



# Archdiocesan Program

## WHY CATHOLIC?

STRENGTHENING FAITH ... MAKING DISCIPLES



## THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

*I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY SON OF GOD*

### **Biblical Reflection: Lk 4:14-21**

The unique and altogether singular even of the Incarnation of the Son of God does not mean that Jesus Christ is part God and part man, nor does it imply that he is the result of a confused mixture of the divine and the human. He became truly man while remaining truly God. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. During the first centuries, the Church had to defend and clarify this truth of faith against the heresies that falsified it. (CCC 464)



By embracing in his human heart the Father's love for men, Jesus "loved them to the end," for "greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (Jn 13,1; 15:13). In suffering and death his humanity became the free and perfect instrument of his divine love which desires the salvation of men. Indeed, out of love for his Father and for men, whom the Father wants to save, Jesus freely accepted the Passion and death: "No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down on my own accord" (Jn 10:18). Hence the sovereign freedom of God's Son as he went out to his death. (CCC 609)

... The Resurrection above all constitutes the confirmation of all Christ's works and teachings. All truth even those more inaccessible to human reason, find their justification if Christ by his Resurrection has given the definitive proof of his divine authority, which he had promised. (CCC 651)

On Judgement Day at the end of the world, Christ will come in glory to achieve the definitive triumph of good over evil which, like the wheat and the tares, have grown up together in the course of history. (CCC 681)

The Son of God... worked with human hands, he thought with a human mind. He acted with a human will, and with a human heart he loved. Born of the Virgin Mary, he has truly been made one of us, like to us in all things except sin. *Gaudium et spes*, 22 ¶2. (CCC 470)

### **Questions for discussion:**

- What words of Jesus have impacted me most?
- Which Jesus' miracle I like most?
- If I would have the opportunity of meeting Jesus, what would I have said to him? What would I have asked from Him?
- Do you think that you would have the strength and courage of following Jesus up to his crucifixion?
- In the silence of your heart, please respond to this question: What would I ask from Jesus right now? The answer to this question is not to be shared with the group.
- Do you think that Jesus has listened to your prayer in the previous question? Share your faith and trust in the fact that Jesus listens and send forth his hand to help you.

**Further reading:** Catechism of the Catholic Church, numbers 422-483 and 512-682