

The Profession of Faith (Creed, Pt. 1)

Fall 2025 Confirmation Prep Session #1 – Home Make-Up Session

Our Origins: God, Creation & the Fall

○ **God the Father/The Trinity Intro:**

- Tonight we're going to talk about the greatest question you will ever ask in your life. How you answer this will change the entire course of your life – how you answer this will change the course of history. This question has eternal significance for each and every one of us. And that question is... WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?
- We Believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth
- DISCUSS: *What was your image of God as a child?*
- DISCUSS: *Who is God to you now? Has that image changed and if so, how?*
- These images can be helpful to us in trying to imagine God, who defies our comprehension. But they're very limited – the truth is, God is so much more massive and more powerful than anything we can conceive. God is EXISTENCE ITSELF.
- So our goal tonight is to try to put some of these images we've had of God on the sideline, and open ourselves up to the great mystery and power of who God really is.

○ **VIDEO:** [Someone has Come to Fight \(0:00-7:48\)](#)

- DISCUSS: *What did you hear Fr. John saying is our Catholic belief about Creation and Genesis?*

○ **Faith/Science Teaching Review:**

- **Catholics are NOT Biblical literalists.** The Bible is a collection of different types of literature that reveal the Divine Truth of God.
- It's divinely inspired, but written by human beings in different styles, times, and perspectives.
- **Genesis is a book of divinely inspired poetry that reveals TRUTH without being LITERALLY TRUE.** It's an allegory that reveals the meaning of creation, NOT the literal explanation of the material, historical, or scientific ordering of Creation.
- **The Big Bang Theory, evolution, etc. are all compatible with our Catholic beliefs;** Big Bang actually originated from a Catholic priest (Fr. Georges Lemaitre, a Belgian Catholic priest, theoretical physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and professor of physics).
- **The vast majority of people tend to think that science and religion are opposed to one another. But in reality, only 11% of Americans belong to**

a religion that denies that findings of modern science. (Catholics are not one of those religions – we love science!) In fact, the majority of scientists also believe in a God or higher power.

- **Science can tell us how the world IS, but it can't tell us why the world exists, or how the world ought to be.** They are answering different questions; how vs. why. The tools used to create atomic bombs have been used to provide a cure for polio. So science is just a tool that can be used for good or evil.
- **We need other tools to understand the truths about the world that science cannot discover – faith is one of those tools. We would argue that faith is the PRIMARY tool for our deepest questions regarding our existence.**
- When people say “Science contradicts faith” they usually think of faith as “believing in something without evidence.”
- **But faith, in the broad sense, is just a kind of trust we have in another person or thing.**
- **ALL PEOPLE HAVE SOME DEGREE OF FAITH IN SOMETHING. Even atheists!** Faith in humanity. Faith in love. Faith in the material world. In fact it takes more faith to not believe in God (creation came from nothing) than to believe IN God.
- **But we look at faith, in the religious sense, as “Trust in God's promise based on evidence and God's experience of revelation.”**
- In fact, as humans we are made to have faith in something, to worship something, because we naturally understand that we are not the be-all and end-all. There is something greater. If we don't worship God, we will worship something else: science, politics, sports, celebrities, etc. This is why God wants us to worship Him, why one of the precepts is to go to Mass every Sunday. Not because He is selfish, egotistical, etc., but because if we don't worship Him, we will worship something else, something lesser, that will inevitably fail us.
- As Catholics, we place our trust in God. We believe the universe has a beginning, and must have an immaterial cause that exists beyond space and time. We believe the universe exists because a Creator set it into motion. We believe that this Creator - God - has revealed Himself to us, has a purpose for our lives, and sustains our existence.
- **IN SHORT. It's reasonable to have faith. Faith is not at odds with science.**
- **Science is an incredible tool to help us understand and observe the material world. It can reveal how something came to be, but it cannot answer WHY.**

- ***Faith helps us to understand WHY this material world exists, and directs how we ought to live within this world. Science and faith go hand in hand.***
- ***DISCUSS: Have you heard this before? Or does this shift your perspective at all?***
- **THE FALL**
 - Okay so we believe God exists, set Creation into motion, made us in His image, and it all started out good. But if God is love, then why is there so much suffering and pain in the world?
 - VIDEO: [Someone has come to fight 07:48-12:03](#)
 - ***DISCUSS: What does Fr. John say is the reason why everything got so messed up? Why is Satan at war with human beings? What is Satan's key strategy? And what is God's response?***
- **Meaning of Suffering Teaching Review**
 - God did not desire death for us. His original plan was one of union with Him – the Garden of Eden was meant to be our primary reality. But then the Fall happened. Satan attacked us, out of envy, and the primary sin the first humans committed during the fall was our distrust of God.
 - Satan's strategy is to try to convince us that God isn't who He says He is. That He doesn't exist. That we don't need Him. That we can handle things on our own.
 - This has put us into a position of need – enslavement to sin, and the need for redemption. We are now permanently at war with Satan.
 - But God responded. And His response was the most unexpected of all.
 - **MORE ON THIS IN OUR HOMEWORK.**

Our challenge this month is to pray for 5 minutes a day. That's it! This is less than 1% of your day (1% would be 14 minutes and 24 seconds). For some, this maybe be totally new to you, and you might wonder how to spend that time. Some of you may already be committed to 15 minutes of daily prayer. Wherever you are, it's okay. This is your invitation to simply take a step.