Who is God?

As humans we are limited in our understanding of God because we can only begin to try to understand him in terms of things we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. But by his very nature, God goes beyond \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ human experience and concepts.

As Christians we believe that God is:

**INFINITE:** without end or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL, INTIMATE: he is all the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ found in humans (love, fairness, compassion, forgiveness, etc.) But he is not a “person”. God’s nature allows us to have a personal relationship with him. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ encouraged us to call God “Abba”, a term that is even more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than our word for “father”. God is not aloof and unreachable, but rather is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ among us.

**OMNIPOTENT:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Catholic teachings teach that although God is all-powerful, he has given us a free will which makes us responsible for our own destiny. He has built a world based on certain principles of evolution rather than one that runs by God’s constant intervention. He has chosen to respect our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Instead of directing the course of our actions, God lends a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ presence, providing strength, peace, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and his loving presence.

**Omniscient:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. God knows everything and therefore knows what our choices will be, but that is different from saying that he leads us to make those choices. Catholics believe in an all-knowing God, but also one who respects our freedom as humans. He knows our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and yet accepts us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and lovingly.