

Homily for Sunday Mass  
The Most Holy Trinity Sunday  
June 7, 2020  
Year A – John 3:16-18  
----Father Michael Grant George Cadotte----

One of the best analogies I have heard to help us better understand the Holy Trinity is H<sub>2</sub>O – water. Now, I say help us understand as the Holy Trinity will always remain, on this side of heaven, the great mystery of our faith. So, water...it exists in a liquid state, a frozen or solid state, as well as a gaseous state as steam but it is always H<sub>2</sub>O. Its substance, its essence does not change.

God has and always remains God but as God's presence enters the our human timeline we begin to understand that God has always existed and when he created the heavens and the earth God's Word was there and God's spirit moved above the deep and God declared, "...let there be light and there was light..." (GEN 1:3). Later the Word came down in flesh as Jesus Christ the Son of God and at Pentecost the Word, that is the Son of God, went back to the Father and God's Holy Spirit descended upon us as an outpouring of God's love. The relations of one to the other is different but they are equal, that is the same, in substance and essence – one God, a Triune God that is the Most Holy Trinity. One God, one essence, but three persons equal to each other and only separate by their distinctions which are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

God is perfect life and therefore has perfect imminent activity – since He is a spirit. We often look to ourselves to find some faint resemblance of ourselves to this divine life in God. Also, like human life, God does think (has a thought or a word) and that thought, or word, contains all knowledge that is possible and thus, the reason for only the one thought as God does not need any other, it covers everything. And that one thought, that Word, became flesh and dwelt amongst us –the Son of God, the Thought of God. This Thought, this Word, is generated by God the Father (in paternity) of the Word (Christ) who is the Son. Although the Son is begotten (not made) of the Father, they are still equal in all aspects outside of this filiation. The love that

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comes from the Father and the Son is that of the Holy Spirit. This love is part of the Father and part of the Son and as both Father and Son are one so is the love, that is the Holy Spirit, that radiates from them. The fact is God is the Father of Christ who is the Son. They are equal in all aspects, but the Son is begotten of the Father in paternity and together in spiration send forth their love in the Holy Spirit as one perfect Trinity.

There we have the Holy Trinity in all its mystery and my feeble attempts to give some limited clarity to it. And it is no coincidence that we come to this Sunday in a whirl of pandemic, pain, suffering, anger, grief, and unrest. The events of the past week are exactly why we must look at the Holy Trinity and truly re-connect to it. We need this because of our actions, or our inactions, as individuals and as a society – we are all here together and we have failed to live to Jesus' call to love one another. As Moses asked of the Lord on Mount Sinai, "...pardon our wickedness and sins..." oh God.

God loves us, God made us in love as part of his perfect creation – each of us perfectly created. Then God gave us his Word in the most intimate of ways as his only Son Jesus Christ who humbled himself to be with us and teach us how to live and love as he, as God intended us to. And as the concluding act of this perfect Trinity, God the Father and God the Son sent their love down upon us, which is the Holy Spirit. Thus God made us in love, God gave himself to us in love, God sacrificed himself in Jesus Christ for our salvation through his love, and God continues to pour out his love to us through his guiding presence in the Holy Spirit each and every day.

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So, if God surrounds all creation with love and if every known action we see of God is rooted in love how can we fall so low as to not see everything around us as God's loving gift? When we abuse, mistreat, marginalized, have cold indifference to, and mistrust of each other or more specifically certain groups of others, we reject God's love! Our planet, our environment, every animal, and most certainly every human being is made in God's love and is loved by God. We know this in Scripture as the Hebrew words that describe God passing by Moses have richer meanings than the English words we heard today. They have meanings of mercy, compassion, graciousness, and slow to anger – they speak of a God of love. Jesus' entire message was one of love. Love of God and love of all, starting with ourselves, but extending to every person. Go find that in the Bible and you will not find an asterisk that further qualifies who this all encompasses – all truly means all. And not the 'all' that churches put on their welcome signs but then spend so much effort to exclude large swaths of people that do not conform to their line of thinking. No, it is simply A-L-L, all.

All three persons of God in the Trinity are but one God and that God is love. St. Paul reminds us today in the second reading (II COR 13:11-13) to, "...mend our ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you" (II COR 13:11). Friends, we best be looking at how we fail to do this, and we all have in some way or another failed in this, and truly work harder than ever to bring the kingdom of heaven, that is love, down here to earth, for if we continue in our wicked societal ways we are working against God and that is not acceptable.

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I do not know what to do nor how to even begin. I guess we start with tears, even anger, and proclaim to the world in raised voices ENOUGH! But then, if we truly want to change, to follow the plea of Moses and turn from our wicked ways, then we must turn from them and to our Triune God of love. The Holy Spirit, which is God's love, is all around us and there to guide us, we just need to embrace its will and let God's love flow through us and thus our actions. And let us make our first actions that of prayer. Pray for God's forgiveness and pardon for our society's sins. Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill our Stoney hearts with true love for each other. Pray that souls of those murdered now rest in eternal peace with the Lord. Pray that our country will find a new path, a new way out of this darkness of pain and hurt and into the warmth of God's eternal love. Please, pray!

And I pray to you now that, "...the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you..." (2COR 13:13) today and every day.

AMEN

---Citations---

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