



Archdiocesan Program WHY CATHOLIC?

STRENGTHENING FAITH ... MAKING DISCIPLES



THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER

Biblical Reflection: Jn 14:9-21, 25-26

... The confession of God's oneness, which has its roots in the divine revelation of the Old Covenant, is inseparable from the profession of God's existence and is equally fundamental. God is unique; there is only one God... (CCC 200)

God, "He who is," revealed himself to Israel as the one "abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." These two terms express summarily the riches of the divine name. In all his works God displays not only his kindness, goodness, grace, and steadfast love, but also his trustworthiness, constancy, faithfulness, and truth... (CCC 214)

Faith in God leads us to turn to him alone in our first origin and our ultimate goal, and neither to prefer anything to him nor to substitute anything for him. (CIC 229)

Jesus asks for childlike abandonment to the providence of our heavenly Father who takes care of his children's smallest needs... (CCC 305)

The fact that God permits physical and even moral evil is a mystery that God illuminates by his Son Jesus Christ who died and rose to vanquish evil. Faith gives us the certainty that God would not permit an evil if he did not cause a good to come from that very evil, by ways that we shall fully know only in eternal life. (CCC 324)

After his fall, man was not abandoned by God. On the contrary, God calls him and in a mysterious way heralds the coming victory over evil and his restoration from his fall... (CCC 410)

The Fourth Council of the Lateran celebrated in Rome in 1215, declared: "We firmly believe and confess without reservation that there is lonely one true God, eternal, infinite and unchangeable, incomprehensible, almighty, and ineffable, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, three persons indeed, but one essence, substance or nature entirely simple". DS 800. (CCC 202)

Questions for discussion:

- How would you define God?
- Of God's qualities mentioned in the Catechism (one, almighty, unchangeable, just, faithful, merciful, etc.), which one is closer to your heart or you like it best? Explain your answer.
- In the Bible we read "God created man in his image... male and female he created them" Gn 1:27), in what sense are you God's image? How are you challenged knowing that you are God's image?
- When God confronts Adam and Eve in Paradise for their disobedience, Adam blames Eve and Eve blames the serpent. Who do you blame for your failures?

Further reading: Catechism of the Catholic Church, numbers 185-421

