

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION - 1990

This information is placed here at the direction of the General Board of Examining Chaplains.

The GBEC is agreed that we should be "up front" in our communications with GOE Candidates, Deans, Bishops, Commissions on Ministry, and in our Report to General Convention, as to what we think we are doing. Accordingly,

We view the GOE as an exercise integrative of all fields of theological education, in all of the questions asked;

We ask questions that we expect people to be able to answer, and the exam is composed with two and a half years of seminary education, or its equivalent, in mind as the educational background expected in the Candidate;

We view the exam as diagnostic and remedial, to help Commissions on Ministry prepare Candidates for continuing education in Diaconal and early-Priesthood years.

In each part of the exam, Candidates are reminded that we are looking for theological substance in the responses.

SET I (OPEN-BOOK)

Type (or write) on only one side of the paper. Use letter-size white paper (8-1/2 x 11"), not legal size, and not the kind you tear off a pad, but separate sheets; white typewriter paper is ideal; use black ink or a NEW black ribbon only; no pencils, and no red ribbons. PUT YOUR EXAMINATION NUMBER, THE SET NUMBER, PAGE NUMBER and QUESTION NUMBER AT THE TOP RIGHT CORNER OF EACH PAGE, THUS:

90320  
Set I  
Question No. (if any)  
Page No.

Number all pages of Set I consecutively; clip the pages together; please do NOT use staples.

These procedures will help us to keep your pages in order and distinct from other parts of the examination as well as from other persons' examinations. Uniform paper size with no tear-off edges helps the rapid Xeroxing of thousands of pages.

XXXXX

You have THREE hours to respond to one of the following two questions. If you finish in less than three hours, you may turn in your papers. Please limit your response to a maximum of 1500 words. (We do not expect you to spend time counting words. We estimate 250 words to a double-spaced page of élite type or 200 per page of pica type.) We remind you that we look for theological substance in responses to all questions. Be sure to cite your sources. whether direct quotations or ideas known to have come from others.

QUESTIONS ON OTHER SIDE.

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET I (OPEN-BOOK)

Respond to either  
QUESTION A

(The main emphases of this question are in the areas of Liturgics and Theory & Practice.)

You are the new Rector of a parish with about 200 members. The previous Rector had a long tenure, during which his liturgical preferences had become well-established. You would like to make some changes, especially as to the participation of lay persons in liturgical roles.

1. Why should you involve lay people in decision-making about worship in the parish?
2. In what ways would you involve them in decision making?
3. What liturgical roles do you see as appropriate for lay persons?
4. On what basis would you select lay liturgical ministers? What criteria would you use?
5. On what basis would you select lay members of the worship committee? What criteria would you use?
6. How would you introduce these changes to the parish?
7. How would you measure the value of these changes over time?

or QUESTION B

(The main emphases of this question are in the areas of Liturgics and Theory & Practice.)

The Bishop is coming! The Bishop is coming! The Bishop is coming!

So what?

As priest-in-charge of a small congregation preparing for the Bishop's visitation, you and the Bishop's Committee (Vestry) are concerned that many members of the congregation see the diocese and bishop as remote, not much related to their congregational life.

1. The Bishop's Committee asks you to prepare a presentation for the congregation concerning the visit. Draw on your knowledge of Scripture, the Prayer Book, Church History, and Theology, and your understanding of their significance for the world in which we live, and write a presentation in which you:
  - a. Discuss the importance of the role of the laity in relation to the various ministries of the church, including episcopacy.
  - b. Explain your understanding of the role of the episcopacy in the life of the church and its importance to the congregation.
2. Draw up an outline for the service, including a Baptism, for the Sunday of Proper 15, Year A. Select hymns from The Hymnal 1982 and explain your choices.

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET II (OPEN-BOOK)

You receive this set on Thursday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. You are to hand in the completed response not later than 5:00 p.m. the same day. Thus you have three hours for Set II.

Type (or write) on only one side of the paper. Use letter-size paper (8 1/2" X 11"), not legal size, and not the kind you tear off a pad, but separate sheets.

This set consists of ONE essay which is to be chosen from the two offered on the reverse side. Please limit your answer to 1500 words. (We do not expect you to spend time counting words. We estimate 250 words to a double-spaced page of élite type, or 200 words per page of pica type.)

Please identify each page at the top right corner with your examination number, the Set number, and the Page number. DO NOT sign your name to our answer. Be sure to cite your sources, whether the citation covers direct quotations or ideas known to have come from others.

Reminder: We look for theological substance in responses to all questions.

QUESTIONS ON OTHER SIDE

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET II (OPEN-BOOK)

Respond to either  
Question A

(The main emphasis of this question is in the field of Ethics/Moral Theology. Another area involved is Contemporary Society.)

Individuals and interest groups in the Church have been calling on dioceses to speak out and provide prophetic witness on a range of contemporary issues. Write an essay in which you define the task of the Church as it faces contemporary moral issues. Use the following questions as a framework for your essay, and illustrate your remarks with reference to one specific issue.

1. Why is the specific issue you have chosen important to Christians as Christians?
2. To what end do we address members of the Church as individuals? as a community of faith?
3. To what end do we address society at large? What are the limits and problems inherent in speaking in a pluralistic society to the issue you have chosen to discuss? On what basis can the Church claim an audience?

or Question B

(The main emphasis of this question is in the area of Ethics/Moral Theology. Another area involved is Theory & Practice of Ministry.)

Write an essay on the moral and spiritual life. Your essay should include responses to the following:

1. Differentiate between moral and ascetical theology in terms of their tasks.
2. How do moral and ascetical theology contribute to the moral and spiritual life?
3. Illustrate how the moral and the spiritual are related in two of the following four selections:
  - a. Evangelism  
or  
The development of mission strategy
  - b. Ministry to the homeless  
or  
Ministry to persons with AIDS
  - c. Preparation of persons for baptism
  - d. Spiritual direction

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET III (OPEN-BOOK)

You receive this Set Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. and it is to be handed in not later than 5:00 p.m. the same day.

Type (or write) on only one side of the paper. Use letter-size paper (8-1/2" x 11"), not legal size, and not the kind you tear off a pad, but separate sheets; white type-writer paper is ideal; use black ink or black ribbon only; no pencils, and no red ribbons. PUT YOUR EXAMINATION NUMBER, THE SET NUMBER and PAGE NUMBER AT THE TOP RIGHT CORNER OF EACH PAGE.

Number all pages of Set III consecutively; clip the pages together; please do NOT use staples.

You have EIGHT HOURS to respond to the following question. If you finish in less than eight hours, you may turn in your papers. Please limit your response to a maximum of 2500 words. Be sure to cite your sources.

(We do not expect you to spend time counting words. We estimate 250 words per double-spaced page of élite type, or 200 words per page of pica type.)

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QUESTION ON THE OTHER SIDE

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET III (OPEN-BOOK)

USE YOUR TIME WISELY - ALL DAY, 5 PARTS

(The main emphases of this question are in the areas of Scripture, History, Theology, and Theory & Practice. Another area involved is Contemporary Society.)

As you are preparing for the patronal festival at Holy Trinity Church, members of your Adult Inquirers' Class have questioned the usefulness of the doctrine of the Trinity as a means of understanding the reality of God. You intend to respond to their question by means of a sermon and a class.

1. A. In preparation for your sermon, briefly exegete the proper readings for Trinity Sunday from Lectionary C. How do the readings contribute to a Trinitarian understanding of God?  
B. What are two major points that you would develop in your sermon?
2. As background for the class meetings, set forth the historical and theological development of the doctrine of the Trinity in the first four centuries of the Church's life.
3. Detail the theological content that you hope to communicate to the group through an educational program.
4. In the light of your group's concern, what do you see to be the implications for pastoral care and mission arising out of the doctrine of the Trinity?
5. Develop a design for the class that will enable the members of the group to identify:
  - a) the importance of the doctrine of the Trinity in understanding God;
  - b) the Trinitarian understanding of God as reflected in the life and work of the Church and in the life of the congregation.

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET IV (OPEN-BOOK)

You receive this Set Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. You are to hand in the completed response not later than 5:00 p.m. the same day. Thus you have eight hours for Set IV.

Type (or write) on only one side of the paper. Use letter-size paper (8-1/2" x 11"), not legal size, and not the kind you tear off a pad, but separate sheets.

This set consists of ONE essay, which is shown on the reverse side. Please limit your answer to 2500 words.

(We do not expect you to spend time counting words. We estimate 250 words to a double-spaced page of élite type, or 200 words per page of pica type.)

Please identify page at the top right corner with your examination number, the Set number, and the Page number. DO NOT sign your name to your answer. Be sure to cite your sources, whether the citation covers direct quotations or ideas known to have come from others.

Reminder: We look for theological substance in responses to all questions.

QUESTION ON THE OTHER SIDE

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET IV (OPEN-BOOK)

QUESTION

(The main emphases of this question are in the areas of Scripture, Church History, and Contemporary Society.)

You are the rector of a middle-sized parish in a diocese that has experienced much conflict during the last fifteen years. Issues confronting the whole Episcopal Church have sharply divided your diocese and its parishes. There has been considerable conflict over such matters as: the ordination of women, changing attitudes toward human sexuality, divestiture of diocesan & parish assets in South Africa, programs for the poor and homeless, and so on.

Your bishop has asked you to devise a presentation on "Conflict in the Church" for the next clergy conference. You decide that a kind of case-study approach will facilitate discussion and foster applicable learnings for the clergy. Write an essay that includes the substance of your presentation for that conference.

PART I

Scripture

Pro-Monarchy & Anti-Monarchy  
Factions in I Samuel 8-12

Jeremiah's Controversy with the  
False Prophets, Jeremiah 28

Issues at the Apostolic Council  
in Jerusalem, Acts 15

Dissension in the Corinthian  
Church, I Corinthians 1

Church History

The Arian Controversy before  
and after the Council of Nicea

Controversies over Papal  
Sovereignty in the Middle Ages

The Puritan Controversy in the 16th-  
& 17th-century Church of England

Abolitionist Controversies in  
19th-century American Churches

Focus your essay on one conflict from Scripture and one from Church History. You may choose one of the options in each category above, or you may create your own option within each.

In your discussion, identify the chief elements of each of the two conflicts in its historical context. Analyze that conflict in such a way as to illuminate the doctrinal understandings, liturgical values, and/or polity arrangements characteristic of each side. State how the result of the conflict shaped the life and mission of the People of God. Finally, in your judgment, what factors led to division among the People of God? What factors helped to bring about unity?

PART II

Using the insights gained from your study of scripture and history, choose a contemporary conflict in the Church and indicate how you would advise your diocesan family to approach it.

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION  
1990

SET V (OPEN-BOOK)

You receive this set on Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. You are to hand in the completed response not later than 5:00 p.m. the same day. Thus you have three hours for Set V.

Type (or write) on only one side of the paper. Use letter-size paper (8 1/2" X 11"), not legal size, and not the kind you tear off a pad, but separate sheets.

This set consists of ONE essay. Please limit your answer to 1500 words.

(We do not expect you to spend time counting words. We estimate 250 words to a double-spaced page of elite type, or 200 words per page of pica type.)

Please identify each page at the top right corner with your examination number, the Set number, and the Page number. DO NOT sign your name to your answer. Be sure to cite your sources, whether the citation covers direct quotations or ideas known to have come from others.

Reminder: We look for theological substance in responses to all questions.

QUESTION

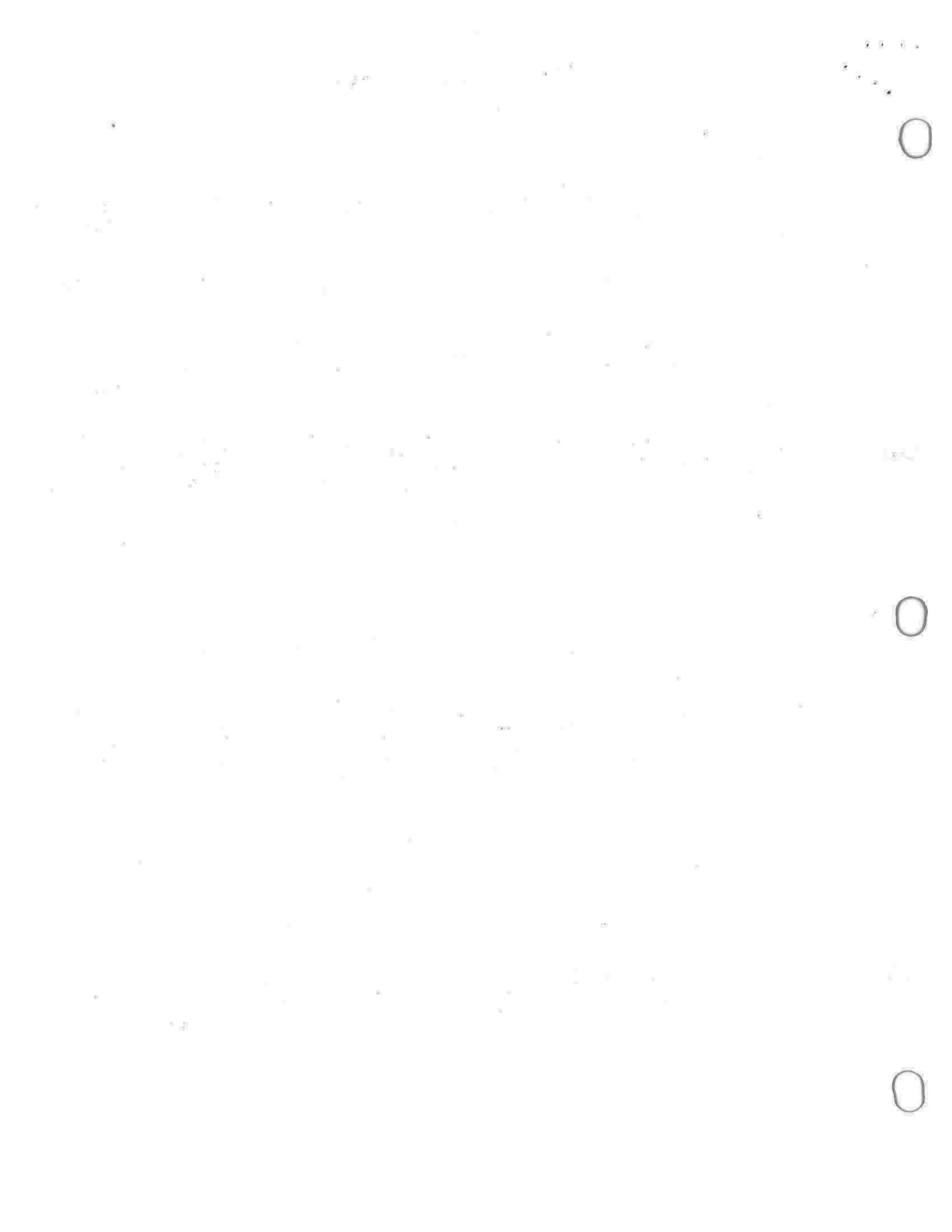
(The main emphases of this question are in Theology and Theory & Practice. Another area involved is Scripture.)

One of your parishioners, who is suffering from cancer, had been participating in "faith-healing services" and for a time had seemed to improve. Now she has learned that the disease has spread, and she faces increasing pain and death. She says to you, "I guess I just didn't have enough faith or the right attitude. Otherwise I would have licked this disease."

1. Write a brief essay on your own understanding of "faith", using scripture and theology to inform and illustrate your remarks.
2. How would you in fact respond to this woman?

on your last page, indicate:

Who typed your exam (self, friend, spouse...) (no names)  
Use of word processor, or typewriter  
Typist was: professional, paid, both, or neither



1990 GOE CLOSED-BOOK TESTS: SHORT-ANSWER and COFFEE-HOUR QUESTIONS

You have three hours to answer the following 50 Short-Answer Questions and the following ten Coffee-Hour Questions. Label each Coffee-Hour Page with CH-1, CH-2 etc, and your examination number.

**ANSWER THE SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS FIRST. SEE THE NEXT 4 SHEETS.**

Each Short-Answer Question can be answered in one or two (or a few) words. Please use a black pen (not a pencil) for these questions. When you have finished, go on to the Coffee-Hour questions. Hand in the Short-Answer Question sheets with your responses to the Coffee-Hour Questions. (You will eventually receive a scored copy of the Short-Answer sheets.)

COFFEE-HOUR QUESTIONS

1. "If the Gospel for Ash Wednesday says that we are not to 'practice piety' to be seen by others, why do you invite us to receive the imposition of ashes?"
2. From one of your parishioners who is aged 7:
  - a. "Who made God?"
  - b. "Why didn't Jesus have a wife?"
  - c. "Why did Jesus have to die?"
3. "Why do some priests give communion to infants? First communion is so special. Besides infants don't understand."
4. "I was shocked to read that some of our clergy are supporting a bill in the legislature that would end the licensing of ministers to perform marriages. I was taught that marriage is a sacrament, and that Christians should always be married in the Church. Why would ministers want to change this?"
5. "Why didn't Jesus call any women to be among the Twelve?"
6. "What did Jesus have against the rich? What did he mean by 'It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God'? Can't rich people go to heaven?"
7. "Why do we worry about liturgy in this Church? I think what's important is that we worship, not how we worship. Why not just do what people like?"

(OVER)

GENERAL ORDINATION EXAMINATION

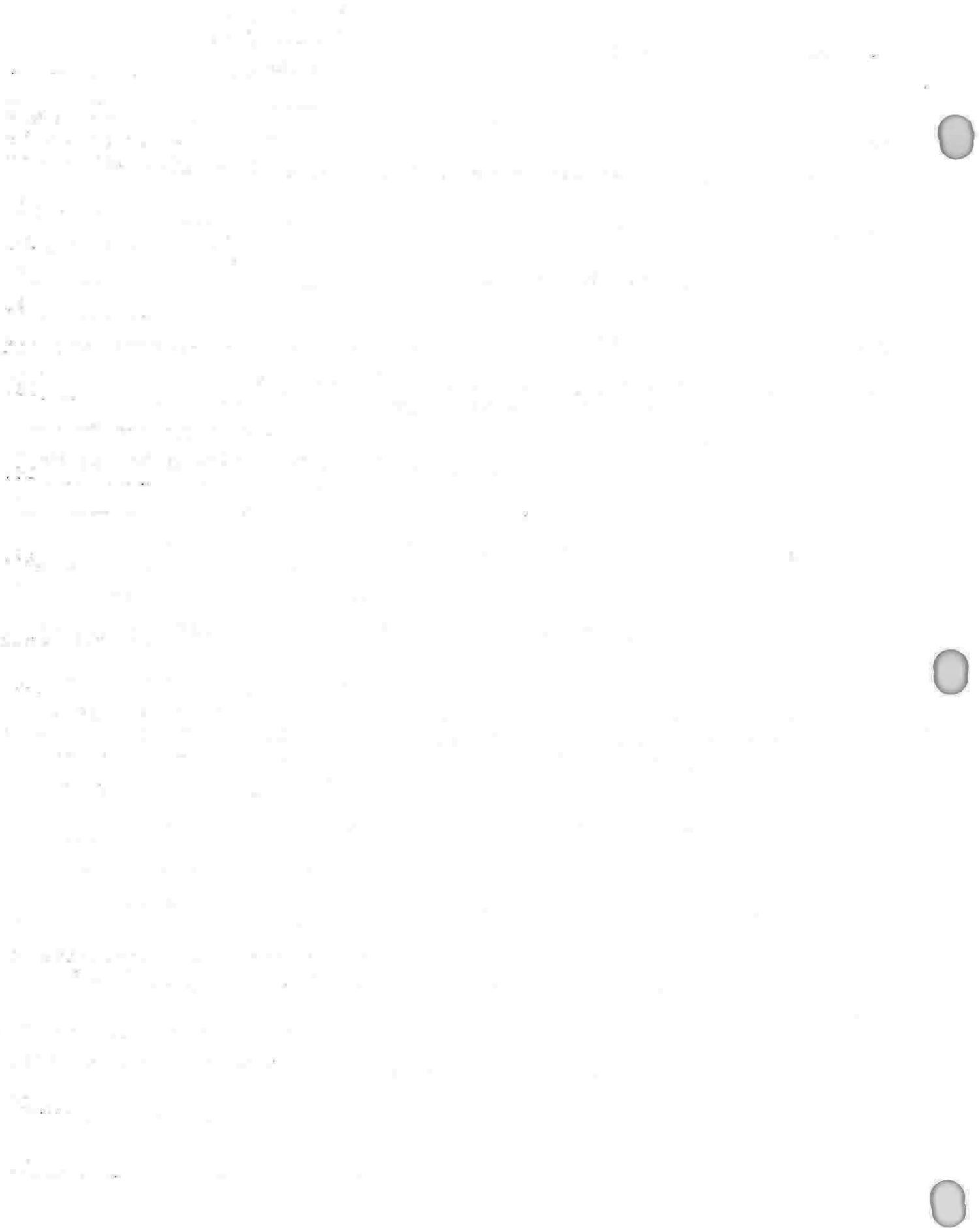
1990

COFFEE-HOUR QUESTIONS, continued

8. Your congregation is located near the state prison. An execution is scheduled. The local Amnesty International Chapter would like to use your parish house as a base for a vigil at the prison. A parishioner comes to you at the coffee-hour and says: "The law is the law and, whether we like it or not, it must be carried out. We shouldn't be identified with this protest." How do you respond to her?
9. "Do you have to believe in the Virgin Birth in order to be a Christian?"
10. The Cathedral has just hired an Hispanic canon to begin a Spanish-speaking congregation and has asked for financial support from all over the Diocese. You are asked: "Why can't these people integrate and learn English? My grandparents had to." How do you answer?

CRIPTURE

1. The Ten Commandments appear in which two books of the Bible?  
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. What king of Israel was the son of Jesse? 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where is the book of Tobit found? 3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. What prophetic book begins with visions by the river Chebar, including a chariot with a wheel covered with eyes? 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. In which book does the "Ancient of Days" and "one like a Son of Man" appear? 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. What Israelite king was responsible for building the temple? 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. What prophetic book contains the words " 'Comfort, comfort my people', says your God?" 7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who prophesied "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel...?" 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Which prophet was born in the southern kingdom but prophesied at Bethel in the north? 9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. In which gospel does the parable of the prodigal son appear? 10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Which gospel begins "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." 11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Paul was converted to Christianity on his way to what city? 12. \_\_\_\_\_



3. Which epistle contains this quotation: "Christ Jesus..., though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men," \_\_\_\_\_ 13.

14. To whom are these words spoken: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you?" \_\_\_\_\_ 14.

15. Which of Paul's epistles was addressed to a congregation he did not found? \_\_\_\_\_ 15.

16. What book declares "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" ? \_\_\_\_\_ 16.

17. In what epistle does Paul describe the Last Supper? \_\_\_\_\_ 17.

THEOLOGY

18. Theologians who maintain that "becoming" is more fundamental than "being" are known as: \_\_\_\_\_ 18.

19. Who wrote The Nature and Destiny of Man? \_\_\_\_\_ 19.

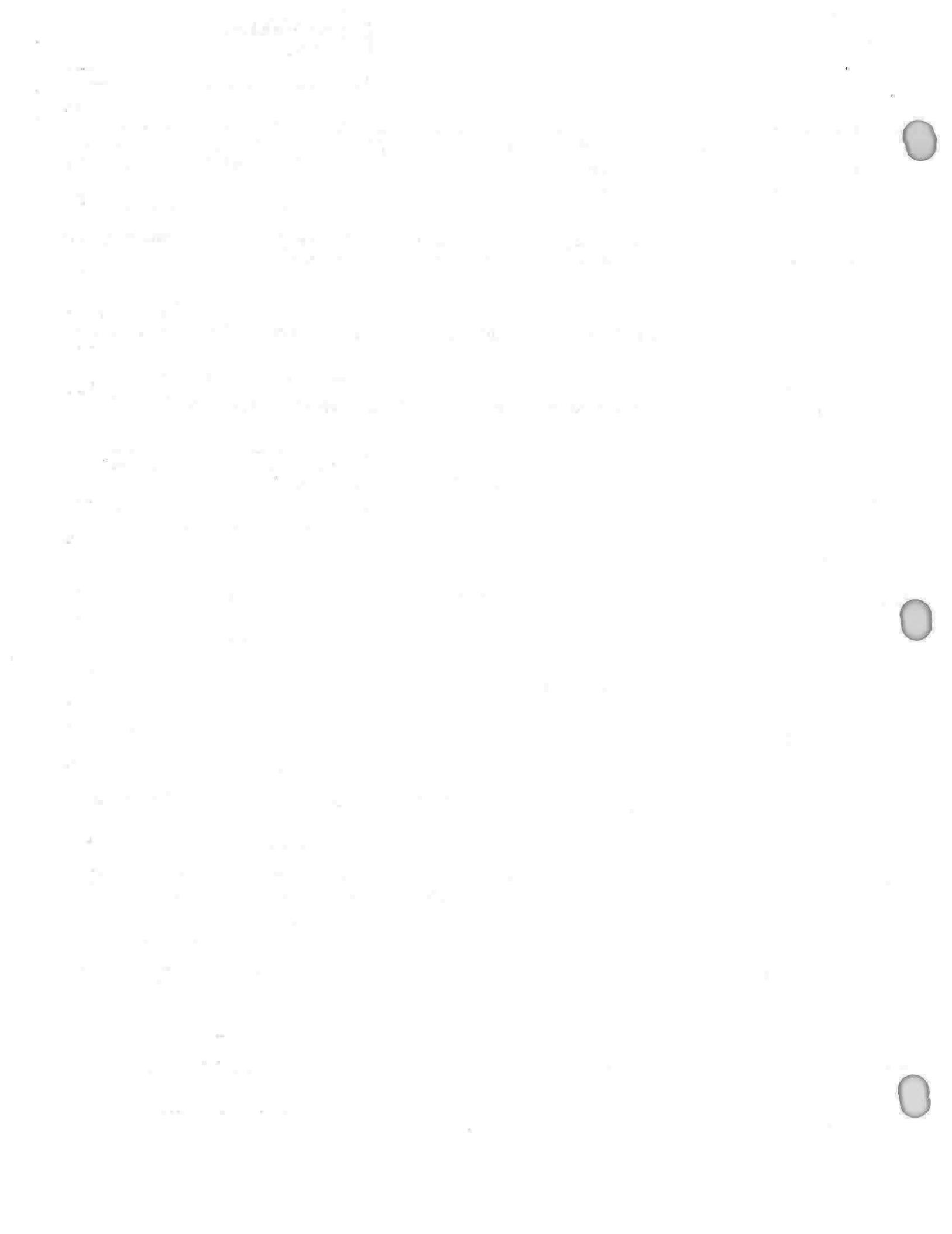
20. The most frequently cited issue in the debate between Anglicans and the Orthodox regarding the Nicene Creed is: \_\_\_\_\_ 20.

21. Anselm of Canterbury is known for which argument for the existence of God? \_\_\_\_\_ 21.

22. Which modern Jewish theologian exercised an important influence on Christian thinkers such as Barth, Brunner, and Reinhold Niebuhr? \_\_\_\_\_ 22.

23. Thomas Aquinas' theology is chiefly dependent upon the works of which Greek philosopher? \_\_\_\_\_ 23.

24. Name John Calvin's most influential book. \_\_\_\_\_ 24.



25. Which group in early church history held that the validity of the sacraments depends on the worthiness of the minister?

25.

26. Who wrote Nature, Man and God?

26.

27. The Dualistic thinking combatted by Augustine of Hippo most consistently went by the name of:

27.

28. What theological school of thought is represented by Gustavo Gutierrez?

28.

29. The author of God of the Oppressed was:

29.

HISTORY

30. The author of the Ecclesiastical History of the English People was:

30.

31. The person whose sermon National Apostasy, started the Oxford Movement was:

31.

32. During the reign of Charles I this cleric was thoroughly despised because of his imposition of liturgical uniformity:

32.

33. Name a 2nd century Christian who is notable for his defense of the faith against pagan philosophy:

33.

34. What council institutionalized the Catholic Reformation?

34.

35. Which 11th-Century pope championed the papacy's claims against secular authority?

35.

36. The father of Church History is:

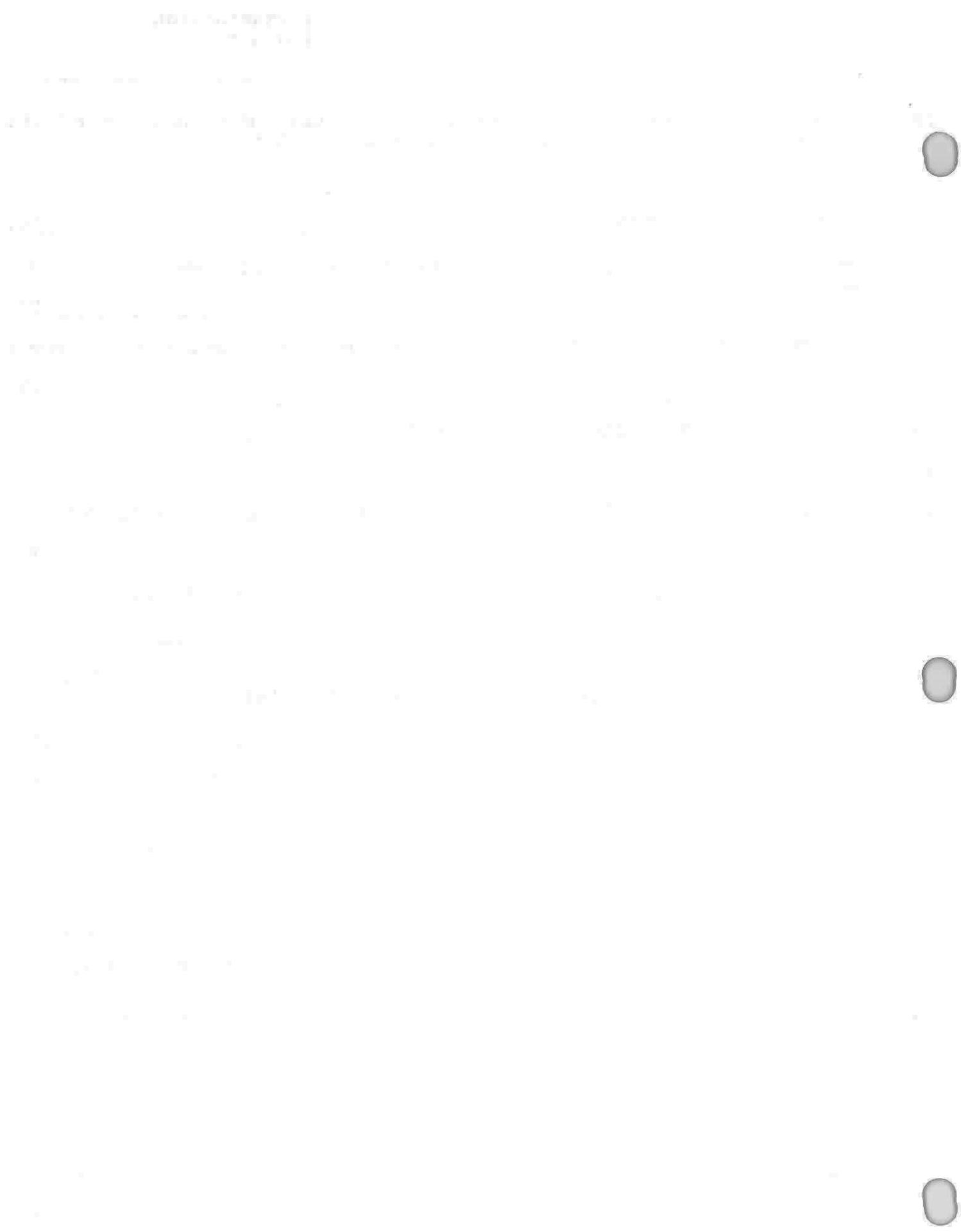
36.

37. Who was the founder of the Order of Friars Minor?

37.

38. That group of Christian thinkers known as the Caroline Divines was founded in what century?

38.



9. "The Principle of Economy is best in Philosophical Argument" is called:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 39.

40. Who was the translator of the Greek Bible into the Latin version  
called the "Vulgate"?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 40.

41. The American theologian who wrote A Theology of the Social Gospel was:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 41.

42. Which ecumenical council produced the "definition of the union of the  
divine and human natures in the person of Christ"?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 42.

43. The organization which was the most helpful in the life of the Church  
in the American colonies was:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 43.

44. The synod which reconciled Celtic and Roman Christianity in the 7th  
century was:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 44.

45. Because Henry VIII wrote a treatise in which he asserted the validity  
of the seven sacraments, he was given the title:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 45.

46. The English theologian who defended the Elizabethan Settlement of 1559  
in Treatise on the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity was:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 46.

47. Where did the first General convention of the Episcopal Church meet?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 47.

48. Those bishops who remained loyal to James II and the Jacobites were:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 48.

49. He wrote the Book of Martyrs:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 49.

50. The revival that helped pave the way for the American Revolution was:  
\_\_\_\_\_ 50.

