

# The Mysteries of Creation

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## Introduction

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

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### The First Mystery of Creation: *God is*

#### John 1: 1-2

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### Prayer to God of Creation

Holy Spirit, Preserver of life,  
grant us wisdom that we may be good stewards of God's creation,  
entrusted to us by the Father and redeemed  
by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

#### Glory Be

### The Second Mystery of Creation: *Heaven and earth are*

#### John 1: 3

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### Prayer to God of Creation

Holy Spirit, Preserver of life,  
grant us wisdom that we may be good stewards of God's creation,  
entrusted to us by the Father and  
redeemed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

#### Glory Be

## **The Third Mystery of Creation: *Earth has life***

### **God Beyond All Names**

Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

God, beyond our dreams,  
you have stirred in us a mem'ry;  
you have placed your pow'rful spirit  
in the hearts of humankind.

All around us we have known you,  
all creation lives to hold you.  
In our living and our dying  
we are bringing you to birth.

God, beyond all names,  
you have made us in your image;  
we are like you, we reflect you;  
we are woman, we are man.

God, beyond all words,  
all creation tells your story;  
you have shaken with our laughter,  
you have trembled with our tears.

God, beyond all time,  
you are laboring within us;  
we are moving, we are changing  
in your spirit ever knew.

God of tender care,  
you have cradled us in goodness,  
you have mothered us in wholeness,  
you have loved us into birth.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Prayer to God of Creation**

Holy Spirit, Preserver of life,  
grant us wisdom that we may be good stewards of God's creation,  
entrusted to us by the Father and  
redeemed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### **Glory Be**

## **The Fourth Mystery of Creation: *Humans have dominion***

### **Psalm 8: 6-7**

Yet you have made them little lower than the angels; with glory and honor you crowned them,  
gave them power over the works of your hands: you put all things under their feet.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Prayer to God of Creation**

Holy Spirit, Preserver of life,  
grant us wisdom that we may be good stewards of God's creation,  
entrusted to us by the Father and  
redeemed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### **Glory Be**

## **The Fifth Mystery of Creation: *Heaven and earth are one***

### **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before you, Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!  
  
All your works with joy surround you, Earth and heav'n reflect your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around you, Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Praising you eternally!  
  
Mortals join the mighty chorus, Which the morning stars began;  
God's own love is reigning o'er us, Joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Prayer to God of Creation**

Holy Spirit, Preserver of life,  
grant us wisdom that we may be good stewards of God's creation,  
entrusted to us by the Father and  
redeemed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### **Glory Be**

## Prayer: Laudato si'

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

## For the Healing of the Nations

Fred Kaan, 1929–2009



1. For the heal-ing of the na-tions, Lord, we pray with one ac-cord;  
2. All that kills a-bun-dant liv-ing, Let it from the earth be banned;  
3. You, cre-a-tor God, have writ-ten Your great name on hu-man-kind;



For a just and e-qual shar-ing Of the things that earth af-fords.  
Pride of sta-tus, race or school-ing, Dog-mas that ob-scure your plan.  
For our grow-ing in your like-ness Bring the life of Christ to mind:



To a life of love and ac-tion Help us rise and pledge our word.  
In our com-mon quest for jus-tice May we hal-low life's brief span.  
That by our re-sponse and ser-vice Earth its des-ti-ny may find.



For more information, visit [stignatiuschestnuthill.org](http://stignatiuschestnuthill.org) or consider becoming involved with the St. Ignatius Green Team.