



DIPPING INTO THE CATECHISM

From the Compendium of the Catechism: 59 – 66

WHAT DID GOD CREATE?

Sacred Scripture says, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). The Church claims that God is the Creator of everything, visible and invisible³, of all spiritual and corporeal beings, that is, of angels and of the visible world and, in a special way, of man and woman.

WHO ARE THE ANGELS?

The angels are purely spiritual creatures, incorporeal, invisible, immortal, and personal beings endowed with intelligence and will. They ceaselessly contemplate God face-to-face and they glorify him. They serve Him and are His messengers in the accomplishment of His saving mission. Christ is the centre of the angelic world. (Catechism paragraphs 328 to 336 for more information)

IN WHAT WAY ARE ANGELS PRESENT IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH?

The Church joins with the angels in adoring God, invokes their assistance and commemorates some in her liturgy.



“Beside each believer stands an angel as a protector and shepherd leading him to life.”
St Basil the Great

WHAT DOES SACRED SCRIPTURE TEACH ABOUT THE CREATION OF THE VISIBLE WORLD?

Through the account of the “six days” of creation Sacred Scripture teaches us the value of the created world and its purpose, namely, to praise God and to serve humanity. Every single thing owes its very existence to God

from whom it receives its goodness and perfection, its proper laws and its proper place in the universe.

WHAT IS THE PLACE OF THE HUMAN PERSON IN CREATION?

The human person is the summit of visible creation in as much as he or she is created in the image and likeness of God.

WHAT KIND OF BOND EXISTS BETWEEN CREATED THINGS?

There exists an interdependence and a hierarchy among creatures as willed by God. At the same time, there is also a unity and solidarity among creatures since all have the same Creator, are loved by Him and are ordered to His glory. Respecting the laws inscribed in creation and the relations which derive from the nature of things is, therefore, a principle of wisdom and a foundation for morality.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WORK OF CREATION AND THE WORK OF REDEMPTION?

The work of creation culminates in the still greater work of redemption, which in fact gives rise to a new creation in which everything will recover its true meaning and fulfilment.

THE IMAGE OF GOD AND MAN: IN WHAT SENSE DO WE UNDERSTAND MAN AND WOMAN AS CREATED “IN THE IMAGE OF GOD”?

The human person is created in the image of God in the sense that he or she is capable of knowing and of loving their creator in freedom. Human beings are the only creatures on earth that God has willed for their own sake and has called to share, through knowledge and love, in His own divine life. All human beings, in as much as they are created in the image of God, have the dignity of a person. A person is not something but someone, capable of self-knowledge and of freely giving himself and entering into communion with God and with other persons.

It is essential that every Catholic has access to good Catechesis to be able to deepen their faith. The Diocese of Plymouth invests in the best possible resources to help you and if you would like more information on weekly sessions please contact: deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk