

## THE CREED AND THE TRINITY

### Session Description:

This session will present the Creed in the historical tradition of the Church as the basis of understanding and professing the Trinity, the central mystery of our Catholic faith.

### Focus of the Session:

“From the beginning, the apostolic Church expressed and handed on her faith in brief formula normative for all. . . .Such syntheses are called ‘professions of faith’ since they summarize the faith that Christians profess. They are called ‘creeds’ on account of what is usually their first word in Latin: *credo* [‘I believe’] (CCC #186-187).”

“The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the ‘hierarchy of the truths of faith’. The whole history of salvation is identical with the history of the way and the means by which the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveals himself to men ‘and reconciles and unites with himself those who turn away from sin’ (CCC #234).”

### Content:

In conducting this session the instructor will:

1. Present the historical developments of the creed—in particular the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed.
2. Give particular emphasis to Section Two of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on the Profession of the Christian Faith.
3. Explore the images of the three persons of the Trinity through Scripture and Christian tradition.
4. Present the development of the dogma of the Trinity as the central mystery of our faith.
5. Discuss the work of the Trinity in daily life of the faithful.

### Learning Outcomes:

As a result of this session the catechist will:

1. Be familiar with the historical development of both the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed.
2. Be familiar with Section Two, the Profession of Faith in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.
3. Identify images of the three persons of the Trinity in Scripture and Christian Tradition.
4. Understand the Trinity is the central mystery of our faith.
5. Be aware of the action of the Trinity in our daily lives.

### References:

- A Catholic Edition of the Holy Bible: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Matthew 28:16-20
- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: #232-267, 810, 946-1065
- *National Directory for Catechesis*: pp. 77-78, 91-93, 107