Romanian Orthodox Church of Edmonton



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<u>God – The Creator</u> A. The creation of the world and of man – the days of creation

All three persons of the Holy Trinity have	What the Creed says about the creation of the
participated in the creation of the world:	world:
-The Father decided and planned the creation of the	"I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, creator of
world;	heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible" (Art.
The Son implemented the plan of creation;	1).
The Holy Spirit finished the creation, giving it life, grace	"And in One Lord, Jesus Christ through whom all things
and beauty.	were made" (Art. 2).
	"And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life "
	(Art.8).

God created the world:

-out of His free will – without any necessity;

-out of love – in order to share with man the love of the three person of the Holy Trinity; the law of life for the world is love;

- **in time and with time** – God does not deal with time as we do; to Him there is a continuous present – eternity; time is a feature of the created world;

-out of nothing – God did not use any preexisting substance in the creation of the world;

-through His all powerful Word – through the Son who implements the Father's thinking; "He said and it was done;"

-according to His eternal plan – He thought out His plan for the world for there was nothing else before the creation except Himself.

-good, beautiful and varied/rich, which He Himself admires – the world functions by precise laws, made by Him, which can be known by man in as much as he knows God; God created numerous species of plants and animals and gave them the ability to multiply by themselves ("each to their kind");

-fitting for man – like a man's house in order to help him ascend toward God; man was given the dominion of the world;

-in progression – from the simple and lifeless to the complex and living things; the creation is structured on laws and hierarchical kingdoms: vegetal, mineral, animal, human, angelic.

The purpose of the world is to find its eternal rest in the love of God;

The purpose of man is his perfection, deification and unity with the Holy Trinity, the eternal happiness is to participate in the love of God;

God revealed to **Moses**, His Prophet, how He created the world in **six "days"** (phases, periods of time):

I. "*heaven and earth*" – the invisible (angelic) world and the visible (material) world; ... in the beginning, the material world was unfinished and without life, there wasn't anybody to see it; the

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first day - the time; the light - the grace of the Holy Spirit whom God sent into the world to begin its organization;

II."the firmament in the midst of the waters" - the separation of the earth from the rest of the heavenly objects throught the ethereal space; the terrestrial atmosphere;

III. The dry land and the seas/oceans and the vegetal world/kingdom – the first form of life;

IV. The lights in the sky, the Sun, the Moon and the stars with their very precise movements for the delimitation of the days, months, years and seasons;

V.The first living things: the fish (the amphibians) and the birds of the air;

VI. The terrestrial animals (the domestic animals, the reptiles and the wild animals) and man;

VII."God's rest" - God ceases the process of creation; henceforth He awaits man's response of love in order to give him eternal life through communion with Him.