

11th/12th Grade Religion Take-Home Test

This take-home test will be counted as your homework grade for the fourth quarter. It will cover the whole of the Life of Christ section of our religion course. There will be two parts to this test, this being the first part. You are to answer the questions below for the first part and turn in the answers on the next drop-off day, Monday, May 11.

1. The first article that we covered asked whether it was necessary to have an announcement to Our Lady about her being the mother of the Messiah. That opened up a discussion on the nature of theological questions and how they are answered. In this question, I would like you to answer the following:
 - a. Why are we asking a question like whether there should have been an Annunciation? What are we looking for?
 - b. Why are we not asking that question? In other words, what are we not looking for?
 - c. How do we go about answering theological questions? What is our procedure?
2. Why is a life of virginity more like that of an angel than that of a human?
3. St. Thomas explains, in q.30 a.3, why it was fitting for St. Gabriel to appear to Our Lady in visible form. Try to give two reasons of your own why God chose to have an angel appear to Our Lady when she was awake, but several times to St. Joseph when he was asleep.
4. Both Zachary, St. John the Baptist's father, and Our Lady asked questions of the angel Gabriel. St. Gabriel rebuked Zachary for his question, but not Our Lady. Why was this so?
5. Did God change when the Second Person of the Trinity took flesh? Explain your answer.
6. In q.32 a.1, St. Thomas gives three reasons why the accomplishment of the Incarnation is appropriated to the Holy Ghost.
 - a. Explain what "appropriation" means.
 - b. Summarize the three reasons why the accomplishment of the Incarnation is appropriated to the Holy Ghost.
7. Give the reason why, at the first moment of His conception, Our Lord Jesus Christ:
 - a. Had sanctifying grace in His human soul
 - b. Had the use of free will
 - c. Had the ability to merit
 - d. Had the Beatific Vision

8. How do we know, from Scripture, that Our Lady suffered no pain in giving birth to Our Lord?
9. Why was Our Lord born in a lowly place?
10. Why was He born in a state of subjection?
11. St. Thomas says that, if Our Lord's birth would have been made known to all, when He was born, then it would have hindered the redemption of man. How is that the case?
12. The Jews in Herod's palace were troubled when the Wise Men told them that the Messiah was born. But the Jews in the fields (the shepherds) were overjoyed when the angels told them that the Messiah was born. Why was there this difference?
13. Why was Christ's birth made known to the shepherds in the field, but not the priests in the Temple?
14. Explain how the Manicheans, the Apollinarians, and the Valentines are the same in their heresies and how they are different.
15. Why does God bestow names on some human beings? Give three examples of this.