



Did You Know?

December 5, 2021

Advent is a time of preparation – preparation for the celebration of Jesus coming at Christmas and preparation for when Jesus comes again. This Advent season, we are going to focus on the later by exploring the Creed.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we will focus on the Creeds as being Trinitarian – of the Trinity. For our purposes today, we will focus on the Nicene Creed and the Catechism.

Have you ever noticed the Nicene Creed is divide into paragraphs or stanzas? Three of these stanzas concentrate on one of the three persons of the Trinity – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

“Our profession of faith begins with God, for God is the First and the Last, the beginning and the end of everything. The Credo begins with God the Father, for the Father is the first divine person of the Most Holy Trinity; our Creed begins with the creation of heaven and earth, for creation is the beginning and the foundation of all God's works.” (CCC 198)

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

In Hebrew, the name Jesus means "God saves". God created us, only God can save us. God saves us through the person of Jesus Christ.

“Moved by the grace of the Holy Spirit and drawn by the Father, we believe in Jesus and confess: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' On the rock of this faith confessed by St. Peter, Christ built his Church.” (CCC 424)

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

“The Holy Spirit is at work with the Father and the Son from the beginning to the completion of the plan for our salvation. But in these ‘end times,’ ushered in by the Son's redeeming Incarnation, the Spirit is revealed and given, recognized and welcomed as a person. Now can this divine plan, accomplished in Christ, the firstborn and head of the new creation, be embodied in mankind by the outpouring of the Spirit.” (CCC 686)

The fourth stanza of the Nicene Creed is about the Church, into which we all entered through Baptism.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

"This is the sole Church of Christ, which in the Creed we profess to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic."...The Church does not possess them of herself; it is Christ who, through the Holy Spirit, makes his Church one, holy, catholic, and apostolic, and it is he who calls her to realize each of these qualities. (CCC 811)

And we end our profession of faith with “Amen” – I believe.

