

LIVING WITH CHRIST THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 5:	Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) - green
Monday 6:	Ferial - green
Tuesday 7:	Ferial - green
Wednesday, 8:	Birth of Mary - white
Thursday 9:	Ferial - green
Friday 10:	Ferial - green
Saturday 11:	Ferial - green
Sunday 12:	Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) - green



Credo : What I believe

If we were to rewrite the Apostles' Creed what would we say? Definitely we would address the same realities but we could use different expressions that are just as significant and reflect the most recent research [exegesis]. The next series of articles in The Parish Bulletin will attempt to use modern language to accomplish this.

1. I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

First of all I want to bring to your attention that we use the pronoun **I**, and not **WE**. Is this unusual? Not at all. This practice can be traced back to the ancient baptismal rites of the Church of Rome. We are individually called to proclaim our faith in Christ and his Church.

BELIEVE : this verb has a very different connotation from thinking, admitting, supposing, affirming, or presuming. When we state what we believe, we speak the truth and our words can be verified. Faith is expressed in the language and culture of a particular era. Are our expressions of faith frozen in time or could they possibly evolve? Though the statements remain the same, these tenets of faith have been manifested differently throughout the centuries.

I believe *in* God; I believe *in* the Gospel, the Good News that enables me to acknowledge my importance in God's eyes. Our language is rich in its complexity and provides many possibilities to describe God, his Son and the Church.

God is our *All-Powerful Father*, creator of heaven and earth. How could we express this concept today? Could we say God is our *All-Loving Father* who reaches out to us, his beloved children?

God our Father is a loving Father. He is the primary Cause, the Origin, the Creator of life throughout the universe. Is it possible for us to believe both what the Bible and Science proclaim? Certainly, because though these two sources address the same reality, they use different perspectives.

To summarize, here is my attempt to express in modern terms the first line from the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, our loving Father who is the Origin of all life in the universe...

What's important to remember is that the only *creed* which most people will *hear* is the one that you proclaim through your daily activities. What you *do* speaks volumes and reflects your beliefs much more than any words could. You **are** *God's presence in the world*. What do you believe?

Yvon Cousineau, c.s.c.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli