

Chapter 2 ***Let there Be...!***

You, O Lord, are the God who did wonders. *Psalm 77:15*

To the Parents:

In chapter 2, your child learned the following:

- God created all things good.
- The Bible's two creation stories stress God's power and the dignity of humans.
- We are called to treat all people with respect because they are created in God's image.

One of the most fundamental truths the Catholic Church teaches is the doctrine of creation. The universe and all its wonders are not the product of random chance, but are the intentional work of a loving God. The creation of human beings crowns God's creative work, bearing the image of God, and sharing his life. The first and foremost human response to God's work in creation is praise and thanksgiving. The second, inseparably linked with the first, is responsible stewardship.

God's grandeur suffuses the world and its creatures, despite the ravages of sin and the visible presence of evil. With eyes opened by grace, we are able to see the glory of God, and are thus inspired to labor for the responsible use of created things, and to revere God's work in all of them. We are most of all moved to reverence the gift of human life, and to cherish and protect it.

With Your Child:

1. Together read the two stories of creation found in Genesis. Talk about the difference between the two accounts.
2. Sometimes it's easy to recognize the dignity of other people—famous athletes, for instance. But it's not always easy to see dignity in yourself. Write three reminders that you have dignity.
3. Scripture says God blessed the Sabbath and made it holy. Have a family discussion about how you spend Sunday, the Christian Sabbath. Think of ways you can rest on Sunday and still keep up with your obligations of jobs, schoolwork, and household chores.
4. Read about Saint Anthony of Padua on the Review and Explore page.