

Sunday, May 31, 2026

Creating, saving, making holy

What is God like? According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, God is like a family—and vice versa. It says, “The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit.” God isn’t aloof, disconnected, and distant. God is creative, compassionate, and as close to us as our next breath. We cannot fully fathom the nature of God, but we can know that God is in our yearning as well as in the satisfying of those yearnings.

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18 (164). “*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.*”

Monday, Jun 01, 2026

A sure thing

Saint Justin had intense desire to find God, and the truth of God led him to study scripture, prayer, and eventually become a Christian. The example of the Christian martyrs impressed him greatly. He had his chance to follow in their footsteps (in 166 A.D.) by professing his faith before a judge in Rome. Legend says he was asked, “Do you think that by dying you will enter heaven and be rewarded?” To which he replied, “I don’t just think so. I am sure of it!” For Justin the Christian faith just made sense. And once he accepted Christ, he was unpersuaded by anything else. Pray for such faithful certitude.

MEMORIAL OF JUSTIN, MARTYR

2 Peter 1:2-7; Mark 12:1-12 (353). “*Grace and peace be yours in abundance through knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*”

Tuesday, Jun 02, 2026

Improve your long-term memory

Christian martyrs often faced stark, life-or-death choices. In their courageous leap of faith, they give witness to the gospel’s call to lose one’s life in order to gain it. In this spirit, we celebrate the memorial of the fourth-century martyrs Marcellinus and Peter, who surrendered their lives for the sake of faith and, we trust, received the glory of eternal life. Though the Romans and Goths sought to erase their memory over the centuries, Marcellinus and Peter live in the church’s collective memory. What are you doing today to ensure you will be remembered tomorrow for the love you showed?

MEMORIAL OF MARCELLINUS AND PETER, MARTYRS

2 Corinthians 6:4-10; John 17:11b-19 (575). “*Holy Father, keep them in your name.*”

Wednesday, Jun 03, 2026

Protect our young

It is hard to believe that someone would be put to death for defending children who were being sexually abused. But that is what happened to Charles and his companions in 19th-century Uganda. Sadly, we know that children in our “enlightened” society are still being abused physically and emotionally. We need more than just to be outraged. Even as powerful elites, media, and popular culture threaten the young, we as people of faith need to create an environment that is safe and affirming for all children.

Demand, as Charles did, that our young be protected and that abusers be held accountable.

MEMORIAL OF CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12; Mark 12:18-27 (355). “*For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control.*”

Thursday, Jun 04, 2026

Mercy makes us better

Mercy Sister Rosemary Connelly, R.S.M., who dedicated more than 50 years to serving the needs of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Misericordia in Chicago, understood the true benefit of the mission of mercy: “At Misericordia we look upon each one of our children and adults as a person with individual needs, feelings, aspirations, limitations, and gifts. Each one is unique, a gift to us today, a loving person made by God with a purpose in life—no matter how wrapped in mystery that purpose is. We believe, we accept, we love each person and we are a better people because they have touched our lives.” This is the essence of the second of the greatest Commandments, to love others as we love ourselves. How do we do that? Simple: See the face of Jesus in each person we encounter.

2 Timothy 2:8-15; Mark 12:28-34 (356). “*To love your neighbor as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.*”

Friday, Jun 05, 2026

Take a deeper dive into scripture

While all scripture may be useful, one who merely tosses Bible quotations about and uses select (and sometimes mistranslated) texts to justify a prevailing prejudice is abusing scripture. The epistle writer Timothy encourages the use of scripture to equip us “for every good work,” not for attack. Our culture is accustomed to headlines and sound bites, but a serious faith requires us to deepen our understanding of both God and our world. We did not learn everything we need to know about our faith in kindergarten, or in CCD. Study up, and be sure to vet your teachers.

2 Timothy 3:10-17; Mark 12:35-37 (357). “*Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it.*”

Saturday, Jun 06, 2026

How to turn a penny to gold

Alchemy was an ancient practice, part science and part philosophy, which aimed to create gold from lesser metals, discover a universal cure for disease, and, while they were at it, indefinitely prolong life. The fact that it never worked didn’t seem to stop anyone from trying. But there is a spiritual alchemy that actually does turn the small into the immeasurable. Look at the poor widow who received an eternal Kingdom for the price of two pennies. Mary of Nazareth gained the same Kingdom for a simple “yes.” Do you assess small gestures of love as your greatest asset?

2 Timothy 4:1-8; Mark 12:38-44 (358). “*A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents.*”

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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