

# The Junior Observer

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## An Old Testament Story

# God Creates the Heavens and the Earth

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Catholic Courier

**I**n the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth didn't have any form.

Over the course of six days, God formed the earth and created everything on it. And at the end of each day's work, He saw that all He created was good.

On the first day, God said, "Let there be light." He separated the darkness from the light, calling the light "day" and the darkness "night."

"Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other," God said on the second day. He called the dome "the sky."

On the third day, God gathered the water under the sky into a single basin so dry land would appear. The dry land He called "the earth," and the water He called "the sea."

Then God created plants that would bear seeds, and trees that would grow fruit with seeds in it.



(Illustration/Linda Jeanne Rivers)

### Bible Trivia

What did God make to mark the seasons, days and years? (Hint: Gn 1:14)

Answer: The two great lights and the stars.

On the fourth day, God created the two great lights and also the stars. The greater light ruled the day, and the lesser light ruled the night.

"Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky," God said on the fifth day. "Be

fertile, multiply and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth."

On the sixth day, God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle and all kinds of creeping things of the earth.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created both a male and a female and blessed them.

"Be fertile and multiply," he told them, "fill the earth and subdue it."

He gave the male and female dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air and all living things that move on the earth. He gave them seed-bearing plants and trees with seed-bearing fruit for their food, and He gave the animals green plants for their food.

On the seventh day, God was finished with the work of creation, so He rested and made the day holy.

## Q&A

On which day were birds created?

On which day did God rest?

Read more about it in Genesis 1

## AHG Girls Earn Faith Awards

ST. CHARLES—Eighteen American Heritage Girls (AHG), all active members of St. Patrick Parish, recently earned their organization's Catholic Faith Awards. They will receive their respective awards Feb. 2 at the annual Scout Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Rockford.

The St. Patrick awardees cover three age groups, who all earned different awards through the Catholic Faith Awards program:

■ **Tenderheart (ages 6-9):** "Deus et Familia Mea" (God and My Family)

■ **Explorer (ages 9-12):** "Deus et Patria Mea" (God and My Country)

■ **Pioneer (ages 12-14):** "Deus et Civita Mea" (God and My Community)

The Catholic Faith Awards Program aims to help girls learn more about their faith and develop a stronger relationship with Christ in a fun and hands-on manner.

With the help of their mentors — their parents and Alex Lee, Lindsay Tobin and Stephanie Sikorski — the girls prayed, studied Scripture and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, engaged in community service, and learned more about the Catholic faith through the sacraments.

**Editor's note:** Not all awardees are pictured, and photo order was not provided for either.



(Photos provided/Stephanie Sikorski)

At the Tenderheart level, American Heritage Girls earn their "Deus et Familia Mea" (God and My Family) Catholic Faith Award. Pictured are some of the awardees; all Tenderheart awardees are Olivia Creed, Nora Lee, Annemarie Murphy, Laney Sikorski, Reese Sikorski, Kaleigh Nolan, Arabella Lavan and Penny Tusinski.



Explorers earn their "Deus et Patria Mea" (God and My Country) and Pioneers earn their "Deus et Civita Mea" (God and My Community) awards. Awardees at these levels are (some pictured) Gianna Anticevich, Olivia Deutsch, Elizabeth Murphy, Maria Anticevich, Charlotte Elliff, Elizabeth Elliff, Alexandra Fitz, Catherine Murphy, Rosemary Murphy and Rowan Tobin.