

Chapter I – God’s Revelation

- God makes himself known through Divine Revelation—is God’s making himself known to us.
 - God makes himself known to us through his mighty deeds and his interaction with his people throughout time. He has revealed himself through firstly, creation of the first human beings and their descendants,
 - He reveals himself through acts of history and interacting with us.
 - Revelation has made it possible for humans to know God more deeply and to respond to him in a way that is otherwise not possible.
 - God’s Revelation is full and complete in his only Son, Jesus Christ. By sending his Son, God tells us what we need to know about himself.
 - Together with the Father, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to strengthen us. The Holy Spirit helps us respond to God’s great love for us. Through the Holy Spirit we are guided to understand God’s Revelation and to apply it in our lives.
 - God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit- The Blessed Trinity are the three persons in one God.

- God’s Revelation is handed down through the Bible and Tradition.
 - The Bible—the written record of God’s Revelation and his relationship with his people—is also referred to as *Sacred Scripture* or simply, *Scripture*.
 - The Bible had been shaped based on people’s living experiences of God.
 - The Bible, unlike any other book, has divine author, God, as well as many human authors or *biblical authors*.
 - The Bible is FREE from ERROR because God inspired those who wrote it.
 - The inspiration or special guidance that the Holy Spirit gave to the human writes of the Bible is known as Divine Inspiration.
 - Tradition is the Revelation of the Good News of Jesus Christ as lived out in the Church, past and present.
 - Tradition is the source of the Church’s ongoing understanding of the meaning of Revelation and the ways to apply it to our lives.
 - Including teaching and practices handed on orally from the time of Jesus and his apostles.
 - The Church has continued to share and build on the faith of the Apostles.
 - Scripture and tradition has been handed on by the Apostles to the whole Church. The bishops are the successors of the Apostles, with the pop as their head they form the *Magisterium*—the living, teaching office of the Church.

- The Bible is a collection of ancient writings about God.
 - There are 73 books that make up the Bible covering over 2,000 years.
 - Broken into 2 main parts—the Old Testament containing 46 books and the New Testament containing 27 books.
 - “Testament”- means agreement

- Old Testament - a collection of stories and teachings (agreement) between God and the Hebrews as revealed to them.
 - The first 5 books of the Old Testament also known *The Torah or Pentateuch*
 - Tells the story of God's love for His people until coming of Christ.
 - Begins with Creation story in the book of Genesis. Then goes onto the 4 major Patriarchs (Fathers of faith)—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
- New Testament- a collection of stories and teachings between God and His people based on the teachings and life of Jesus.
 - First part of the New Testament—4 Gospels (*Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*)
 - These stories are about the birth, life, teachings miracles, death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.
 - There are also letters of St. Paul and other writings of the Apostles and early Christians