

Class One: De Trinitate – Concerning the Trinity

To know God is to love God. We can only love what we know. This section will help us to understand, believe, and proclaim the Triune God as revealed in Creation, Sacred Scripture the Apostolic Tradition, and as entrusted to the Magisterium of the Church.

- I. **God Exist** (CCCC 3)
 - A. The Existence of God is knowable from Reason alone. However, to arrive at the full notion of the Triune God of Revelation, faith is needed.
 - B. The Unmoved Mover: The Big Bang, to move the singularity from potency to action, requires an independent, free, agent. Gravity is a law, not an agent. Thus, Hawkings is wrong, since a law is a definition concerning nature from within the natural world, a mere description, and a law is incapable of agency. Thus, gravity could not have brought about the big bang.
 - C. We experience God in holiness and love.
- II. **The Trinity: Love is Relationship** (CCC 234, 253-256, 290-293)
 - A. God is a unity of 3 Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (CCC 234, 252, 257-60)
 1. God the Creator, The Redeemer and the Sanctifier (CCC 279, 302, 430, 457, 601, 692, 703, 731, 739)
 - B. The Athanasian Creed – expresses the relationships between the three persons of the Trinity.
- III. **The Father: Creator of Heaven and Earth**
 - A. Creation ex nihilo
 - B. The Big Bang Theory
 - C. Creation is “Very Good (Gen. 1: 31)” – What did God create?
 - D. The Fall – Original Sin (CCC 279-280, 288, 290, 738-740) (LG 2-4)
- IV. **The Holy Spirit: The Gift of Love and Spirit of Truth – Soul of the Church**
 - A. The Gift of the Love coming from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the nexus of God the Father’s love for God the Son and God the Son’s response of love given back to God the Father.
 - B. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth which proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 - C. The Holy Spirit is to the Church what the soul is to a human body – the Holy Spirit animates the life of the Church.