



WHAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HOLDS TO BE TRUE ON DEATH AND RESURRECTION

As the Word of God is revealed in the Book of Wisdom 1:13¹:

“Because God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.”

And, as amplified in the Catholic Catechism ²:

1008 *“Death is a consequence of sin.”* The Church's Magisterium, as authentic interpreter of the affirmations of Scripture and tradition, teaches that death entered the world because of man's sin. Even though man's nature is mortal, God had originally destined him not to die. **Death was therefore contrary to the plans of God, the Creator, and entered the world as a consequence of sin.** *“Bodily death, from which man would have been immune had he not sinned” is thus ‘the last enemy’ of man left to be conquered.”*

WHAT ELSE WE HOLD TO BE TRUE	IN THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE CHURCH TEACHES:
For our children, life has changed – not ended.	366 “The Church teaches that every spiritual soul is created immediately by God—it is not “produced” by the parents –and it is immortal: it does not perish when it separates from the body at death, and it will be reunited with the body at the final Resurrection.” 997 “...In death, the separation of the soul from the body, the human body decays and the soul goes to meet God, while awaiting its reunion with its glorified body.”
Our relationship with our children still exists and continues.	954 <i>“The three states of the Church.</i> When the Lord comes in glory, and all his angels with him, death will be no more and all things will be subject to him. But at the present time some of his disciples are pilgrims on earth. Others have died and are being purified, while still others are in glory, contemplating ‘in full light, God himself triune and one, exactly as he is.” 955 “So it is that the union of the wayfarers with the brethren who sleep in the peace of Christ is in no way interrupted, but on the contrary, according to the constant faith of the Church, this union is reinforced by an exchange of spiritual goods.”
Even if my child was not baptized, there is hope for salvation.	1260 “Since Christ died for all, and since all men are in fact called to one and the same destiny, which is divine, we must hold that the Holy Spirit offers to all the possibility of being made partakers, in a way known to God, of the Paschal mystery 1261 As regards <i>children who have died without Baptism</i> , the Church can only entrust them to the mercy of God, as she does in her funeral rites for them. Indeed, the great mercy of God who desires that all men should be saved, and Jesus’ tenderness toward children which caused him to say: ‘Let the children come to me; do not hinder them,’ allow us to hope that there is a way of salvation for children who have died without Baptism.”
We will be together with them again.	989 “We firmly believe, and hence we hope that, just as Christ is truly risen from the dead and lives forever, so after death the righteous will live forever with the risen Christ and he will raise them up on the last day.” 997 <i>“What is ‘rising’?</i> In death, the separation of the soul from the body, the human body decays and the soul goes to meet God, while awaiting its reunion with its glorified body. God, in his almighty power, will definitively grant incorruptible life to our bodies by reuniting them with our souls, through the power of Jesus’ Resurrection.” 998 <i>“Who will rise?</i> All the dead will rise. Those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.”

¹The New American Bible. World Catholic Press, 2000.

²Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition. United States Catholic Conference, 2000.