

Religious Education 7
The Early Church - The Nicene Creed
Activity: *Internet Search*

Instructions:

- Students are to search the internet to find the missing words to the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one _____, the Father Almighty, Maker of _____
and _____, and of all things _____ and _____.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the
Father before all worlds; God of _____, Light of _____, very
God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one _____ with the
Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men for our _____, came down from _____, and
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was
_____ also for us under Pontius Pilate; He _____ and was
_____ ; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and
_____ into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall
come again, with _____, to _____ the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no _____.

And I believe in the _____, the Lord and Giver of _____; who
proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and _____; who spoke by the _____.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one
_____ for the _____ of sins; and I look for the
_____ of the dead, and the life of the world to come. _____.

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The Early Church - The Nicene Creed
Activity: *Internet Search* - Answers

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one **God**, the Father Almighty, Maker of **heaven** and **earth**, and of all things **visible** and **invisible**.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of **God**, Light of **Light**, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one **substance** with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men for our **salvation**, came down from **heaven**, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was **crucified** also for us under Pontius Pilate; He **suffered** and was **buried**; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and **ascended** into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with **glory**, to **judge** the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no **end**.

And I believe in the **Holy Ghost**, the Lord and Giver of **Life**; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and **glorified**; who spoke by the **prophets**.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one **baptism** for the **remission** of sins; and I look for the **resurrection** of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen**.

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Activity - Dictionary Skills

Instructions:

- Students are to define the following terms using a standard dictionary.

Begotten: _____

Substance: _____

Salvation: _____

Crucified: _____

Ascended: _____

Glorified: _____

Prophets: _____

Baptism: _____

Remission: _____

Resurrection: _____

<p style="text-align:center"><u>Religious Education 7</u> The Early Church - The Nicene Creed Background Information</p>
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Source: www.sacred-texts.com/chr/nicene.htm

The **Nicene Creed**, or **Symbol of Faith**, was written by the First Ecumenical Council at Nicaea in **325 C.E.**, with additions (the 3rd paragraph and following) by the first Council of **Constantinople (381)**. There is an unresolved controversy over the words 'and the Son' (in Latin *filioque*). This language was added in 587 by the local council of Toledo, Spain, in an attempt to combat the Arian heresy. Pope Leo III (795-816) forbade the use of the *filioque* version and had it engraved without 'and the Son' on the walls of St. Peter's Basilica. After a failed attempt to unite by marriage Charlemagne's Frankish holdings with that of the Byzantine Empress, Charlemagne challenged Byzantium's claim of universal jurisdiction as the successor to Rome by claiming in 792 that among other things, that the Byzantines had omitted the *filioque* from the original text. The *filioque* was finally accepted by the Romans in the year 1014, and the revision has been part of Catholic doctrine ever since. The "*filioque*," the significance of Roman primacy, and geo-political conflict led to the the Great Schism of 1053. To this day, the Eastern Orthodox Churches do not accept the *filioque* and raise this as one of many reasons that prevent re-unification with the Roman Catholic Church.

Source: www.newadvent.org/cathen/04308a.htm

First Council of Constantinople (SECOND GENERAL COUNCIL.)

This council was called in May, 381, by Emperor Theodosius, to provide for a Catholic succession in the patriarchal See of Constantinople, to confirm the Nicene Faith, to reconcile the semi-Arians with the Church, and to put an end to the Macedonian heresy.

Originally it was only a council of the Orient; the arguments of Baronius (ad an. 381, nos. 19, 20) to prove that it was called by Pope Damasus are invalid (Hefele-Leclercq, Hist. des Conciles, Paris, 1908, II, 4). It was attended by 150 Catholic and 36 heretical (Semi-Arian, Macedonian) bishops, and was presided over by Meletius of Antioch; after his death, by the successive Patriarchs of Constantinople, St. Gregory Nazianzen and Nectarius.