

Chapter 1

Our Loving Creator

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1)

Let's Pray

God, we praise You and thank You for creating the world! We love You and promise to respect the gift of creation always. Amen.

Our parents provide for our needs out of love.

Let's Proclaim the Good News

God created the world out of love for us.



LESSON 1

Let's Learn about God's Word

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”

(Genesis 1:1.) He formed day and night. He formed the sea, sky, and land. He filled the sky with the sun, moon, and stars. He filled the sea with vegetation, fish, and birds. He filled the land with animals and man. **“On the seventh day God finished his work which he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done”** (2:2).



Creation is everything God has made. God created out of love. Creation shows God's love for us. Everything God created is good. He created the world with order. Order makes everything work together.

God Created the World

The pictures below show God's creation. Circle whether it is "Good" or "Not Good."



The sky is
Good / Not Good.



The beetle is
Good / Not Good.



The sea is
Good / Not Good.



The puppy is
Good / Not Good.



The shark is
Good / Not Good.



A person is
Good / Not Good.

Faith Challenge

We show our love for God by caring for His creation. Ask your parents what you can do at home to help take care of God's creation.

LESSON 2



The Invisible World

God is our Creator. God created the world out of nothing. He created the visible world. We can see the visible world. Humans are part of the visible world. We have bodies and souls.

God also created the invisible world, which we cannot see. **Angels** are God's creatures too. They are pure spirit. They cannot be seen. They are part of God's invisible creation. In **Heaven**, we will be perfectly happy with God and all the angels and saints forever.

Angels and Humans

Use the words in the box to fill out the chart below.
Place the words in the correct column.

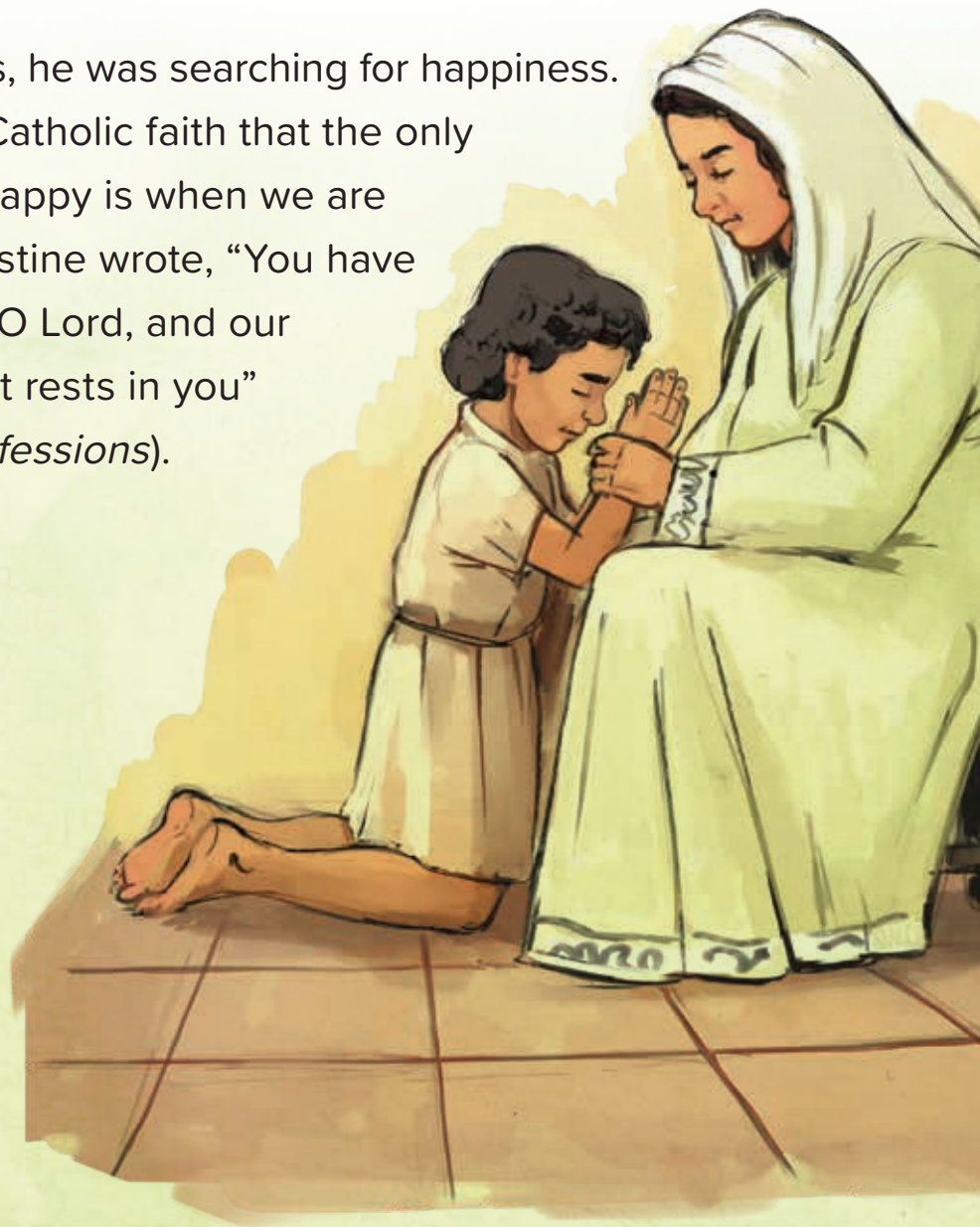
invisible visible arms
body and soul pure spirit

Humans	Angels

Saint Augustine

Augustine was born on November 13, 354. His parents were Monica and Patricius. His mother was a Christian. His father was not. Augustine was not baptized as a child. His mother taught him about the faith. As a child, Augustine spent much of his time speaking with priests and Christian teachers.

Just as everyone does, he was searching for happiness. He learned from the Catholic faith that the only way we can be truly happy is when we are with God. Later, Augustine wrote, “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you” (Saint Augustine, *Confessions*).



Faith Challenge

If your heart is ever restless, open it to God and He will give you peace and happiness.

LESSON 3

The Blessed Trinity

A mystery is a belief we cannot fully understand. Through faith, we can come to understand more about the mysteries of God. God reveals the mystery of the Blessed Trinity to us.

The **Blessed Trinity** is one God in three Divine Persons. The Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God Himself is a perfect communion of love: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Communion** is a sharing or exchange of love. God created us to share in His love.



One God in Three Persons

Add arrows to show the love between each Divine Person of the Blessed Trinity. Then fill in the blanks.

Mystery of the Blessed Trinity



There is _____ God in three Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity.

God Himself—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—is a perfect _____ of love.

Faith Challenge

When we love God and others, we do something for their good. Make a sacrifice of love for someone you love.



LESSON 4

God Shares His Love

God's life and love in our souls is called **grace**. God shares grace with us. Grace is a free gift. With grace, we receive virtues. A virtue strengthens us to be holy. Virtue helps us do what is good. When we are baptized, we receive grace. We also receive theological virtues called faith, hope, and charity. Faith helps us believe in God and what He teaches. With hope, we can trust in God and His plan of love. With charity, we can love as God loves. Through charity, we love God above all else. We can also love others as God loves them.

The Theological Virtues

Fill in the blanks.

Faith gives us strength to

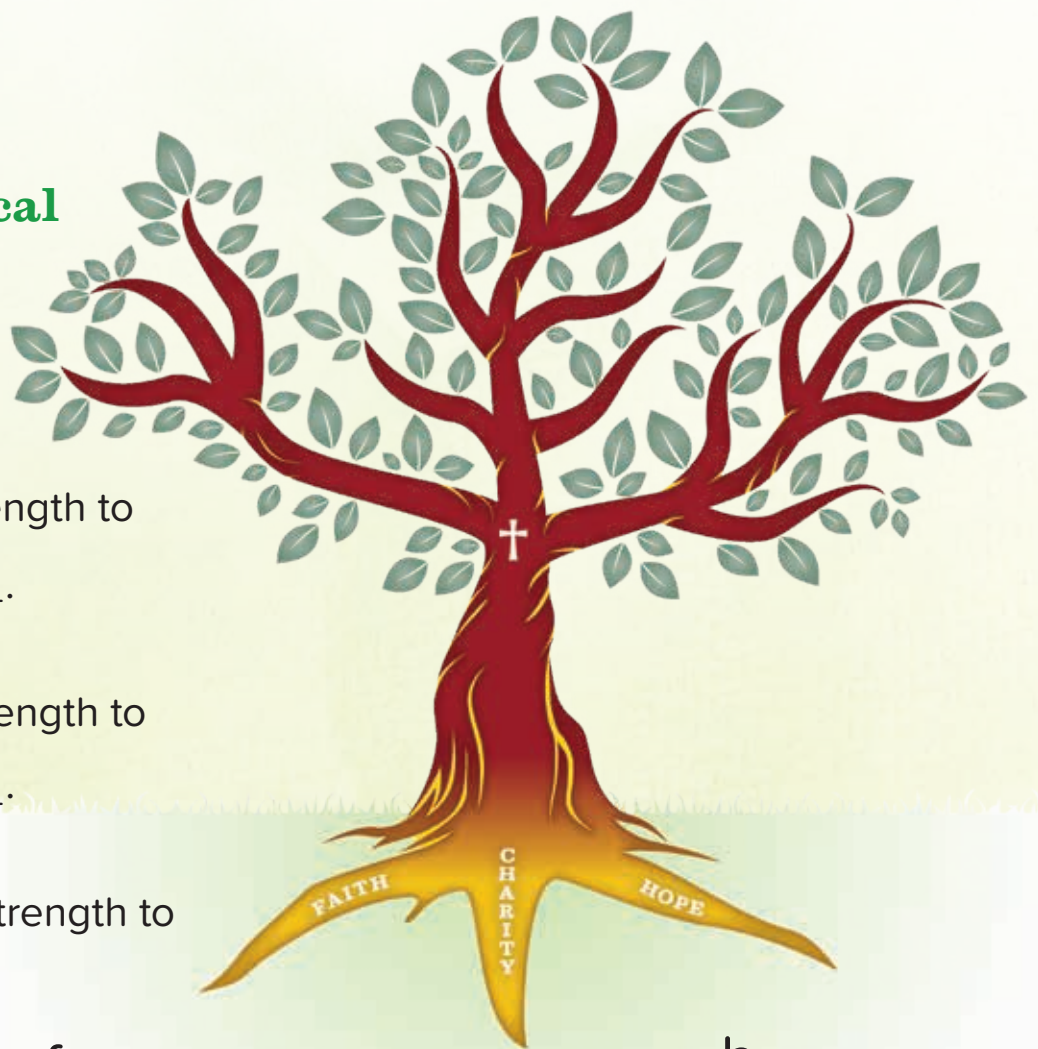
_____.

Hope gives us strength to

_____.

Charity gives us strength to

_____.



f _____

h _____

C _____

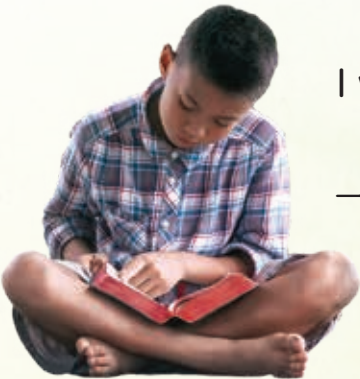
Faith Alive: Strength to Be Holy

Finish each sentence. Write what you will do to live with each virtue.



I will believe and live with faith by

_____.



I will trust and live with hope by

_____.



I will love and live with charity by

_____.

Did You Know?

“Theo” means something of God. Faith, hope, and charity are *theological* virtues. They are from God, and they lead us back to God!

REVIEW



Chapter 1 Review: Our Loving Creator

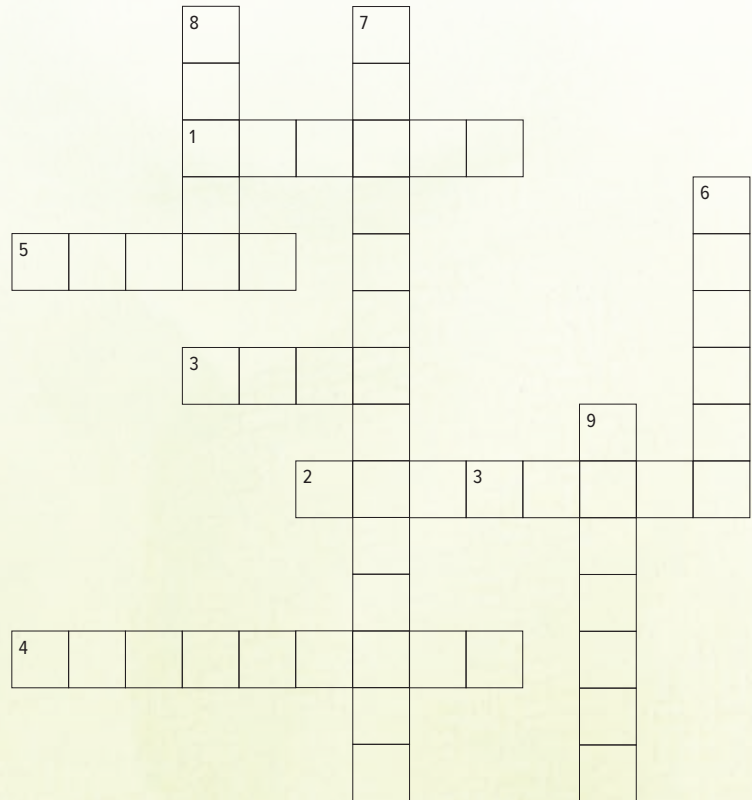
Fill in the crossword puzzle using the fill-in-the-blank answers from the sentences below.

Across

- God created _____. They are pure spirit.
- _____ is everything that God has made.
- Everything God created is _____.
- The Blessed Trinity is one God. He is a _____ of love.
- God created the world with _____.

Down

- We will be perfectly happy with God forever in _____.
- The _____ is one God in three Divine Persons.
- _____ is the free gift of God's life and love in us.
- God gave us three theological _____ at our Baptism. These are faith, hope, and charity.



Think about the following question. Then answer it in your own words.
Write in complete sentences. Why did God create the world?

GABRIEL'S QUEST



Gabriel walked into the room and was shocked by what he saw.

Read the full *Gabriel's Quest* story on the student or parent portal.

FAMILY FAITH

Chapter 1: Our Loving Creator

God created the world out of love for us.

Chapter Summary

God is our Creator. He created everything, visible and invisible, out of nothing. All of God's creation is good and is meant to reveal to us who God is. God is a Blessed Trinity, "one God in three persons" (CCC 253). The Blessed Trinity is "an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (CCC 221). God created us to share His love with us so we can love Him and love others. God shares His love with us through the gift of grace and the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity. The theological virtues are given to us so that we can be holy children of God and do what is good.

More for Parents

It can be difficult to wrap our own minds around, much less explain to our children, the communion of love that is the Blessed Trinity. Although human love is imperfect, with God's grace and the virtues He gives us, we can love others as the Blessed Trinity loves. God gives Himself perfectly out of love. We have opportunities to do this every day. Whether it is cleaning up milk spills or cheering up a hurt child, unselfish love is built into a parent's day. Invite God into these moments and ask Him to help you love as He loves.

Virtue in the Family

We know from experience that nothing in this world can give us everlasting happiness. All pleasures and joys in this life pass away. Only in God can we find complete and supreme happiness.

Growing in Love and Happiness

- Prayer activity: As a family, pray and reflect on Jesus' words: "Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).
 - Spend a few minutes in silence, asking God for grace and more of the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

- Have every family member share one example of how giving himself in love to others has made him happy.
- Conclude by praying Psalm 37:4–5 together.
- Remind your children of the meaning of love: a desire or action for the good of another. Give examples of making sacrifices for one another.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **angels**
- **Blessed Trinity**
- **communion**
- **creation**
- **grace**
- **Heaven**

Find digital flash cards to help your children review on the parent portal.



For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.