

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish
Religious Education Office
203 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855
Tel: (203) 866 1189
<http://stthomasnorwalk.com>

Lesson nr. 5 – Tuesday, Oct 27, 2020.

Dear 8th Grade Students of St. Thomas The Apostle Church in Norwalk, CT: Handout #1

- Homework Review: Story of Pope John XXIII and John Paul II – now Saints of the Catholic Church.
- After one month of our classes, I am confident that most of you would by now have no greater difficulty NAVIGATING our Sacred Scripture (The Bible), and maybe even give me a brief report saying how easy the Bible is a: COLLECTION (or a library) of SACRED BOOKS (written by the authors INSPIRED by GOD Himself) and ordered in TWO PARTS: Old Testament (46 Books) and in New Testament (in 27 Books).
- By now I also know that you will be able to explain why we understand that the BIBLE, more specifically the Old Testament, is a Religious Explanation (or Interpretation) of Primeval History, Ancient History and Historical Time
- As you might remember from our last class, for us Catholics, the **BIBLE**, the **TRADITION** of the Church and the INTERPRETATION of both by the **MAGISTERIUM** forms the complete RESOURCE to fully (or better) understand and attain to God's REVELATION to humanity.
- That RESOURCE in our Catholic Church is called the Catechism of the Catholic Church (abbreviated to CCC).

- What we have also learned so far is the CONCEPT supported not only by our scientific studies (partly, what you learned in school for over 12 years of your lives) but also goes hand in hand with our FAITH namely, that at some point in PRIMEVAL HISTORY something of rather EXTREME IMPORTANCE happened, that the scientific world would call:
 - Evolution of Humans (standard title: Evolutionary Synthesis or Modern Evolutionary Synthesis)
 - Yet the REVELATION (the Bible and Teaching of the Church) SUPPLIES – or I would say – gives much deeper ramifications and EXPLANATION; that is an entirely UNIQUE – SPIRITUAL DIMENTION; Book of Genesis, NT, CCC numbers: 283, 284 and following.
- And only study of both: Scientific and Faith – based attempts of explanation: Where we come from? Is anybody out there in this vast Universe (of Universes – based on M-Theory)? Am I alone here? What is my purpose – or – my destination? Why I call myself a person?
- Only such coherent, honest discussion could possibly point us in right direction.
- Therefore, today I would like to invite you to study the topic I would like to call: CREATION and EVOLUTION.