

God the Creator

- The first chapter of the Book of Genesis in the Bible describes the creation of the world in seven days. Sacred Scripture introduces us to God the Creator—the maker of everything, who himself is uncreated.
- God always was and always will be – He is eternal. God created “Heaven and earth,” that is, all that is, seen and unseen, the entire material universe in which we reside, as well as every spiritual being who inhabits the Heavenly places.
- Nothing exists apart from him and everything that he creates is good (see Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31).
- Everything that exists owes its being to the Creator who brought it into existence out of nothing, without any help whatsoever, and holds it in existence from moment to moment by nothing other than his own loving and abiding will (see 2 Mac. 7:28).
- He does not need to create us because he is lonely or in need of our love. Rather, God creates out of his goodness and superabundant love. The creation of 'man' is the crown of God's creation
- What does this mean for us? The fact that God is our Creator means that we owe him everything and are bound in justice to obey him. We were not created out of any necessity. God is infinitely perfect and blessed in himself and has no need of creatures. He is totally happy with or without us.
- “You did clothe me with skin and flesh, and knit me together with bones and sinews. You have granted me life and steadfast love. (Job 10:11-12).
- If God were to stop willing our existence for an instant, we would not simply die but actually cease to be. Were God to withhold his providence, we could not survive for even a moment.
- Consequently, we are utterly in God’s power and are entirely dependent upon him both now and forever. As Saint Paul says: “In him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28).
- This shatters any idea we may have of independence or self-sufficiency. We are entirely dependent on Divine Providence, who guides us with wisdom and love.
- God blessed our first parents and commanded them to “be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth” (Gen. 1:28).

- We particularly participate in God's creative work in bringing new life into the world. The gifts of masculinity and femininity enable man and woman to become "one flesh" (Gen. 2:24) and are capable of the greatest possible gift, that of becoming co-operators with God in the creation of a new human being.
- God has given humankind the power to participate in his creative work in other ways as well. This is clearly seen in the myriad of human enterprises and accomplishments: the great masterpieces of literature, art, music, and architecture; the great growth in our understanding of the physical laws of God's universe.
- God also entrusted to us stewardship of the created world. Stewardship of creation is not only a great blessing but also a grave responsibility.

Questions

1. *Every Sunday at Mass we proclaim in the Creed that is the Creator of Heaven and Earth. Many scientists argue against this belief that Science can explain everything. Discuss!*
2. *As Stewards of God's creation are we doing enough to protect the environment? Is global warming taken seriously?*
3. *The serpent in the book of Genesis suggested to Adam and Eve that they should ignore God's command not to eat the fruit of a certain tree. Is not this the root of all sin i.e. to live our lives without reference to God?*