

Parish Family ABLAZE 9-10-17

PRAYER: THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

KEYNOTE: GOD THE FATHER

- I. God: One God in Three Persons
 - A. One God: "I Am Who Am" (Exodus 3:14)
 1. In Substance ("consubstantial") and Essence: Who God **IS**
 2. Nature: Who God is **IN ACTION**
 - B. Three Persons: One Holy Communion
 1. The **FATHER** "generates" the Son
 2. The **SON** is "generated" ("Only Begotten Son of God")
 3. The **HOLY SPIRIT** proceeds from the Father and the Son
- II. God the Father: The Loving Origin of All Persons, Eternal (uncreated) or Immortal (created)
 - A. "Almighty"
 1. Eternal and Uncreated
 2. All Powerful
 3. Present Everywhere
 4. Perfect Love and Mercy
 - B. Creator of Heaven and Earth: "all things visible and invisible"
 1. Heaven: The state of perfect supernatural happiness
 - a. Beatific vision (immediate vision of God)
 - b. Perfect love (holy communion with all holy persons, divine, angelic, and human)
 2. Earth: Visible creation in time and space
 - a. Inanimate objects
 - b. Animate objects
 - c. Rational beings with immortal souls (human persons)

3. Order of Creation: Creating everything from nothing (*Ex nihilo*)
 - a. Angels: Purely spiritual persons
 - b. Visible universe and the world and its creatures
 - c. Man: Visible Persons (Body and Soul) - Made in God's "image and likeness"
- C. God creates everything out of love
 1. For His glory
 2. For our happiness, revealing to us and giving us His
 - a. Truth
 - b. Beauty
 - c. Goodness

DIALOGUE QUESTIONS

- I. "Then God said, "Let Us make Man in Our image, after Our likeness. So God created Man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1: 26-27).
 - A. How does this passage suggest that God is One in substance and essence and yet Three as Divine Persons?
 - B. Why does God make "Man" both "male and female"?
- II. How is God's creation of Adam and Eve DIFFERENT than a human person being conceived in the womb of a woman? How is the creation of Adam and Eve the same as the conception of a human person in a woman's womb?

MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: "The Apostles' Creed"
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (15-30 minutes)
 - A. Meditatively read or write down The Apostles' Creed.
 - B. Lift up your prayer to One of the Three Persons.
 - C. Listen to this Person speaking within your mind and heart.
- III. Examination of Conscience
 - A. Throughout the day, was I creative and orderly or destructive and disorderly?
 - B. In each circumstance or relationship, did I focus on how I could give or on what I could get?
 - C. Did I maintain my grateful awareness of God throughout the day or forget about Him or even turn away from Him?
 - D. Am I living a full life, healthy for body and soul, that flows from and returns to prayer, and that includes HOLY work, rest, recreation and exercise, friendship, and healthy meals?