

CATECHISM OF THE COUNCIL OF TRENT FOR PARISH PRIESTS

ISSUED BY ORDER OF POPE PIUS V

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH
WITH NOTES

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*Therefore hath he commanded thee that thou shouldst observe the sabbath day.*²⁸

It is also a sign of a spiritual and celestial sabbath. The spiritual sabbath consists in a holy and mystical rest, wherein the *old man* being buried with Christ, is renewed to life and carefully applies himself to act in accordance with the spirit of Christian piety. For those who were once *darkness* but are now *light in the Lord*, should walk as *children of the light*, in all goodness and justice and truth, having no fellowship with the unfruitful works of *darkness*.²⁹

The celestial sabbath, as St. Cyril observes on these words of the Apostle, *There remaineth therefore a day of rest for the people of God*,³⁰ is that life in which, living with Christ, we shall enjoy all good, when sin shall be eradicated, according to the words: *No lion shall be there, nor shall any mischievous beast go up by it, nor be found there; but a path shall be there, and it shall be called the holy way*;³¹ for in the vision of God the souls of the Saints obtain every good. The pastor therefore should exhort and animate the faithful in the words: *Let us hasten therefore to enter into that rest*.³²

OTHER FESTIVALS OBSERVED BY THE JEWS

Besides the seventh day, the Jews observed other festivals and holydays, instituted by the divine law to awaken the recollection of the principal favors (conferred on them by the Almighty).

THE SABBATH, WHY CHANGED TO SUNDAY

But the Church of God has thought it well to transfer the celebration and observance of the Sabbath to Sunday.

For, as on that day light first shone on the world, so by the Resurrection of our Redeemer on the same day, by whom was thrown open to us the gate to eternal life, we were called out of darkness into light; and hence the Apostles would have it called *the Lord's day*.

We also learn from the Sacred Scriptures that the first day

²⁸ Deut. v. 13.
²⁹ 1st. xxxv. 8.

³⁰ Eph. vi. 8.

³¹ Heb. iv. 9.

³² Heb. iv. 11.

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