

## **RCIA: Symbolon Lesson 2: Divine Revelation**

### ***We Believe* – Chapter 2: Our Religious Tradition**

† **Opening Prayer:** Father in Heaven, give us the power of your grace that we might always walk in the way You have revealed through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Free us from the darkness of our own desires and bring us into the light of Your truth. Form our lives according to Your will, mold our hearts by Your love. And grant that we might always be open and receptive to the guidance of Your Church. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the fullness of God's revelation. Amen.

• **Song: Give Me Ears to Listen**

• **Catechism References for Further Reflection:**

- Revelation and the Plan of Salvation: CCC 50-53
- How God has revealed Himself in the Old Testament: CCC 54-64
- Jesus, the fullness of Revelation: CCC 65-73
- How this Revelation is handed on to us: CCC 74
- Apostolic Tradition: CCC 84-95
- The Magisterium: CCC 84-95

† **The end of St. John's Gospel:** *"This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true.*

*But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written."* (Jn 21: 24-25)

† **Questions for Discussion:**

- 1. In the video, the presenter used the imagery of a three-legged stool to describe how Divine Revelation is handed on. What are the three legs of the stool?**
- 2. What is the "Deposit of the Faith?" What is the Magisterium and what is its job with relation to this "Deposit of Faith?"**
- 3. What is Sacred Tradition? Is there anything in Catholic Sacred Tradition that contradicts anything in Sacred Scripture (the Bible)?**
- 4. What do Catholics mean by "Apostolic Succession?" Why do we believe this is important?**
- 5. What does "sola scriptura" mean? What are your thoughts on it?**
- 6. How do you feel about the authority Christ gave His Church? Does it scare you at all?**

- **Weekly Gospel Reading: 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mt. 21:28-32)**

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:  
"What is your opinion?  
A man had two sons.  
He came to the first and said,  
'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.'  
He said in reply, 'I will not,'  
but afterwards changed his mind and went.  
The man came to the other son and gave the same order.  
He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go.  
Which of the two did his father's will?"  
They answered, "The first."  
Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you,  
tax collectors and prostitutes  
are entering the kingdom of God before you.  
When John came to you in the way of righteousness,  
you did not believe him;  
but tax collectors and prostitutes did.  
Yet even when you saw that,  
you did not later change your minds and believe him."

**Lectio Divina**

1. **Lectio:** Read the passage slowly, perhaps several times. Let a phrase or two catch your attention.
2. **Meditatio:** Reflect on the meaning of the words you have chosen. How is God speaking to you through this reading?
3. **Oratio:** Raise your mind and heart to God, using the message of this reading.
4. **Contemplatio:** Rest quietly in the presence of God.
5. **Actio:** Resolve to change your life in some positive way.

- **Closing Prayer:**

**Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.