



# Roots & Wings

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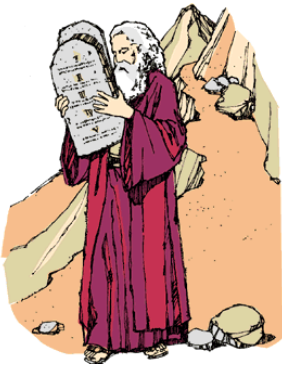
*The Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife (Exodus 20:17)*

*The Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's*

*(Exodus 20:17)*

By: Laurie Liesen

The final two commandments deal with what is in our hearts, even before our desires are translated into actions. In other words, God and His Divine law judges our thoughts and intentions as well as our deeds. These commandments are calls for us to transform our hearts, thoughts, and attitudes and commit ourselves to God. For our good deeds to be true, the practice of our faith must come from our hearts (Stockert 1997).



The Ninth Commandment states that we should not covet our neighbor's wife. The term covet refers to desiring someone or something at any price. It is placing our will and desires above God and His gifts.

When we covet or lust for another's spouse, we are committing a sin of desire or lust. According to Thomas Aquinas (1992), we can overcome the desire by avoiding any occasions for this sin and maintaining a life of prayer. This commandment calls for us to be pure of heart, which is focusing on loving God and others. In terms of this commandment, the key to having self-control over our sexual lives is having a pure heart (McBride 1990). Practicing modesty and avoiding morally permissive entertainment are a couple of ways to help us live according to the Ninth Commandment.

The Tenth Commandment states that we should not covet our neighbors' goods. Envyng others' things and being greedy is the

root of theft and fraud (Catechism 1995). Thomas Aquinas (1992) offers several reasons why it is wrong to covet others' goods. First, people's desires have no limits, making us susceptible to envy and greed. Our culture makes living according to this commandment difficult—the consumerism, materialism, drive for success and wealth. Covetousness therefore destroys one's peace of heart and our love for God and others. The Tenth Commandment advocates a spirit of generosity and liberates us from greed. It calls us to share, to live simpler lives, and to love God and others.

Aquinas, St. Thomas (1992). *God's Greatest Gifts: Commentaries on the Commandments and the Sacraments*. Manchester, NH: Sophia Institute Press.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1995). New York: Doubleday.

McBride, Alfred (1990). *The Ten Commandments: Sounds of Love from Sinai*. Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press.

Stockert, Fr. Hal (1997). "Decalogue—The Ten Commandments Today." *Catholic Information Network*. <[www.cin.org/wwdec2.html](http://www.cin.org/wwdec2.html)>. Accessed 14 July 2003.

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## An Examination of Conscience with the Catholic Life Committee

*You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.*

*You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.*

Do I practice patience, decency and discretion so that I might have a pure heart?

Do I seek purity of intention by seeking God's will?

Do I seek purity of vision by not "giving in" to impure thoughts that lead us away from the Commandments?

Are we happy with what we have or are we always wanting more?

Are we grateful for what we have and do we willingly share it?

## Wrapping Up and Looking Ahead

In this final issue of *Roots and Wings* for this school year, the Catholic Life Committee would like to thank all of those who have shared their time, energies, and talents. We pray that the focus on The Ten Commandments has enlightened and challenged you.

For their continuous support we thank, Tom Sedor, Angie Gehm, Susan Neale, Jane Sweeney, Cheryl Tolish, Julie Bartelt and Pat Brooks. We thank our committee chair, Jane Peabody, for her tireless efforts and leadership. We thank Laurie Liesen for writing the materials which form the foundation of the Our Catholic Culture in Christ program and for sharing her wisdom on Catholic teaching. We thank Pat Bernardi for designing *Roots and Wings* each month and accommodating our schedule (we are always late!). We thank Natalie Lamb for coordinating and editing *Roots and Wings* which helps us bring our message to all the homes of IJP.

We thank the other members of our committee who contribute by coordinating service projects, designing bulletin boards, organizing library resources, providing curricula materials, and producing *Roots and Wings*: LeeAnn Bartolomei, Betsy Cutrara, Nancy Donkel, Charlotte Kelly, Cheryl Tolish, Pam Bartusiewicz, Liz Keating, Nadine DiNuzzo, Chris Mancha and Rachael Phillippe. We thank IJP art instructors Emily Wright and Lisa Calgaro for teaching the virtues through art. We thank Karen DelSanto for creating the beautiful Catholic Life Committee logo. We thank Deacon George Brooks for incorporating the Ten Commandments into the Mass petitions.

Next year, the Catholic Life Committee will explore the Beatitudes.

Please take some time this summer to think about the promises contained in the Beatitudes and the decisive choices the Beatitudes call us to make.



Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great.

If you read any good books this summer, see any movies, visit any websites or are involved in any service projects that you think would be appropriate for the Catholic Life Committee, why not write up a review or article for next years *Roots and Wings*? How about joining the Catholic Life Committee? All are welcome! Send any information to [seslam@ameritech.net](mailto:seslam@ameritech.net) or call Jane Peabody or Natalie Lamb (we're in the IJP phonebook).

## Quest for Peace

During the final week of school the Builders Club and the Beta Club will be collecting gently used school supplies to be sent to needy children in Nicaragua. Please do not throw away any slightly used notebooks. These clubs are collecting and sending , with the help of the Catholic Life Committee: notebooks/ stenos, paper, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, colored pencils, erasers, rulers, protractors, folders and pencil cases. This is a great cause so don't throw away your useable school supplies! Share them ! See Mrs. Sweeney with any questions and to deliver items.



## Curtain Call Teacher Reunion

As part of IJP Parish's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the IJP teachers are hosting a teacher reunion on Saturday June 16. All lay teachers, staff and religious past and present have been invited. The festivities will begin with Mass at 5 p.m. Supper in the cafeteria will follow.

That same evening, all are invited to the all Parish celebration "Remembering Curtain Call" starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Gym. Remembering Curtain Call will present an evening of live music, a dessert lounge, a Love Shack Bar and a big screen projection of 24 years of Curtain Call entertainment.

Admission is \$5 - food and drinks are separate.

Cicada free!

So come visit your former (not older) teachers. Reminisce about grade school and enjoy an evening of great fun.

For any questions call Mrs. Sweeney at IJP School or drop a note in her mailbox at the school.

### *Prayer For May — Hail Mary*

*Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee;*

*Blessed art thou among women,*

*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*

*pray for us sinners,*

*Now and at the hour of our death.*

*Amen.*



## Purity & Generosity

These materials are available through your local library as well as Metropolitan Library System. Be sure to check out the books tagged "Our Catholic Culture" in the IJP library. Compiled by: Pam Bartusiewicz

### Ages 5-8:

Berry, Joy Wilt. ; **Let's talk about being selfish.** Discusses the advantages of sharing, and the times when it is prudent to put something away rather than share it.

Daugherty, James Henry; **Andy and the lion: a tale of kindness remembered or the power of gratitude.** In this retelling of Androcles and the Lion, Andy meets a lion on the way to school and wins his friendship for life by removing a thorn from his paw.

Faundez, Anne.; **A cloak for swallow.** Swallow faces a long, bitter journey. Will Owl and his friends find a way to help him in time?

Hallinan, P. K. ; **I'm thankful each day!** Verse and pictures describe the things we can be thankful for each day.

Meiners, Cheri J. ; **Reach out and give.** Simple words and illustrations encourage children to do their part to make the world a better place, focusing on the concept of gratitude.

Raatma, Lucia ; **Generosity.** Explains the virtue of generosity and describes ways to show it in the home, school, and community.

### Ages 8-11:

Creech, Sharon; **Granny Torrelli makes soup .** With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

### Ages 10 and older:

**Heartbeat.** Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.

Holt, Kimberly Willis; **Dancing in Cadillac light.** In 1968, eleven-year-old Jaynell's life in the town of Moon, Texas, is enlivened when her eccentric Grandpap comes to live with her family.

Youngs, Bettie B; **Living the 10 Commandments in new times: a book for young adults.** Presents a study of each of the Ten Commandments, and offers insights to young adults on God's purpose in making the laws, and their relevance to modern-day life.

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## The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.
4. Honor your Father and your Mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.



"There are two lasting bequests  
we can hope to give our children.

One is roots,  
the other wings."

Hodding Carter II