

Seven Words, Sins, and Sacraments

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, a popular broadcaster and spiritual writer of the twentieth century, correlates Jesus's seven last words from the Cross with the seven capital or deadly sins of Catholic tradition in his book, *The Seven Capital Sins*. I have added a further layer to this by adding the seven sacraments, using the schema derived from Adrienne von Speyr. Added to this is Sheen's correlation of the Last Words with the Seven Words of Our Lady in *Seven Words of Jesus and Mary* (Liguori/Triumph, 2001), following saints such as Bernadine of Siena who recognized in the Heart of Mary seven burning furnaces, giving rise to seven flames, which are the seven acts of love expressed in these "words". See www.companionsofstanthony.org/TheSevenWordsofMary.htm.

<i>Last Word</i> <i>Word of Our Lady</i>	<i>Sin</i>	<i>Sacrament</i>
<p>"Father, forgive them" <i>How shall this be done, because I know not man?</i> (Luke 1:34)</p>	Anger	Reconciliation
<p>"Today you will be with me in paradise" <i>Be it done to me according to thy word.</i> (Luke 1:38b)</p>	Envy	Anointing
<p>"Woman, behold your Son" <i>Behold the handmaid of the Lord.</i> (Luke 1:38a)</p>	Lust	Marriage
<p>"My God, why have you forsaken me?" <i>My soul doth magnify the Lord....</i> (Luke 1:46-55)</p>	Pride	Ordination
<p>"I thirst" <i>Son, why hast thou done so to us? Behold thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.</i> (Luke 2:48)</p>	Gluttony	Eucharist
<p>"It is accomplished" <i>They have no wine.</i> (John 2:3)</p>	Sloth	Baptism
<p>"Into your hands I commend my spirit" <i>Do whatever he tells you.</i> (John 2:5)</p>	Covetousness	Confirmation