

Chapter 1: God Creates, Orders, and Adorns

God alone is worthy of worship.

Chapter Summary

Creation is the work of the Blessed Trinity. God worked by creating, ordering, and adorning. God created mankind to share in His work. God made man in His image and likeness, able to know Him and love Him. God calls man to share in His work of creating, ordering, and adorning. We are created with a human nature, which directs us to earthly flourishing. The human moral virtues are ordered toward our earthly flourishing. However, in our fallen state, we experience great difficulty exercising these virtues well and stand in need of God's grace. Yet God calls us to more than earthly flourishing. He calls us to perfect happiness in union with Him. He is our supernatural end and fulfillment. To reach this end, God gives us His grace and the theological virtues. Through His grace, God also purifies and elevates the human moral virtues. One of these virtues is justice, which forms the will to give others their due. In response to God and His work, we should worship Him with great love. This worship is just and due to God alone.



Justice to God

As Christians, we are called to give our love and obedience to God above all else. This is what is meant by giving justice to God. We give Him and others what they are due. In God's case, this means we direct our family life toward giving God the honor and respect He is due by how we live our lives.

Families do this by directing their priorities to God above all else:

- Pray as a family each day: in the morning, in the evening, and before every meal, even out in public.
- Do not make so many commitments that they prevent you from giving your time to God. While recreational activities are healthy for both mind and body, families should be wary of overscheduling, which can distract from their commitments to God.
- Keep holy the Lord's Day and all Holy Days of Obligation. Today, fewer than 25 percent of Catholics attend Mass on a weekly basis.² God established the commandment to keep the Lord's Day holy not for His benefit but because it would train His people to direct their priorities to the God who loves them. There is no better way to honor God and to receive His love in our souls than by keeping this commandment.

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.