

Renewing Our Faith

God

I BELIEVE IN GOD

Who is God?

Above all others

Pure Spirit (no body)

Everywhere;

No beginning and no end Can do all things

All-just (right/fair)

Holy

Merciful (compassion)





How is God revealed?

God reveals (shows) himself many times throughout Scripture (Bible). In the Book (Scroll) of Exodus God calls Moses by name from the burning bush. Moses responds by asking for God's name. God answers "I AM WHO I AM" and he reveals that he is the God for all time and for all generations (those living at a given time.) (Ex 3:1-15)

How can we apply what we know about God in our everyday lives?

By trusting God in every circumstance (everything).



Let nothing trouble you/Let nothing frighten you

Everything passes/God never changes

Patience/Obtains all

Whoever has God/Wants for nothing

God alone is enough

St Teresa of Avila

THE FATHER

Why is God called "Father"?

The First of everything

King and ruler

His Love never fails

Cares for all His children



How is God revealed as "Father"?

Jesus reveals (shows) to his disciples that God is the Eternal (everlasting) Father in relation to the Son.

He says that "No one knows the Son, only the Father. And no one knows the Father, only the Son. And some people know the Father because the Son reveals the Father to them" (Mt 11:27).

Trinity: three divine persons in One God who is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

They are equal to one another but each one is a separate and distinct form. That means that each one is the one God. The Trinity is a mystery.

Mystery: a divine truth which we cannot fully understand, but we believe because God told us it is true.



Why is the Trinity a Mystery?

We want to know and love God and we can know some things about God, because He has told us about Himself. However, we are limited and God is unlimited. We can always learn more about God because God is always infinitely (no limits) greater than our own understanding.

How can we apply the Trinity to our everyday lives?

By making the Sign of the Cross, we are expressing the unity of the Blessed Trinity (Three in One God) by the words "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen."

When making the Sign of the Cross, we are also expressing (means) the Passion (suffering), death and Resurrection (Jesus rising from the dead) of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is a sign of our faith in God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.

THE ALMIGHTY

Why is God called "Almighty"?

Powerful and ever living Knows everything about us

Do whatever He wishes Loving



How is God revealed as "Almighty"?

The Virgin Mary is the perfect model (example). She placed total trust in God and believed that "nothing was impossible for Him." With that trust she was able to praise God and recognise that He (God) is "Almighty, who has done great things for me and Holy is his name."



Job was a just man in the eyes of God, but he loses his property (land), his family and his friends and he feels depressed. But through all his sufferings; Job places total trust in God. He recognizes that God is "all powerful and that he can do all things and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted (stopped)." (Job 42: 1-6)

CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



Why is God called "Creator"?

He made things out of nothing.

All that God has made we call "creation (God's work)."

Anything that is made from God is called a creature (made by God).

Heaven: the perfect, spiritual place of happiness for us to live in the next world. It is filled with angels and saints.

Earth: the physical place that is filled with all its richness (plenty), diversity (difference) and order.

How is God revealed as "Creator"?

In Genesis, God created heaven and earth, the sea, plants and trees, sun and the moon, the animals, man and woman.

The story tells us that God gave a beginning to all that exits and that he alone is our creator.



In the Second Book (scroll) of Maccabees a mother is about to die for her faith after watching her seven sons being tortured by the King.

She had great love and hope in the Lord and as she was about to be martyred (die for her faith), she praised God by saying that God is "the Creator of the world, who made everyone... and in his mercy he gives you back breath and life." (2 Maccabees 7:23)



How can we recognise God as creator in our everyday lives?

We can admire all of God's creation and to thank God for them. By doing this it will help us to see the world in a new light. God made heaven and earth for you. They exist to remind you of God and to show you how great and good he is. He wants you to enjoy them and to be thankful for them.

Prophet: a messenger sent by God.

The prophet Daniel declares his love of all creation to God the Creator when he says...

And you sun and moon, O bless the Lord.

And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.

And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.

To Him be highest glory and praise for ever...

And you rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.

And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.

And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.

To Him be highest gory and praise for ever.

Daniel 3: 57-88



He Created Man and Woman

What is man and woman?

God created man and woman in the image and likeness of God.

God made them to know, love and serve Him in this life so that you might share His happiness in Heaven.

The human person is made up of body and soul.

Soul: the spiritual part of a person, by which it lives, understands and enjoys freedom. It allows it to know, love and serve God. A person's soul will never die, it will live forever.

Body: a body that has the senses of sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell. It needs air, food and water to stay alive.

Who were the first man and woman?

God made Adam and Eve, the first man and woman. They were created holy and in a state of perfect happiness. They were chosen by God to be in union with him forever. They also received a supernatural power called grace. Grace is a share in God's own life that gives power over our human weaknesses.

Supernatural: something that is above the powers of man or nature which only God can do.

However, when **sin** entered the world through the devil they broke their unity with God and they lost the grace that they were given.

Sin: an offense against God's laws done on purpose by thoughts, words and actions.



