## ROM THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM

Study Lesson Number 6

## THE UNITY AND TRINITY OF GOD

"Now it came to pass when all the people had been baptized, Jesus also having been baptized and being in prayer, that heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'Thou art My beloved Son, in Thee I am well pleased." (Luke 3, 21/22)

UNITY OF GOD

In God there is one NATURE.

Is there only ONE God?

Yes, there is only ONE God.

TRINITY OF GOD

In God there are three PERSONS.

How many Persons are there in God?

In God there are three Divine Persons:

(1) THE FATHER

(2) THE SON

(3) THE HOLY SPIRIT

A NATURE is WHAT someone or something IS.

A PERSON is WHO someone IS.

THE BLESSED TRINITY does NOT mean:

1 God in 3 Gods

1 Nature in 3 Natures

1 Person in 3 Persons

THE BLESSED TRINITY DOES mean:

1 Nature in 3 Persons.

(This is called a MYSTERY. A true MYSTERY is something which no one can comprehend or explain.)

Is the Father God?

The Father is God and the first Person of the Blessed Trinity.

Is the Son God?

The Son is God and the second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

The Son is also called the WORD, or IMAGE of the Father.

Is the Holy Spirit God?

The Holy Spirit is God and the third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

The Holy Spirit (SPIRITUS SANCTI) is also called: the Spirit, the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of the Father, the Spirit of Jesus, the Advocate, etc.

What do we mean by the Blessed Trinity?

By the Blessed Tirinity we mean one and the same God in three divine Persons.

Are the three divine Persons really distinct from one another?

The three divine Persons are really distinct from one another.

This means: The Father is not the Son or the Holy Spirit

The Son is not the Father nor the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is not the Father nor the Son

But the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God, BUT THERE IS ONLY  $\underline{\text{ONE}}$  GOD