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The Existence of God

Nearly everyone, at one time or another, has an incredible experience that profoundly alters his or her life's journey. At such times most of us turn to the divine, to God, and wonder about the hidden presence we have sensed in our hearts. Such experiences force us to ask questions about the meaning of life and the mystery of death.

Does God exist?

CCC 31–32; 34–35; 47

St. Paul and the Church assert that humans are able to discover the hidden God through rational thought because “ever since the creation of the world, the invisible existence of God and his everlasting power have been clearly seen by the mind’s understanding of created things” (Romans 1:20). Belief in God is not unreasonable.

What does personal experience tell us about God?

CCC 27–30; 33; 46

Experience can guide us to God. Our feelings of dependency; our sense of wonder, awe, and joy; our openness to truth and beauty; and our feelings of being invited to do greater things than we are doing all speak of a God who has made us to discover and love him. Traditional arguments for God’s existence include the following:

An unquenchable thirst for happiness. Did a creator make us with a hunger for happiness which nothing can completely satisfy? Might it be that God implanted in us a kind of homing device causing restlessness until we find him?