

# The Eighth and Tenth Commandments

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- VIII. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- X. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

# VIII: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

- **Negatively:** Prohibits all violations of truth
- **Positively:** Enjoins sharing the truth with all

# Some Sins Against the Eighth Commandment

(See USCC 432)

- Skepticism: The denial of objective truth or our access to it.
- Lying: Making an untrue statement with the intent to deceive
- Rash judgment: Forming a negative opinion of someone without sufficient evidence.
- Detraction: The unjust telling of someone's true faults.
- Calumny: Telling lies meant to make another look bad.
- Perjury: Lying under oath.
- Hypocrisy : Saying one thing while doing the opposite.



# Testimony of the Saints: Better to Die than to Lie

- Many martyrs have chosen death rather than violation of truth:
  - Early martyrs who refused to deny the faith
  - Thomas More and John Fisher
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOKPn4NURZY>
  - The French Carmelites
  - Other favorite examples?

# When to Withhold the Truth (or to Refrain from Seeking it)

- Apply the Golden Rule:
  - Would I want others to tell this (or know this) about me?
- How might this apply to the use of social media?

# X: You shall not covet your neighbor's goods

- **Negatively:** Prohibits greed and envy
- **Positively:** Enjoins generosity and detachment from riches (poverty of spirit)



# Some Sins Against the Tenth Commandment

(See USCC 450)

- Greed: An inordinate desire for temporal goods
- Envy: Sadness at the sight of another's prosperity



# Some Ways to Keep the Tenth Commandment

- Humility
- Thanksgiving
  - Grace before and/or after meals
- Goodwill
- Surrender to providence (Matthew 6:24-34)
- Giving (especially during Lent)
  - Material goods
  - Time and talent (stewardship of vocation)
- Finding satisfaction in God
  - “You are all I want. You are all I need.”



# A Contemporary Application: Stewardship of Creation

- Based on Genesis 1:28
- One way to reduce consumption of resources is to learn to be content with less (especially during Lent).
  - Consider buying fewer new products
  - Try not to prepare more food than you can reasonably eat
  - See *Laudato Si* for more suggestions

# Questions on Commandment VIII or Commandment X?