

'TEST YOUR FAITH KNOWLEDGE' QUIZ FOR ADULTS

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CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS ORDERS

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(Scroll down to page 2 for the correct answers)

- T F 1. Religious Orders or Congregations are Communities of men or women who take the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.
- T F 2. The "Missionaries of Charity" founded by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta must take four vows when they enter: poverty, chastity and obedience and, a fourth vow, "to give wholehearted free service to the poorest of the poor".
- T F 3. Some Religious Orders for men are both for priests and for lay brothers.
- T F 4. There is no difference between a 'Sister' and a 'Nun' .
- T F 5. Most ordained Priests in the world belong to a Religious Order.
- T F 6. Priests who belong to a Religious Order or Community are transferred from one Parish to another by the Diocesan Bishop.
- T F 7. A Religious Order/Community is founded for specific needs but must first be officially approved by the Church before it can begin to minister to those needs.
- T F 8. Two priests who now minister in our Diocese belong to a Religious Community of Priests that was recently founded in South Africa.
- T F 9. The oldest Religious Order in the Church is the Franciscan Order.
- T F 10. Priests or Sisters who belong to a Religious Order/Community usually have initials after their names.
- T F 11. The initials, "S.J." after a priest's name stand for "Society of Jesus" and means that the person is a Jesuit priest.
- T F 12. The initials C.S.J after a Sister's name tell us that she is a Carmelite Sister.
- T F 13. The Scalabrini Fathers were founded by St. John Baptist Scalabrini to minister to the spiritual needs of Italian immigrants in different nations of the world.
- T F 14. St. Dominic founded the Dominican Order to preach the Faith across Europe.
- T F 15. The Sisters of St. Joseph were founded by St. Bernadette in France in 1854.

CORRECT ANSWERS TO OUR QUIZ

- 1. TRUE** These are sometimes called, the “Evangelical Counsels” because they find their roots in the Gospel (*‘Evangelium’ means Gospel in Latin*).
Poverty means that they vow to renounce the ownership of personal property and to share everything they have with their Religious Community;
Chastity means that they vow to remain celibate and chaste;
Obedience means that they vow to obey the directives of those who are elected to be in charge of their Religious Order or Community.
- 2. TRUE** It was to better minister to the “poorest of the poor” that St. Mother Teresa originally founded her Religious Community.
- 3. TRUE** Often the priests and brothers live together in the same Religious Community, like the Benedictines, the Franciscans, the Jesuits and many others.
- 4. FALSE** While both make vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience ‘Nuns’ are Religious Women who also commit to staying together in a Monastery or Convent to live their Religious vows as a Community apart from the world. Sisters can live together in a Convent or on their own, and minister to the needs of people (by becoming teachers, nurses, retreat directors, ministers in Parishes, counsellors, etc.).
- 5. FALSE** Of the over 460,000 ordained priests in the world, approx. 320,000 are Diocesan Priests and 140,000 belong to a variety of Religious Orders and Communities.
- 6. FALSE** The Bishop is only responsible for the transfer of his own Diocesan Priests within the boundaries of his Diocese. Priests who belong to Religious Orders or Communities are transferred by their Religious Superiors (those elected to direct their Community).
- 7. TRUE** The date of foundation is always the date that the Pope or Church authorities officially approved the establishment of the Community or Order. Before approval is given, the group must show that there is a definite need for its formation in the Church.
- 8. FALSE** The two priests who are currently ministering in our Diocese belong to a Religious Community of Priests that was recently founded, not in South Africa but in Nigeria, in 1970. They are named, “The Sons of Mary, Mother of Mercy” (SMMM). One is: Father Justin Eze, SMMM, the Pastor of St. John’s Parish in Red Lake, St. Francis Xavier Parish in Balmertown and St. Theresa’s Parish in Ear Falls. The other is Father Chinonso Alaribe, SMMM, the Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Atikokan.
- 9. FALSE** The Franciscan Order (founded in 1223) is one of the oldest but the Order of St. Benedict is much older (founded in 529).

10. TRUE The initials after the name of a priest, sister or brother often, but not always, indicate that the person belongs to a religious Community or Order. Here are a few examples: S.J. - Society of Jesus (Jesuits); C.S.J. - Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph; C.S. - Scalabrini Congregation (Scalabrinians); S.M.M.M. - Sons of Mary, Mother of Mercy; O.M.I. - Oblates of Mary Immaculate, etc...

Sometimes, initials also indicate a person's role in the Church like:

P.P. - Pope and Pontiff; D.D. - Doctor of Divinity (after Bishop's name); P.P. - Parish Priest (Pastor); V.G. - Vicar General, etc.

Initials can also indicate a person's occupation or academic degree like, L.L.B. - Bachelor of Laws (lawyer), M.D.. Medical Doctor (physician), M.A. - Master of Arts, etc.

11. TRUE The "Societas Iesu" (*in Latin*), is one of the Church's oldest Religious Orders, founded by St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1540. Other famous Jesuits in our history include St. Francis Xavier, St. Aloysius Gonzaga, the Holy Canadian Martyrs, St. Robert Bellarmine and, of course, Pope Francis (Jorge Bergoglio, S.J.).

12. FALSE The Sisters of St. Joseph have these letters after their names which stand for: Congregation of St. Joseph. There are many branches of this Community. The Sisters that have ministered in Thunder Bay belong to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie, with their headquarters in North Bay.

The Carmelite Sisters and Priests have "O.Carm." after their names. There is also a separate Community called the 'Discalced Carmelite Order' which is a group of reformed Carmelites founded by St. Theresa of Avia and St John of the Cross in 1540. The letters, "OCD" (*Order of Carmel, Discalced*), follow the name of those who belong to this group. In Thunder Bay, we also have a group of lay Discalced Carmelites, known as the "Discalced Carmelite Secular Order, who use the letters, "O.C.D.S." after their names.

13. TRUE He was an Italian Bishop who first sent some of his priests to North America to minister to the spiritual needs of the many Italian immigrants, in their own language. Now the Scalabrinians minister to migrants of all languages and cultures, anywhere they are needed in the world.

14. TRUE He called his group the "Order of Preachers" (O.P.) for this reason. Dominic also expected them to teach the Faith in schools and Universities across Europe and later, all over the world.

15. FALSE The Congregation of St. Joseph was first founded by a Jesuit priest, Fr. Jean-Pierre Médaille, S.J., in Le Puy, France in 1650 and was later re-founded after it was almost annihilated during the French Revolution. It began as a group of 6 women, "without cloister or habit, who devoted themselves to the needs of ordinary people, living among them and offering their lives in service to them without distinction".