

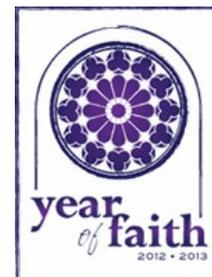
Year of Faith Retreat – Week 1, Day 1: God’s Revealing Moments

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Welcome to our online summer retreat, **Preparing for a Year of Faith!** Take a few minutes each day at your convenience to “gather” here on my blog as we seek to add some flavor to our faith lives by deepening our understanding of the truths of our faith as given to us in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.



Learn more about the Year of Faith. Watch a brief video explaining what this online retreat is all about.

WEEK ONE: The Creed

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xglH2jMrdds>

DAY 1: God’s Revealing Moments (Human Desire, Revelation, and Faith)

Think of a time when someone revealed a deep secret about themselves to you. What a privilege to have someone bare their soul to us. Moments like that can change the relationship and change the people in the relationship.

We can only get to really know people when they choose to reveal themselves to us. Each of us has an innate desire to come to know God better. Luckily, God is not shy about revealing himself to us! Since the creation of the world, God has been freely revealing himself to us so that we can come to know him better. That’s what we mean when we talk about *revelation*—it is the act of God revealing himself to us so as to enter into a deeper relationship with us. What a privilege for us! We summarize this revelation in our Creed, which is the first pillar of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Take a look at some or all of the following Scripture stories in which God reveals himself to his people. Which of these stories resonates with you most? Why?

- [Genesis 12:1–9 \(the call of Abram\)](#)
- [Exodus 3: 1–14 \(the call of Moses\)](#)
- [Isaiah 6:1–10 \(the call of Isaiah\)](#)
- [Jeremiah 1:4–10 \(the call of Jeremiah\)](#)
- [Matthew 4:18–22 \(the call of the first disciples\)](#)
- [Luke 1: 26–38 \(the call of Mary\)](#)
- [Acts of the Apostles 9:1–9 \(the call of Paul\)](#)

When God reveals himself to us, our lives change. We come to recognize that life is not about us but is rather about what God is doing in our lives. This realization calls us to respond with humility. It calls us to learn how to pray the words, “thy will be done.” Revelation calls us to be *aware* and *responsive* to God’s initiative. Since God’s very self has been and is being revealed to us, it means that we are called to pay attention to how and when that is happening so that we become capable of, as St. Ignatius of Loyola said, “finding God in all things.” Be sure to take the time today to pay attention to how God is revealing himself to you – in prayer, through others, through experiences, through the natural world.

Reflection Questions: Choose one of the following questions and share your thoughts with your fellow retreatants by adding your comments in the comments box below this post.

- Which Scripture passage above resonates most with your experience and why?
- How easy or hard is it for you to reveal yourself to others?
- How does it make you feel to know that God eagerly reveals himself to us?
- How has your life changed/is your life changing as a result of God revealing himself and his will to you?
- When was a time that God truly revealed his presence and/or will to you?
- How might God be trying to get your attention right now in your life?

Prayer

Lord, God, since before I was born, you have been longing to be in relationship with me. Help me to recognize the many ways you are revealing yourself to me and calling my name. Help me to respond to your invitation to love you by loving others. Please give me the grace I need to pray the words that your Son, Jesus, spoke in the Garden of Gethsemane: “your will be done.”

Additional Reading

- [Consciousness Examen](#)
- [God Wants Our Friendship](#)
- [Rummaging for God: Praying Backwards through Your Day](#)
- [Attention, Reverence, and Devotion](#)

CCC References: 26-100