

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter addresses the mystery of the Holy Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—and defines faith, hope, and charity as the Theological Virtues.

Scripture



Read **Mark 1:9–11** to find out about the baptism of Jesus.

Catholics Believe

- The Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life.
- Virtue is the habit of doing good. The Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity are gifts from God.

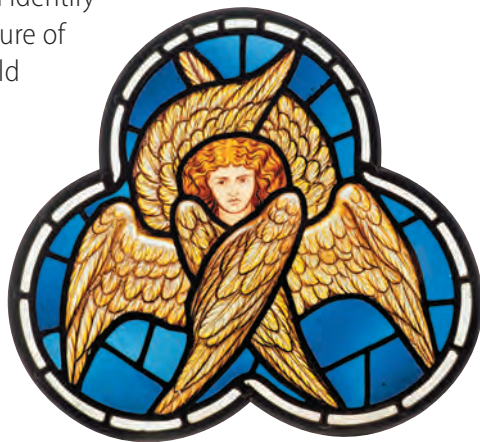
To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #234, 1812, 1813 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

In this chapter, your child learned about Saint Athanasius. He is known for his courage to speak out about the Holy Trinity and his defense of Jesus as the true Son of God.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand God as Trinity The central mystery of our faith is also the most mysterious—how can God be Three and also One? Some theologians explain this mystery in terms of relationship. God, in his very nature, is a communion of Divine Persons, and he wants to be in communion with us. Relationships, especially “best friend”-ships, are increasingly important to children this age, and consequently they can identify with this relational nature of God in a way they could not when they were younger.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Has someone ever taught you how to stretch before participating in physical activities?

We need to warm up and stretch our muscles before we begin physical activity. Then our muscles perform better and we decrease risk of injury. God gives us the Theological Virtues to help strengthen our lives. As Catholics, we understand that “the Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love) . . . are not acquired through human effort but, beginning with Baptism, they are infused within us as gifts from God. They dispose us to live in relationship with the Holy Trinity. Faith, hope, and charity influence human virtues by increasing their stability and strength for our lives” (*USCCA, p. 317*).

LET’S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain virtue as the habit of doing God’s will.
- Share how your family lives the Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity (or love).

LET’S PRAY >>>



Saint Athanasius, pray for us that we may know and love the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as you did. May we always keep our faith even when it is difficult to do so. Amen.



Visit aliveinchrist.osv.com for additional resources and activities.