

THE CREED OF SAINT ATHANASIUS

1. WHOSOEVER would be saved / needeth before all things to hold fast the Catholic Faith.
 2. Which Faith except a man keep whole and undefiled, / without doubt he will perish eternally.
 3. Now the Catholic Faith is this, / that we worship one God in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity;
 4. Neither confusing the Persons, / nor dividing the Substance.
 5. For there is one Person of the Father, another of the Son, / another of the Holy Ghost;
 6. But the Godhead of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost is all one, / the glory equal, the majesty co-eternal.
 7. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, / and such is the Holy Ghost;
 8. The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, / the Holy Ghost uncreated;
 9. The Father infinite, the Son infinite, / the Holy Ghost infinite;
 10. The Father eternal, the Son eternal, / the Holy Ghost eternal;
 11. And yet there are not three eternals, / but one eternal;
 12. As also there are not three uncreated, nor three infinities, / but one infinite, and one uncreated.
 13. So likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, / the Holy Ghost almighty;
 14. And yet there are not three almighties, / but one almighty.
 15. So the Father is God, the Son God, / the Holy Ghost God;
 16. And yet there are not three Gods, / but one God.
 17. So the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, / the Holy Ghost Lord;
 18. And yet there are not three Lords, / but one Lord.
 19. For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity / to confess each Person by himself to be both God and Lord;
 20. So are we forbidden by the Catholic Religion / to speak of three Gods or three Lords?
 21. The Father is made of none, / nor created, nor begotten.
 22. The Son is of the Father alone; / not made, nor created, but begotten.
 23. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and the Son; / not made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding.
 24. There is therefore one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; / one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts.
 25. And in this Trinity there is no before or after, / no greater or less;
 26. But all three Persons are co-eternal together, / and co-equal.
 27. So that in all ways, as is aforesaid, / both the Trinity is to be worshipped in Unity, and the Unity in Trinity.
 28. He therefore that would be saved, / let him thus think of the Trinity.
 29. FURTHERMORE, it is necessary to eternal salvation, / that he also believe faithfully the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 30. Now the right Faith is that we believe and confess / that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is both God and Man.
 31. He is God, of the Substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; / and he is Man, of the Substance of his Mother, born in the world;
 32. Perfect God; / perfect Man, of reasoning soul and human flesh subsisting;
 33. Equal to the Father as touching his Godhead; / less than the Father as touching his Manhood.
 34. Who although he be God and Man, / yet he is not two, but is one Christ;
 35. One, however, not by conversion of Godhead into flesh, / but by taking of Manhood into God;
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36. One altogether; / not by confusion of Substance, but by unity of Person.
37. For as reasoning soul and flesh is one man, / so God and Man is one Christ;
38. Who suffered for our salvation, / descended into hell, rose again from the dead;
39. Ascended into heaven, sat down at the right hand of the Father, / from whence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
40. At whose coming all men must rise again with their bodies, / and shall give account for their own deeds.
41. And they that have done good will go into life eternal; / they that have done evil into eternal fire.
42. THIS is the Catholic Faith, / which except a man do faithfully and stedfastly believe, he cannot be saved.
GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.