

January 9th and 10th Homily Outline

Last Wednesday Video on Acts XXIX channel on YouTube

Created: Why is there something rather than nothing?

"We need to know the Story"

1. Why is there something rather than nothing?

The Catechism affirms that this is an important place to start:

282 Catechesis on creation is of major importance. It concerns the very foundations of human and Christian life: for it makes explicit the response of the Christian faith to the basic question that men of all times have asked themselves:¹²⁰ "Where do we come from?" "Where are we going?" "What is our origin?" "What is our end?" "Where does everything that exists come from and where is it going?" The two questions, the first about the origin and the second about the end, are inseparable. They are decisive for the meaning and orientation of our life and actions.

2. Why did God create the world?

So, if we think that an all-powerful God created the world we could ask "why?" and the catechism gives us this answer:

293 Scripture and Tradition never cease to teach and celebrate this fundamental truth: "The world was made for the glory of God." St. Bonaventure explains that God created all things "not to increase his glory, but to show it forth and to communicate it", for God has no other reason for creating than his love and goodness: "Creatures came into existence when the key of love opened his hand."

So, the answer as to why we are here is ultimately because God loves us and wants us to exist and he wants us to share in his glory. That's a part of the story that modern people desperately need to understand.

3. We are made in the image and likeness of God

4. In the Incarnation God reveals his love to us and reveals who we are

"In reality it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man truly becomes clear." *Gaudium et Spes* #22

Reading List repeated from last week:

A Church in Crisis: Pathways Forward. By Ralph Martin

Live Not by Lies: A Manual for Christian Dissidents. By Rod Dreher

The Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation. By Rod Dreher

Recommended watching:

YouTube: search "EWTN Live Ralph Martin" to watch interview with Fr. Mitch Pacwa