

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate Trinity Sunday. We celebrate the fact that there is one God in three Persons. It is hard for us to wrap our heads around this sometimes, but there are signs pointing to the Trinity all around us. We believe that God the Father, who was from all time, spoke and His Word was so perfect that it formed another person, the Son. (This is why, as in the Gospel of John, we hear John telling us that the Word was with God, and the Word is God). The Father and the Son loved each other so perfectly for all of eternity, that love itself, became another person (very much like the love of a father and mother brings about the child), the Holy Spirit (that is why one of the Holy Spirit's titles is the Spirit of Love).

The love between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was so overwhelming that it spilled over and that love brought about creation. It is that Divine love that brought about creation, holds creation in being, and leads it all back to its source and beginning in the midst of Divine life (Heaven). This Divine love is the source of all the love that you and I share with each other. It is this Divine love that gives us the desire and ability to put others before ourselves (shown so perfectly on that hill called Calvary). It is this love that helps us to understand that love is its own reward. St John tells us that if we do not live in this love of God and love for each other then we cannot truly know God, for God is love. He tells us that if we say we love God but do not love one another we are liars. God calls us into this Divine love, this Divine life, deeper each and every day.

As you and I open ourselves up to the love God has for us, our hearts overflow and we begin to love as we truly want to be loved. St Thomas tells us that love that is self-serving, is not love at all. Love is not so much about the people we love, but about our choice to love. I remember when I was dating in college a young lady asked me why I loved her, and I could never really answer that question, so I responded I don't know, I just do. As I reflect back on those times I have come to understand, that is the correct answer, for anything less would have been self-serving and not love at all. God loves us because of who He is not because of who we are. God does not love us because we are good, but because He is good. God loves us because it is His nature to love.

St Paul tells us we do not totally understand this love because we are wounded by original sin and our personal sin, but that it will be revealed to us fully as we enter into that Divine life, that Divine love, Heaven. He reminds us that when we enter into Heaven, we will meet those who we have loved that have gone before us and love them more than we ever could on Earth. All the imperfections of our love here on Earth will be removed (selfishness, greed, fear, hurts, being wounded, or thinking we are not loveable). The love we will share with each other will be a direct reflection of the love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We need to ask ourselves, "What is keeping me from being truly open to God's love for me, and my love for others.

In a Union of Prayer,

Fr Tim