Instructions for Use

YOUCAT for KIDS – Catechism of the Catholic Church for children and their parents – is written in a language suitable for children and deals with the entire Catholic faith as it was presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC of 1997), without aiming, however, for the completeness provided in that volume.

The work is structured in question-and-answer format, providing – in the bold segments of the question-and-answer sections – a child-appropriate and, at the same time, Church-approved presentation of our shared faith. The explanatory passages following these segments contribute to a better understanding.

The bottom part of each page – in the coloured section – serves to inform parents and is meant to initiate a conversation about faith between adult and child. The bottom part also refers the reader to the more extensive and in-depth treatments in YOUCAT.

At the conclusion of the book, there is an index of subjects and persons to make it easy to find specific topics.

Symbols and Their Meaning

- “ Quote
- 📚 For reading aloud
- 🙏 From the bible
- 🌐 Info
- 😊 Humour
- 🌐 From YOUCAT

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Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. More than 2,000 years ago he was born into this world as a baby in Bethlehem. God himself became man. This is the biggest miracle of the world.

Jesus was really human: as a baby he had to wear nappies; like other babies, he cried when he was hungry. He became tired from playing; he was freezing when it was cold and he was sweaty when it was hot. And yet Jesus was different from all the people before and after him.

To me Jesus is my God, Jesus is my life, Jesus is my only love, Jesus is my all in all, Jesus is my everything. Jesus, I love you with my whole heart, with my whole being.

Mother Teresa (St Teresa of Kolkata) (1910–1997)

In the last book of Sacred Scripture, the “Revelation of John”, Jesus is described as the one in whom all heaven and earth converge. The Lord says about himself here:

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Rv 22:13

Not only do we only know God through Jesus Christ, but we only know ourselves through Jesus Christ; we only know life and death through Jesus Christ.

Blaise Pascal (1623 –1662), French philosopher.
What does the word “Christ” mean?

The word Christ means the Anointed, in Hebrew: Messiah.

In ancient Israel, when someone became king, he was anointed with holy oil. Calling Jesus the Anointed means: Jesus is “the Christ”, the Messiah, the Saviour of the world, whom the people of Israel were waiting for. He is the true and only King. Thus, Christ is not Jesus’s surname or a double name like John-Paul or Mary-Jane.

Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded his empire upon love; and at this time millions of men would die for him.

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769–1821)

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But you,” he said, “who do you say I am?” Then Simon Peter spoke up. “You are the Christ,” he said “the Son of the living God.” Mt 16:13–16

“Christ, the Saviour is born!” Thus ends the most famous Christmas song in the world: Silent Night. On 24th December 1818, the parish priest Joseph Mohr (1792–1848) performed it for the first time in Austria.
Under Pontius Pilate
Jesus Christ was tortured and sentenced to death. He died for us on the cross and was buried.
Who was this Pontius Pilate?

Pontius Pilate was the representative in Jerusalem of the Roman Emperor. He sentenced Jesus to death although he knew that he was innocent.

Who is guilty of Jesus’s death?

In the past, the Jews were often blamed for the death of Jesus. That is not true and is biblically untenable. Jesus had friends but also opponents among the leading people of Israel at that time. What is true is that various Roman and Jewish persons and institutions took part in Jesus’s trial: Caiaphas, Judas, the Sanhedrin, Herod and Pontius Pilate. Only God knows their guilt as individuals. Pontius Pilate, the governor appointed by the Emperor, seems to have given in to the pressure brought by the people. The evangelist Matthew describes how, in a symbolic gesture, he sent for water to wash his hands and so disclaim guilt. (Mt 27:24)
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