



WHY DO WE HAVE A CREED & BELIEVE CERTAIN THINGS?



GOSPEL



ANSWERS

JESUS SAID, "WE SPEAK OF WHAT WE KNOW AND WE TESTIFY TO WHAT WE HAVE SEEN, BUT YOU PEOPLE DO NOT ACCEPT OUR TESTIMONY. IF I TELL YOU ABOUT EARTHLY THINGS AND YOU DO NOT BELIEVE, HOW WILL YOU BELIEVE IF I TELL YOU ABOUT HEAVENLY THINGS? NO ONE HAS GONE UP TO HEAVEN EXCEPT THE ONE WHO HAS COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, THE SON OF MAN."
- JOHN 3:1-21

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

ST MICHAEL OF ECUADOR

St Michael of Ecuador gave up riches to become a teacher because of his love for the faith. He was known to be a gifted in educating young people and even published text books. People would say that he showed a strong foundation in his faith, both to his students and the Brothers with whom he lived.



BLESSED JAKOB GAPP

Blessed Jakob took seriously the responsibility of understanding our creed and what we believe, and helping others to fully understand it. This is what ultimately caused the Nazi regime to see him as a threat and imprison and kill him.



TEAM DISCUSSION

After reading over the YOUCAT numbers on the following pages, how do you think the Youth Catechism answers the question of the week? Were there any words or ideas that you did not fully understand that you would like to understand better?

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS:



YOUCAT NUMBERS FOR THIS WEEK



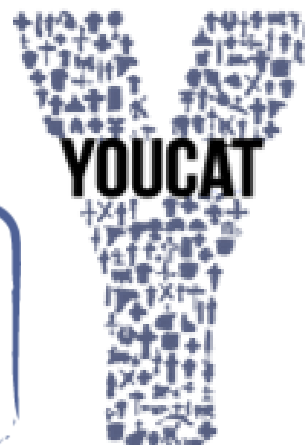
#26: WHAT ARE CREEDS? Creeds are brief formulas of faith that make it possible for all believers to make a common profession. Brief formulas of this kind can be found already in the letters of St. Paul. The early Christian Apostles' Creed has a special dignity, because it is thought to be a summary of the faith of the Apostles. The Nicene Creed is highly esteemed because it resulted from the great councils of the Church when she was still undivided (Nicaea, 325; Constantinople, 381) and is to this day the common basis for the Christian in the East and the West.

#27: HOW DID THE CREEDS COME ABOUT? The creeds go back to Jesus, who commanded his disciples to baptize. In doing so, they were to require of the people seeking Baptism the profession of a definite faith, namely, faith in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Trinity). The original cell from which all later Creeds grew is the profession of faith in Jesus the Lord and in his missionary mandate. He told his apostles, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28:19). All the creeds of the Church are elaborations of the faith in this Triune God. Each of them begins with a profession of faith in the Father, the Creator and preserver of the world, then refers to the Son, through whom the world and we ourselves have found redemption, and concludes with a profession of faith in the Holy Spirit, who is the presence of God in the Church and in the world.

#28: WHAT DOES THE APOSTLES' CREED SAY? I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



CONQUEST WEEKLY ACTIVITY GUIDE



#172: HOW MANY SACRAMENTS ARE THERE, AND WHAT ARE THEIR NAMES?

The Church has seven Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

#360: WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE SIGN OF THE CROSS? Through the Sign of the Cross we place ourselves under the protection of the Triune God. At the beginning of the day, at the beginning of a prayer, but also at the beginning of important undertakings, a Christian makes the Sign of the Cross over himself and thus starts his business "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". We are surrounded on all sides by the Triune God; calling upon him by name sanctifies the things we set out to do; it obtains Blessings for us and strengthens us in difficulties and temptations.

#29: WHAT DOES THE NICENE (NICENE-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN) CREED SAY?

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.