

## Number Eight: Changes to the Creed:

The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” which means “I believe”. In the Nicene Creed we notice right away the change from “we believe” to “I believe”. When we express our faith using the Creed we are expressing not only what the Church as a whole believes but what we as individual Christians with a personal relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit believe. Some of the other changes might seem minor, like the change to “visible and invisible” from “seen and unseen” but even these small changes reflect a deeper meaning. An object is ‘unseen’ when something else blocks our view of it, but invisible realities, like the angels for example, are always ‘unseen’ but that doesn’t make them less real! There are other changes too that more accurately reflect our faith that will need to be explained in more detail such as the words “consubstantial with the Father” and “incarnate of the Virgin Mary”. It might seem like we are being very picky about the words we use, but how we pray reflects and shapes our beliefs and so we ought to use words which convey as accurately possible our strongly held beliefs.