

Chapter 1

Created In God's Image



“God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” (Genesis 1:27)

Let's Pray

God, You created us to know You and to love You. We want to know You better. We want to love You more and more. We ask for the grace and virtue we need to be with You forever in Heaven. Amen.

*How are you an image
of your mom or dad?*

Let's Proclaim the Good News

God created man and woman in His image and likeness.



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.

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.



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

_____.

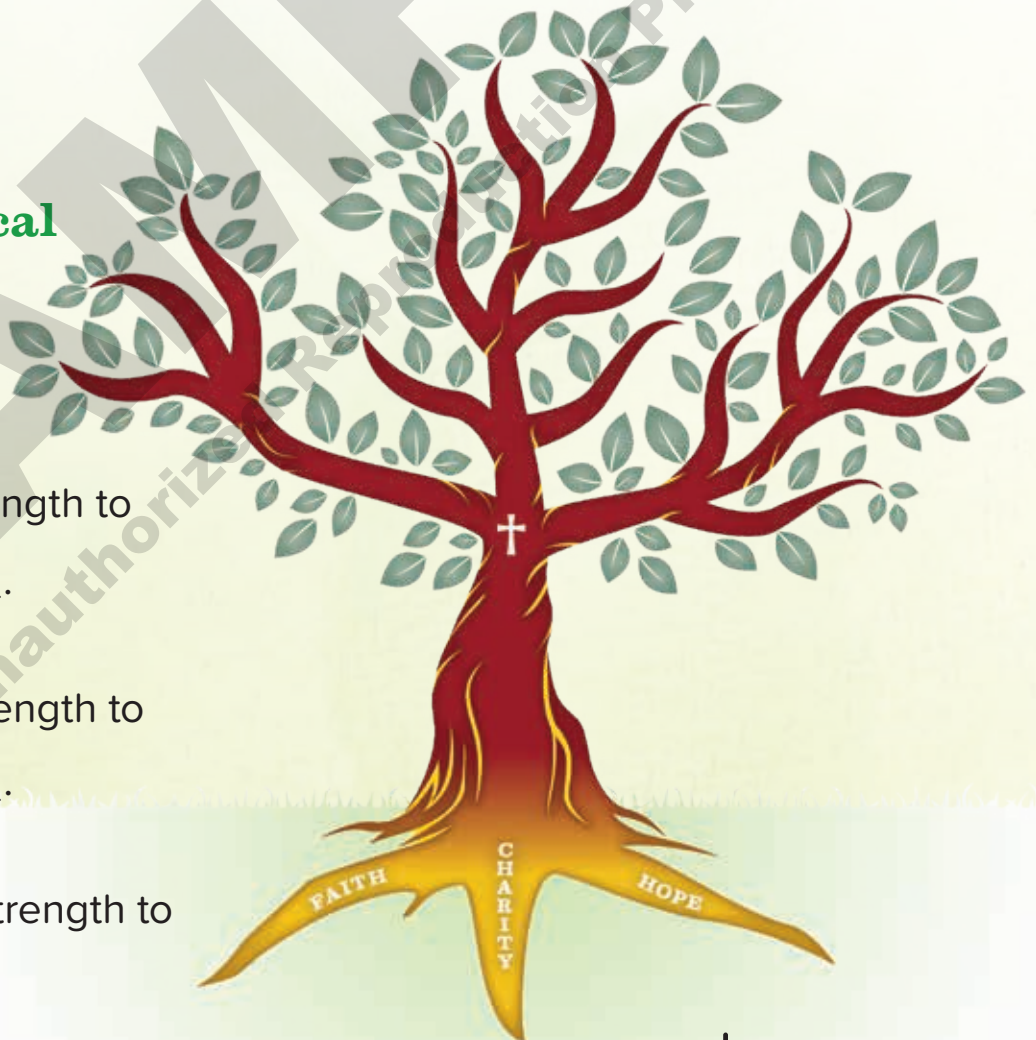
Charity gives us strength to

_____.

f _____

h _____

C _____



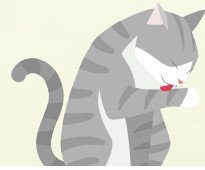
In God's Image

All **human persons** are created in the **image of God**. We are created in God's image to be like God. We are created to share in God's love. God created human persons with a body and a soul. Our **souls** give us life. Human persons have rational souls that make us able to think, choose, and love. God gave us rational souls so we can make choices that lead us to Him. The unity of our bodies and souls is what makes us human persons.

Only human persons have rational souls. Our souls set us apart and make us different from the rest of visible creation.

Levels of Creation

Fill in the blanks.

 <p>I am not alive.</p> <p>r _____</p>	 <p>I am alive, and I can grow.</p> <p>p _____</p>	 <p>I am alive, and I can grow, see, smell, hear, and move around.</p> <p>a _____</p>	 <p>I am alive, and I can grow, see, smell, hear, and move around. I can also think, choose, and love.</p> <p>h _____</p> <p>p _____</p>
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Friendship with God

Adam and Eve were the first man and woman. They had a loving friendship with God. God gave them grace to live in harmony. Harmony means everything works together perfectly. Adam and Eve were truly happy and joyful. Adam and Eve lived in harmony within themselves. They lived in harmony with each other. They lived in harmony with all of creation.

With grace and the virtue of charity, we can love God above all things. Charity helps us live in true harmony with others.



Harmony with God and Others

Fill in the blanks.

all of creation each other themselves
friendship harmony

Adam and Eve had a loving _____ with God.

They lived in harmony within _____.

This means their hearts were full of love, joy, and happiness.

Adam and Eve lived in harmony with _____.

This means they loved each other perfectly.

Adam and Eve lived in harmony with _____.

This means they took good care of the earth. They even got along with the tigers and bears!

When we love one another with charity, we live in _____.



Faith Challenge

We make choices every day. Always ask God to help you make choices that lead to harmony with others.

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. Just as everyone does, he was searching for happiness.

As Augustine grew older, he refused to listen to his mother. He began to spend time with people who led him away from God. His friends told him to do things that were wrong.

One night when Augustine was sixteen years old, he and his friend stole pears from a local garden. He did not steal the pears because he was hungry. He stole them so his friends would like him. He stole them because it made him feel good.

Young Augustine loved being liked by his friends more than he loved God. As he grew older, Augustine began to see that this was wrong.

Faith Challenge

Begin each day by asking God to strengthen the virtue of charity in you.



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: Created in God's Image

Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences below.

Blessed Trinity

communion

charity

soul

friendship

good

image

grace

human

creation

virtues

order

1. Adam and Eve were created in loving _____ with God and each other.
2. _____ is everything that God has made.
3. All human persons were created in the _____ of God.
4. Everything God created is _____.
5. A _____ person has a body and soul.
6. The part of a human person that gives him life is the _____. It gives a human person the ability to think, choose, and love.
7. The Blessed Trinity is one God. He is a _____ of love.
8. God created the world with _____.
9. The _____ is one God in three Divine Persons.
10. _____ is the free gift of God's life and love in us.
11. God gave us three theological _____ at our Baptism. These are faith, hope, and charity.
12. With the virtue of _____, we can love God. With this virtue, we can also love others like God loves them.



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: Created in God's Image

God created man and woman in His own image and likeness.

Chapter Summary

God is our Creator and 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.

All human persons are created in God's image and likeness, to love like God loves. God created us with a rational soul, which gives us the ability to love, to think, and to make choices. Adam and Eve were created in friendship with God. The grace and virtues they received from their friendship with God allowed them to live in harmony within themselves, with each other, and with all of creation.

More for Parents

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

The theological virtue of charity makes it possible for us to love like God loves with total self-giving love. Prayer, fasting, and tithing are all ways that children learn to live with the virtue of charity by watching their parents.

Modeling Charity for Your Children

- Gather as a family and pray together using these words: "God, You created us for happiness. You created us to be with You in Heaven. We ask for the grace and virtue to love You."
 - Have everyone spend a few moments in silence, thinking about what it will be like to see God face-to-face in Heaven.
 - Conclude by praying an Act of Charity such as "My God, I love You above all things with my whole heart and soul because You are all-good and worthy of all my love."
- As parents, establish your own "rule of life" for prayer. Spend fifteen minutes a day in silent prayer, meditating on a Scripture passage, writing of a saint, attribute of God, etc. This will demonstrate a daily commitment to prayer.
- Take a walk as a family and teach your children that all of creation is a beautiful gift that shows God's love for us. When we live with charity, God makes us beautiful gifts to others.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Blessed Trinity**
- **communion**
- **creation**
- **grace**
- **human person**
- **image of God**
- **soul**

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



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