



Renewing Our Faith

**The Resurrection of the
Body &
Life Everlasting**

The resurrection of the body and life everlasting with God in heaven is the most wonderful gift that God gives to us. This gift – that we will never die and that we will meet again in heaven, the people who we have loved, who have died before us, shows God’s incredible love for his people.

I BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY

What does “resurrection of the body” mean?

The resurrection of the body means that Jesus will raise the bodies of all dead people and reunite them with their **souls** at the end of the world.

Except for Mary, human beings in heaven now are not complete; part of them will be missing. But in the end, God will make our bodies new and strong again, and reunite



them with our souls. Then our joy in heaven will be even greater. We will be able to enjoy the happiness of heaven with both our souls and our bodies. Our bodies will be beautiful and perfect in every way, like the body of Jesus after his Resurrection.

Soul: the spiritual part of a person that will live forever

What is death?

Death is the end of a person's life on earth. Once we die the soul and the body become separated. The body decays while we believe that through God's love, the soul goes to meet God and waits to be reunited with the risen body on the last day.

How does Christ help us to prepare for death?

All of us long for perfect happiness. Perfect joy will be ours if we use this life to get ourselves ready for it. Heaven is our true home; earth is just our journey to find it. Every prayer we say, every Sacrament we receive, every act of love for others makes us more and more into the kind of person who will be able to enjoy eternity with God.

We are all called to live saintly lives, which will lead us to heaven.

I BELIEVE IN LIFE EVERLASTING

What does the word “life” mean in the Apostles Creed?

The word “life” means all the ways of heavenly life is different from the life that we live on earth.

What does the word “everlasting” mean in the Apostles Creed?

The word “everlasting” means without end and forever.

What does everlasting life mean?

Everlasting life means **eternal** life, this means that in heaven the soul will be united with God forever. Before they can reach heaven, each person will be judged before Jesus Christ, who is the Judge of the living and the dead.



Eternal: lasting forever

What is judgement?

Judgement is when Jesus judges each person after they have died. Jesus knows all your thoughts, words, actions and what you have failed from the time when you were old enough to choose good or evil. After we have been judged our soul will either go to **heaven, purgatory or hell.**





What is heaven?

Heaven is the perfect place of eternal happiness. We are with God forever, along with Mary, the saints, the angels and our loved ones. When someone goes to heaven, it means that they have died in God's grace and friendship or have been purified (cleaned) to live for ever with Christ. They are like God forever, they will see Him face to face. The soul is free from sin.

Heaven is our goal and it fulfils our desire of eternal happiness. We can begin to imagine heaven by thinking about the greatest beauty, goodness and truth of God's creation that is in the world. We also have an idea of heaven through everything Jesus said and did.

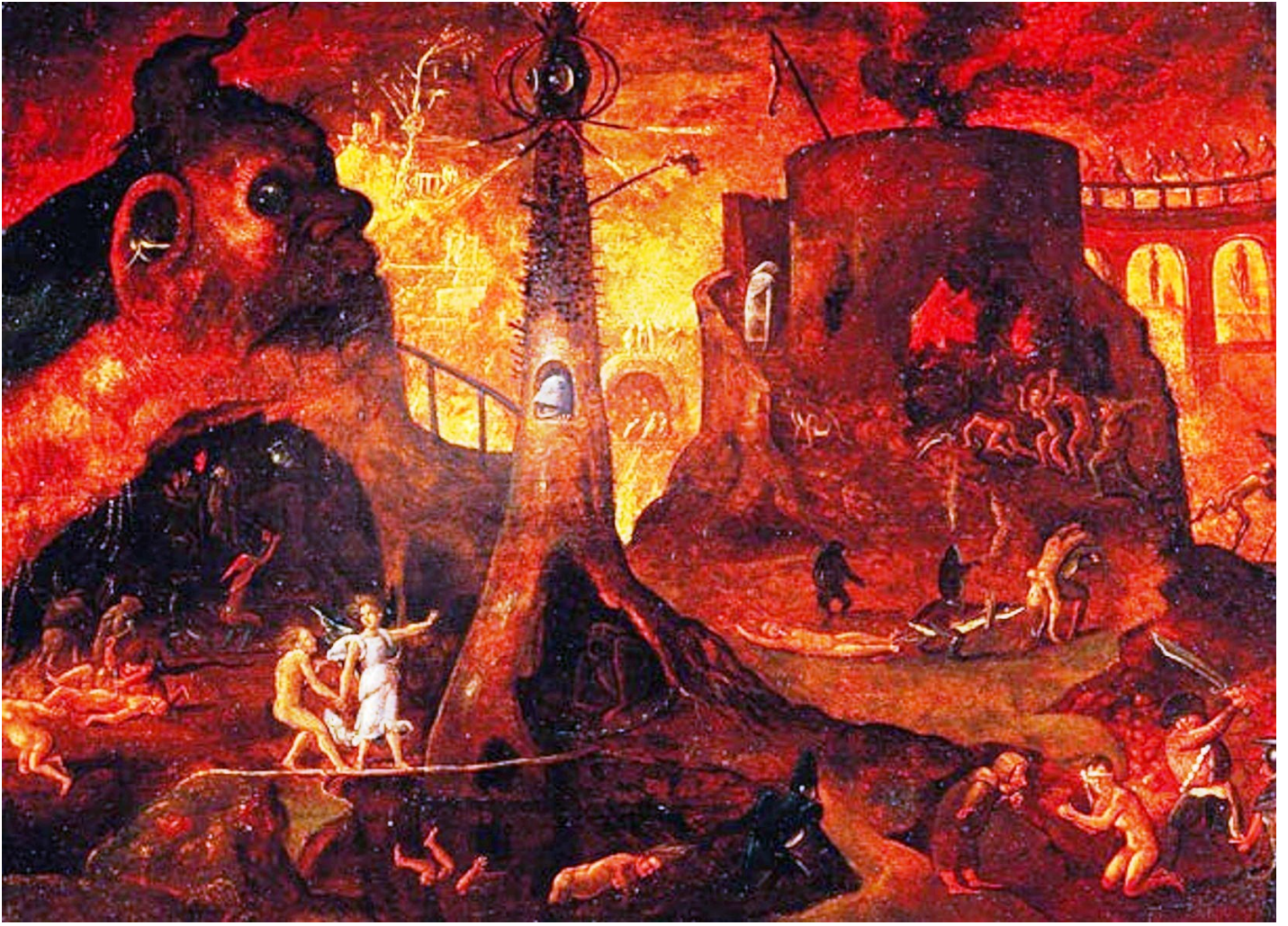
What is purgatory?

Purgatory is the place where the soul is made clean from sin before seeing God. When someone goes to purgatory, it means that they have died in God's grace and friendship, but they need to be made clean before they can enter heaven.

The souls in purgatory are full of hope, because they know they will live in heaven soon.

The faithful on earth can help the souls in purgatory by praying, fasting, doing good works and offering prayers for them, particularly at Mass. And the souls in heaven can pray for us.





What is hell?

Hell is the place of eternal separation from God. This separation is the greatest suffering for those in hell, yet it is a separation that they have chosen by their serious sins and have persevered in until their death. They have lost God forever.

What is the general (final) judgement?

The general judgement is when Our Lord will return to earth to judge the living and the dead at the end of the world.

At the final judgement, everyone will know who has loved God and served him faithfully. They will be rewarded by going to heaven. We will also see God's judgement for those who have turned away from love of God and others. They will go to hell. Purgatory will no longer exist, because the souls who are already there at the end of the world will go to heaven. The judgement of every soul will be made known to all.

We do not know when the world will end. This will only take place when God wants it to happen.

AMEN

What does the word “Amen” mean at the end of the Apostles Creed?

The word “Amen” means “truly” or “I believe”. This is confirming that what we have just said in the Apostle’s creed is true and we believe in all of its truths.



