on the cross is the sacrifice that seals the promise / covenant with God. By giving His life, he redeems us, trades his life for all of ours, and we begin in Him the way back to God the Father in THIS life.
12. The beginning of the way to God, His truth, and new life in Him is Baptism John 3:5
    a. Jesus comes to live in us forever Gal 5:20
    b. He takes away the guilt of original sin
    c. He speaks to us in our souls, and influences us to do good and avoid evil. Mt. 28
    d. God's revelation in the written Bible and the spoken Tradition guide us also

13. Confirmation / Crismation: the pouring into us of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to make us holy, that is more like God. The Spirit teaches us all that Jesus said and did. Isaiah 11:2 and Acts 19.
    a. Wisdom
    b.   Knowledge
    c. Understanding
    d.   Counsel
    e. Courage
    f. Piety
    g.   Fear of the Lord.

14. Eucharist. This means thanksgiving. It is the gift of the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, Whole and Entire of Jesus Himself. When we eat Jesus' Flesh and drink His Blood, we become more like Him in our thoughts, our desires, and our actions. Jn 51
    a.   The Mass is the Eucharist, the memorial celebration that opens heaven and unites us with the sacrifice at the Last Supper and Jesus' death on Calvary
    b.   Bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus who said that if we eat his flesh and drink His Blood, we would have eternal life and He would raise us up on   the last day.
    c. Adam and Eve ate from a tree which brought them and Jesus death. The Cross   comes the wood of the tree on which Jesus died, but now it brings us life and the   fruit of His Body and Blood.

15. Penance: Jesus forgives sins when he heals such as the paralytic. He gave his apostles the power to forgive sins in John 20 on His first appearance after the resurrection. This sacrament of healing separates us from the devil, from sin, and reunites us around the Spirit of Jesus who lives in us.

16. Anointing of the Sick James 5:13. With the anointing by the priest and faith the person will be healed and raised up.

17. Holy Orders: On the night of the Last Supper, Jesus told the apostles, "Do this in memory of me" John 6:51-58. The Holy Spirit anointed them on Pentecost, Acts 2. They received the power to forgive sins John 20. They received the command to teach and baptize Matthew 28:19. Laying on of hands for ordination 1 Tim 5:22. Giving the Holy Spirit, Acts 19.

18. Matrimony: created by God in paradise with Adam and Eve. Origins reaffirmed by Jesus in Matthew 19.

20. Prayer: pray always 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Ephesians 6:18

21. Do the works of the Father to have Him and Jesus make their home in you: John 14:23.

22. Be merciful: Matthew 25:31 for corporal works. Spiritual ones throughout the life of Jesus in the new testament.

23. Read the bible with the interpretation from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

24. Adoration and prayer: go to your room (the interior of your heart) and pray in secret Mt. 6.

25. Be ready in prayer, scripture reading, the whole sacramental life, works of mercy. Mt 25:13 because Jesus will come for us at a time when we do not know Mt. 25:44, and know that Jesus is with you until the end of the age, Mt. 28:20

26. New heavens and new earth with the holy ones dwelling with God for all eternity in new and resurrected bodies, living with God in paradise as was planned from beginning Revelation 21 and 22.