



# Catholic Cheat Sheet

Answers to faith questions you were too afraid to ask!

October 16, 2022

## Catechism Nugget

### Blessing vs Grace

In Genesis 32:22-32, we are introduced to Jacob wrestling with God. One key aspect of this interaction is that Jacob refuses to let go until God blesses him. When speaking about blessings we sometimes hear people refer to God's grace as a blessing. It is important that we understand the distinction between these two. When we speak of receiving God's grace we are receiving something that we can not and did not earn. It is a gift that is freely given to us that we cannot work for or earn. Blessing on the other hand is also a gift from God, but in this case it is a reward or recognition for staying true to God. Having this understanding of a blessing sheds new light on Jacob's interaction with God. Can you think of examples in your own life where you have wrestled for your blessing?

## Diving Deeper

Did you know that there are two types of Grace? There is sanctifying grace and actual grace. Sanctifying grace is how God connects us to the supernatural and dwells within our souls. It transforms us and makes us holy. Natural grace is grace that acts on us from the outside. It doesn't affect our soul. When it comes to actual grace we get to decide if we will cooperate with actual grace or ignore it!

## Learning Links

Below is a link to a more in depth article explaining <https://www.catholic365.com/article/11932/grace-vs-blessings.html>

## Upcoming Events

November 6th  
Faith Formation  
Readings  
Exodus 1-2, 3-4:23, 5:1-13, 11-12:39,  
13:17-15:10, 16:1-18, 17:1-7

## What are we Reading?

This week we continue to see the bloodline of Abraham grow through his son Isaac. We are introduced to Isaac's sons Esau and Jacob, and even later in the story to Jacob's son Joseph.

What we learn through their stories is that even when people treat each other poorly, God can still use those situations to bring about good.

Joseph also teaches us the power of forgiveness, when he not only forgives his brothers for selling him into slavery, but also reconciles with them.



Find links on our Website

[www.sacredheartsg.com](http://www.sacredheartsg.com)