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## Welcome to this explanation of how the USCCA Study-Aid makes students out of readers

By taking a few minutes to read this page and scanning across the few pages which follow, you will come to understand the "modus operandi" of the USCCA Study-Aid.

One method of seriously studying any written material is to have a high-lighter in hand as you read, and mark the significant passages. However, with a book so loaded with significant points as the USCCA, the resulting plethora of highlighted segments may become somewhat confusing. *A better method is to take notes in a separate notebook.* The *USCCA Study-Aid* prompts you to take good comprehensive notes, and you won't need a separate notebook. **By simply writing your answer** to each of the 1060 questions in the Study-Aid (in the space provided below each question) you will capture the essence of most of the significant portions of the USCCA and be more likely retain them in memory. This process assists adults to recapture the discipline required for serious study: a discipline which may "need some polishing" by us who have been out of school for several years.

On the following pages you will find the Study-Aid's presentation of Chapter 4 of the USCCA. However, you need to spend a few moments perusing the Instructions on how to use the Study-Aid before proceeding to Chapter 4.

### Instructions on how to use this Study-Aid

Preceding each question you will see two numbers separated by a dash: these numbers identify the precise paragraph where you can find the answer to that question. The first number identifies the page and the second number, the paragraph on that page. For example, the numbers and question: "**37-1** *What does faith enable us to do?*" refers you to the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph of page 37 of the USCCA to find the answer.<sup>(1)</sup> On occasion, comments are provided when a comment better serves the purpose of "making a point". 'Supplemental Questions' are inserted from time to time to pique the interest of the student, but it is not necessary to answer them unless the student desires to do so.

The following pages are taken directly out of the USCCA Study-Aid. As you will see, space is provided below each question where the student can conveniently write their answer to that question.

Please proceed to Chapter 4, beginning on the next page.

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<sup>(1)</sup> A detailed explanation of the paragraph numbering system is presented in the Study-Aid, but you can grasp the concept of the Study-Aid process without going into that now.

## Bring About the Obedience of Faith

37-1 For what two reasons does God reveal himself to us?

37-1 From what you have read in this paragraph, write a definition of *faith* in your own words.

37-1 What does faith enable us to do?

37-4 What definitive statement (in four words) does personal faith make?

37-4 *But faith is also communal* — What does that mean?

37-4 & 38-1 How does our personal faith interact with our communal faith?

38-2 What does faith make possible?

38-2 Faith and reason work together to do what?

38-2 Why is it wrong to suppose that scientific research or thought is in conflict with faith?

38-2 **COMMENT** Remember the previous question (and your answer) when we get to 392-3 through 393-2.

**38-3** Why does the Church teach that *faith is necessary for salvation*?

**38-4** What does one need in order to believe in Revelation?

**38-4** "Peter was able to see that Jesus was the Messiah, not from '*flesh and blood*.'" (cf. Mt 16:16-18) What does that mean?

**38-5 through 39-1** "Living in faith is not possible unless there is action on our part." What does that mean?

**39-1** In what context must our response to God be made? .

**39-2** Why can we say "Faith fills us with conviction?"

**39-2** How is the message we find in Scripture transmitted to us?

**39-3** Write the two definitions of faith here.

**39-3** To what does the term *faith* refer?

**39-4** What do the acts of Abraham and Mary tell us about faith?

**41-2** What is the ultimate goal of a life in faith in God?

**41-2** What does a life of faith enable us to do?

**41-2** What are some of the reasons that some people believe that faith is a waste of time and energy?

**41-2** What do believers know that unbelievers do not know?

**41-3** What is the premise of the Enlightenment philosophy?

**41-3** What is the premise of Deism?

**41-4 & 42-4** What value did the founding fathers of our country see in religion?

**42-4** What, in fact, did our founding fathers expect faith to do?

**42-5 & 43-1** How has our country's foundational principle of religious freedom developed into a *problem* for conscientious Christians?

**43-2** Has this *problem* prohibited the Church from acting on our culture? Give examples.

**SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION** What does the term *religious pluralism* mean; how should Christians feel about it; and why should we feel that way?

*If no numbers appear before the question, the student will probably not find a definitive answer in the USCCA. Supplemental Questions are inserted from time to time to pique the interest of the student, but it is not necessary to answer them unless the student desires to do so.*

**43-3** What has (to some degree) replaced Deism as a challenge to Catholic teachings, and what does it teach?

**43-3** Who is helping the Church to respond to this challenge?

**43-5** After transforming us and others, what does the Holy Spirit give us?

**43-5** Where can the *key to our history* always be found?

**43-5** What do we need to rely on, as we address challenges to our faith and its relationship to culture, and when do we need to do it?

**45-5 through 46-2** What are the sources of the two different Creeds which Catholics recite?

What in this chapter has most affirmed or challenged what you already knew; or how might it change your spiritual life?

*This "open" question offered at the end of each chapter is meant to prepare students for the group-study discussions in which they may be participating.*

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