

A catechism written by a saint is indeed a pearl of great price. So as we present this priceless gift to the children of the United States and of Canada, we wish to acknowledge our gratitude to Father Joseph Hurley, Redemptorist Provincial of the Baltimore Province, for his enthusiastic encouragement and for his permission.



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October 13, 1982

Brother Francis, M.I.C.M.
St. Benedict Center
P.O. Box 1000
Still River, Ma. 01467

Dear Brother Francis,

I want to acknowledge and express my sincere appreciation to you and your associates at St. Benedict Center for sending me the most recent "From the Housetops" publication, a beautiful re-printing of St. John Neumann's "Small Catechism of the Catholic Religion".

The name of the author, St. John Neumann, along with that of Archbishop Gibbons, who gave the imprimatur, and that of Father Schauer, my predecessor who "cheerfully" gave his approbation, exactly one hundred years ago, to the edition which you have re-printed, evokes all that is precious in our American Catholic heritage.

Please be assured of my deep esteem for your persevering efforts to form, in our own generation, "Christians who are confirmed in what is essential and who are humbly joyful in their faith".

Asking your prayers, and promising a remembrance of you and your work in mine, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Joseph T. Hurley, C.S.S.R.
Joseph T. Hurley, C.S.S.R.
Provincial

A "FROM THE HOUSETOPS" PUBLICATION
THIRD SERIES, NO. 1

BY
THE SLAVES OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
SAINT BENEDICT CENTER
BOX 142, STILL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS 01467

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No. 1.

SMALL CATECHISM

OF THE
CATHOLIC RELIGION

BY

Saint John Nepomucene Neumann

OF THE

CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER
Fourth Bishop of Philadelphia

IMPRIMATUR

MOST REV. JAMES GIBBONS
Archbishop of Baltimore

BALTIMORE, 24 July 1884

APPROBATION

Given to the Original Edition of these Catechisms

The *small* and the *large* Catechism written in German by the late Right Rev. John Nepomucene Neumann, D.D., Bishop of Philadelphia, and member of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, were approved by the First Plenary Council held in Baltimore in 1852. An experience of more than thirty-seven years has proved that these Catechisms have exercised a salutary influence not only over the schools but also over the religious life of the Catholics in America. So general has been the favor with which they have met, that up to the present time the small Catechism has reached the *thirtieth* edition, and the large Catechism the *eighteenth*. They have recently been revised and enlarged; and in order that they might be better adapted to the wants of the schools, they have been divided into a series of Catechisms; namely, a *small*, an *intermediate* and a *large* Catechism. Two theologians, whom we appointed for the task, have carefully examined them. Having received the necessary faculties from our Superior-General, we hereby cheerfully give permission that these Catechisms be published.

Elias Fred. Schauer, C SS R.,
Sup. Prov., Baltimore.

Feast of St. Philomena 1882; Baltimore, Md.



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