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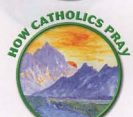
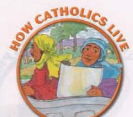
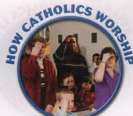
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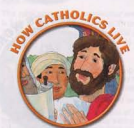


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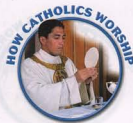


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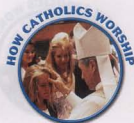


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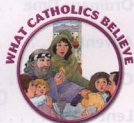
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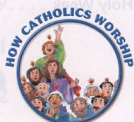


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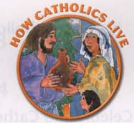


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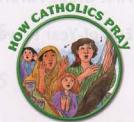


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Our Loving God

UNIT

2

Jesus taught us that we are all God's special children.
God has given us the gift of his wonderful Creation.
We thank God for all the gifts we have received.

Children, let us love one another.

Based on 1 John 4:7



Jesus went from town to town around the Sea of Galilee. He taught people about our loving God. When we show our love for others, we follow Jesus.



Come All You People

Words and Music by Alexander Gondo
Arranged by John L. Bell



Come all you peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er,



Come all you peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er,



Come all you peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er,



Come now and wor - ship the Lord.

Arrangement © 1994, The Iona Community: GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent.



Take Home



God Is Our Loving Father

We look around us at all that God created and see signs of a loving Father. God not only gave us the gift of life, but continues to care for us. In this chapter, the children will learn about God the Father's love for us and for all creation. They will discuss ways of caring for God's Creation and will pray a prayer of thanks.



ACTIVITY

Pick a Card Remove the fours, threes, twos, and aces from a deck of cards. Shuffle the removed cards and put them face down. Invite each family member to pick a card and to name that number of gifts from God. In other words, if a four is turned over, name four gifts; if an ace is turned over, name one gift.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

At Mass, we give thanks for all God's gifts. On the way to church, ask yourselves, "For what gifts are we thankful?"

On the Web

blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Saint Francis of Assisi
(About 1181–1226)

Francis experienced a conversion that led him to choose a simple lifestyle. The Gospel inspired him to follow Jesus with joy, even in suffering. Francis founded three religious orders. All members are asked to help the poor and to see God in all creation.

Patron Saint of : ecology
Feast Day: October 4



A Prayer for the Week

God, our Creator, we thank you for this wonderful world. Help us to be your partners in caring for the earth and all its creatures as Saint Francis did. Amen.

Getting ready for Chapter 5

Take Home



† Scripture Background

Before the Time of Jesus

Genesis and Creation Genesis, the first book of the Bible, tells the story of Creation and of God's encounter with his first people. The Genesis account was not intended to be a scientific or historical account of Creation. The authors of Genesis used the literary form of an allegory to reveal important truths about the nature of God. These truths include the preexistence of God, his wisdom and goodness, God's power through which all things are made, and the Creation of man and woman in God's own image and likeness. The truth that God created everything good is repeated over and over again in Genesis.

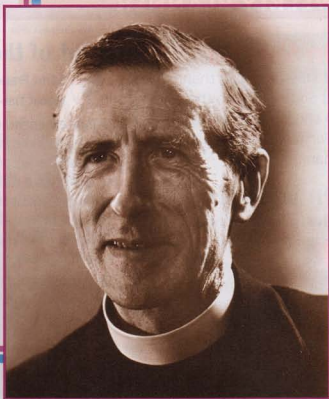
You can read about Creation in Genesis 1—2.



OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION

in Science

Teilhard de Chardin Many people think there is a conflict between believing in the Bible and believing in evolution. They believe that if God created the world, then evolution could not have taken place. A French Jesuit priest in the early twentieth century tried to help us see God's hand in the scientific universe. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin taught that evolution was the ongoing work of God. He once wrote that he wanted to teach people how to see God everywhere, even in the most hidden places in the world.



5 God Is Our Loving Father



O God, everything you made is wonderful!
Your love will last forever.

Based on Psalm 136:4

Share

God made all things.
All things show God's love.
Look at the picture.
Tell how each thing
shows God's love.



Draw something you like that
shows God's love.


How did
God create
the world?




Hear & Believe


† Scripture God Creates the World

God made the  and  at night.

God made the  for warmth and light.


And on the land, God planted .

while in the sky flew  and .

The  sprang up from the earth.

Sweet  and  came to birth.

The  and  swam in the seas.

And on the land were .

Soon  and  did appear,

with  and ,  and deer.

Based on Exodus 14 and 15

God's Wonderful World

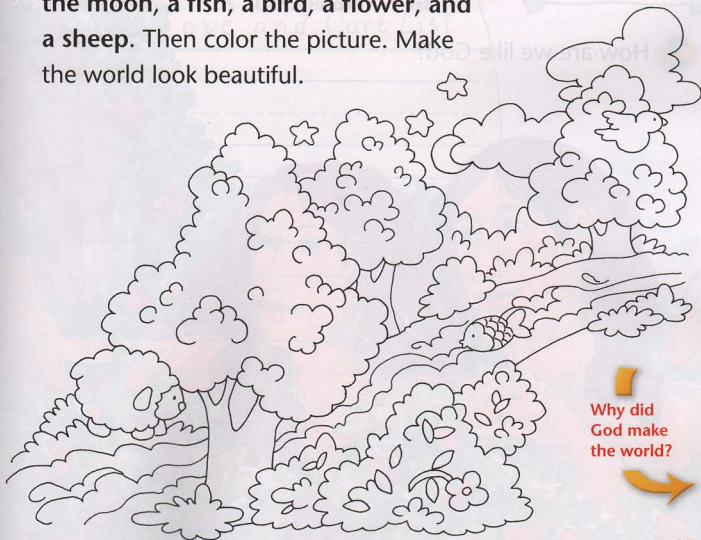
God created a beautiful world. He created the world and everything in it from nothing. God loves the animals, the plants, and everything that he made. Everything that God made is called **Creation**.

Faith Words

Creation

Creation is everything that God made.

Activity Five things that God created are hidden in the picture. Find and circle the moon, a fish, a bird, a flower, and a sheep. Then color the picture. Make the world look beautiful.



Why did
God make
the world?


Hear & Believe

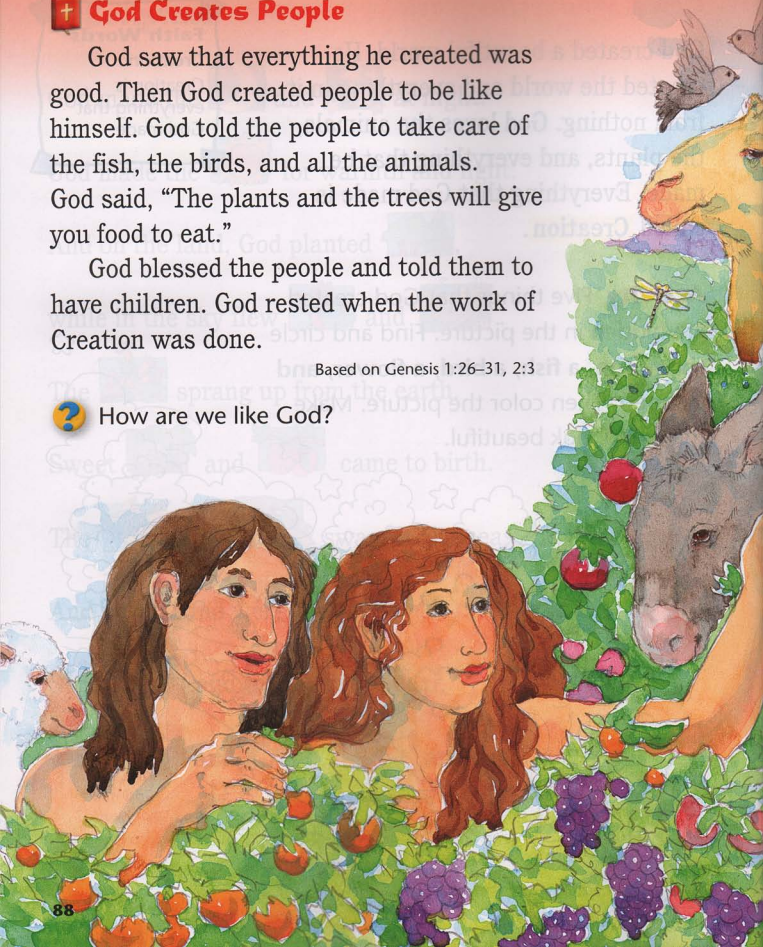
God Creates People

God saw that everything he created was good. Then God created people to be like himself. God told the people to take care of the fish, the birds, and all the animals. God said, "The plants and the trees will give you food to eat."

God blessed the people and told them to have children. God rested when the work of Creation was done.

Based on Genesis 1:26–31, 2:3

 How are we like God?



Our Church Teaches

God is our loving Father. He created everything in the world to show his love for us. God cares for us and for all Creation. God is our **Creator**.

We Believe

God created all things to show his love for us.

Faith Words

Creator

God is our Creator. God made everything in the world.

Activity God gives us special people to love and care for us. Write the names of people who love and care for you.

My Love and Care List

How can we care for God's Creation?

Respond

Caring for Creation

Anna liked to play in her yard. She liked the little flower garden. Best of all, Anna liked the statue of Saint Francis. Anna learned that Francis loved everything God created. Francis took good care of plants. He was kind to animals. He helped people in need.

Anna picked up her watering can. She said, "Thank you, God, for making our world." Then Anna began to water the flowers.



How did Anna care for God's Creation?



Activities

1. Draw yourself in the heart.
Think about how much God loves you.
2. Here are some ways we care for God's Creation.
Draw a line from each way to its matching picture.



Help people in need.



Be kind to animals.



Share God's gifts.



How can we thank God for loving us?



Prayer Celebration

Thank You, God!

We can say prayers of thanks. We can say "thank you" to God for creating the world. We can say "thank you" to God for creating us.

Leader: For the sun and moon.

All: **Thank you, God.**

Leader: For dry land, mountains, trees, and flowers.

All: **Thank you, God.**

Leader: For oceans and lakes, whales and fish.

All: **Thank you, God.**

Leader: For birds, frogs, horses, and butterflies.

All: **Thank you, God.**

Leader: For our families and for each of us.

All: **Thank you, God.**

- A** Complete the sentences with the words on the flowers.



1. Our loving Father and Creator is

_____.

2. God made _____ to be like himself.

3. God's Creation shows his _____ for us.

4. Saint _____ showed his love for everything that God created.

- B** Circle the gift of God's Creation that you like best.



Complete the words of the thank you prayer with letters from the globe.

Th_nk y_u,

Go_ fo_ th_ g_ft

o_ C_e_t_i_n.



- C** Draw yourself taking care of something God created.

Unit Wrap-up

Write the word from the box that completes each sentence.





A Write the correct word on each line.

1. Who told us to love God, ourselves, and others?

2. What makes us children of God?

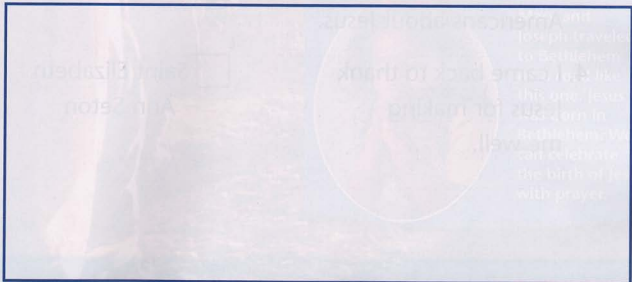
3. Who does God make like himself?

4. What does the word *hallowed* mean?

B Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.

1. Everything that God made is called ____.
Creation **the Earth**
2. The celebration of ____ welcomes us into the Catholic Church.
Mass **Baptism**
3. God's loving presence in our lives is called ____.
grace **peace**
4. Happiness with God forever will be ____.
Heaven **community**
5. Jesus taught us to pray the ____.
Sign of the Cross **Lord's Prayer**

C Draw one way you can care for God's Creation.





D Who Am I? Write the number of each sentence in the correct box.

1. I took good care of plants and animals.

☐ Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

2. I started the Sisters of Charity in America.

☐ the leper

3. I taught other Native Americans about Jesus.

☐ Saint Francis

4. I came back to thank Jesus for making me well.

☐ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton