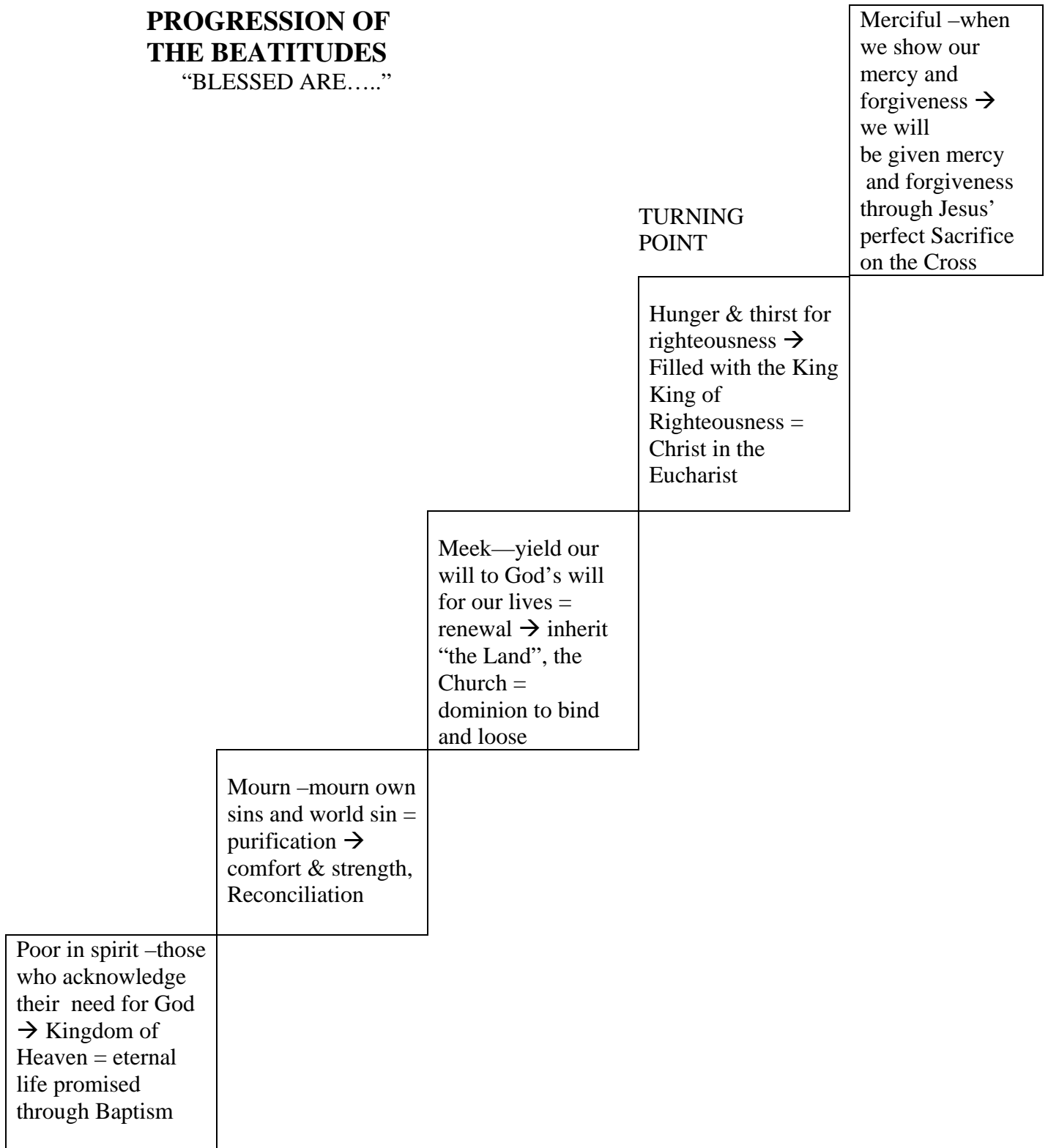


**PROGRESSION OF
THE BEATITUDES**
“BLESSED ARE.....”



“The only ladder to heaven is the Cross” St. Rose of Lima

VIRTUES/ GOOD FRUIT	SINS/ VICES
<p><u>The Fruits of Charity</u> Joy Peace Mercy CCC 1829, 2447</p>	<p><u>The Three Conditions for Mortal Sin</u> Grave matter Full knowledge Deliberate consent CCC 1857-61</p>
<p><u>The Three Eminent Good Works</u> Prayer Fasting Almsgiving Mt 6:1-6, 16-18; CCC 1969</p>	<p><u>The Nine Sins Against God</u> Despair Presumption Indifference Ingratitude Luke-warmness Spiritual sloth Hatred of God Obstinacy in sin Final impenitence CCC 2091-94</p>
<p><u>The Three Theological Virtues</u> Faith Hope Charity 1 Cor 13:13; CCC 1812-29</p>	<p><u>The Five Sins that Cry out to Heaven</u> Willful murder (Gen 4:10) The sin of Sodom (Gen 18:20; 19:13) The suffering of the oppressed (Ex 3:7-10) Oppression of the poor (Ex 20:20-22) Injustice to the wage earner (Dt 24:14-15) CCC 1867</p>
<p><u>The Four Cardinal Virtues</u> Prudence Justice Fortitude Temperance CCC 1805-09</p>	<p><u>The Seven Capital Sins</u> Pride Avarice Envy Wrath Lust Gluttony Sloth CCC 1866-67</p>
<p><u>The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit</u> Wisdom Understanding Good Counsel Fortitude Knowledge Piety Fear of God Is 11:1-2; CCC 1831</p>	<p><u>The Ways We Participate in Sin</u> By participation By ordering By advising By praising By provocation By approving By silence in not disclosing or hindering sin By protecting evil-doers By defense of the sin CCC 1868</p>

VIRTUES	SINS/VICES
<p><u>The Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit</u> Patience Charity Kindness Joy Peace Goodness Faithfulness Generosity Gentleness Modesty Chastity Self-control Gal 5:22-23; CCC 1832</p>	<p><u>Venial Sin</u> Does not observe the standard prescribed by moral law Weakens charity A disordered affection for goods Impedes the soul's progress in virtue Merits temporal punishment Deliberate and unrepented venial sin disposes us to commit mortal sin Num 15:27-31; 1 Jn 5:16-17; Jm 5:19 CCC 1863</p>
<p><u>The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy</u> Feeding the hungry To give drink to the thirsty Sheltering the homeless Clothing the naked Visiting the sick Visiting the imprisoned Burying the dead Mt 25:31-46; Jm 2:14-26; CCC 2445-47</p>	
<p><u>The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy</u> Give counsel to the doubtful Instruct the ignorant Admonish the sinner Comfort the sorrowful Forgive all injuries Bear wrongs patiently Pray for the living and the dead CCC 2447</p>	
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Handout 3: The Beatitudes Lesson 7

Questions for group discussion: Use the chart of Virtues versus Sins/Vices and the Catechism to answer these questions.

Question: What are the corporal works of mercy outlined on the chart and addressed in the Catechism (#2447)? What are your obligations to be actively engaged in demonstrating these works of love and compassion?

Question: What did Jesus and the inspired writers of Sacred Scripture teach about the Christian's obligation to fulfill the seventh beatitude? What does the Church teach about fulfilling the call to love as Christ loved us in acts of charity? Read Matthew 6:2-4; 25:31-46; James 2:14-26; 1 John 3:17; and CCC #2445-7.

Question: As defined by the Church, charity is "love in action" in the application of showing God's love to others who are in need. Mercy is one of the "fruits of charity." What are the other fruits of charity and how can you apply them to your life?

Question: What special "freedom" does the Church teach that a life animated by charity gives the Christian? See CCC# 1828.

Question: Are works of mercy necessary for our salvation? See CCC# 1473 and 2447.

Question: Why is one of the Virgin Mary's titles "the Mother of Mercy"? What special prayer do we address to her in her role as our Mother of Mercy? Hint: it is probably the first prayer you ever learned and the last one you will pray at the end of your life. See CCC# 2677. We suggest that you close your study session with this age old petition for the Virgin Mary's intercession as our Mother of Mercy.