

*How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."*

**Does the Church say something about the duties of a citizen towards the State? What duties do citizens have towards the State?**

- A) The Church teaches us that we do not have any duties to the State, even more the State is kind of the enemy for us.
  - B) Every citizen has the duty to cooperate with the civil authorities and to contribute to the common good in truth, justice, freedom and solidarity.
  - C) The Church and the State is one. The Church and the State cooperate closely.
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**A Lenten Tradition: Veiling the Cross for Passiontide** Towards the end of [Lent](#) you may notice purple cloths draped over the crucifixes, statues, and saint images at your parish. In some churches, these items may be removed from the sanctuary altogether. This old custom of veiling religious images is a way of focusing on the penitential aspect of this liturgical season. It reminds us in a visual way that our faith in all its glory is made possible only through the work of Christ in his suffering and death on the cross. When we cover or remove these holy and sacred images that we are so accustomed to, we are starkly confronted and reminded in a poignant way of all that Christ has won for us. The tradition is often practiced during the last two weeks before Easter, starting on Passion Sunday (now called the fifth Sunday of Lent) and ending on Good Friday. This time period is known on the old liturgical calendar as *Passiontide*. Even though this period is no longer officially called by this name, the tradition is still practiced in many places. <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/a-lenten-tradition-veiling-the-cross/>

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**One day issue of authority came up during our family dinner. My question is: *How is authority exercised correctly?***

- A) In our democratic society, we do not talk or like the authority anymore. This is the medieval concept.
- B) Authority means power. The church doesn't teach about authority any more.
- C) Authority is exercised properly when it is understood according to Jesus' example as service. It must never be arbitrary. (CCC 2234-2237, 2254) Jesus showed us once and for all how authority should be exercised. He, the greatest authority, served others and took the last place. Jesus even washed the feet of his disciples (Jn 13,1-20). The authority of parents, teachers, educators, and superiors is given to them by God, not so that they can lord it over those who are entrusted to their care, but rather so that they might understand and exercise their duty of guiding and training as service.**

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