

Grade 6 Meeting #5 HOME ASSIGNMENT

October 31st (Happy Halloween) or November 1st

31ST Sunday of Ordinary Time – C3 The Trinity

Your Home Assignment

- Opening prayer

To the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that our lives may bear witness to faith. Father, you sent your Word to bring us truth and your Spirit to make us holy. Through them we come to know the mystery of your life. Help us to worship you, one God in three Persons, by proclaiming and living our faith in you. We ask you this, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, true and living, forever and ever. AMEN.

- Learning Objectives
 - Students will identify the Trinity as three Divine Persons in one God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 - The participants will explore through art how humans can reflect the unity, harmony, and love that exist in the Trinity.
- **#ONE**, Watch the video below:
 - Video: Catholic Central- THE TRINITY <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkYM9OvX7f8>
- **#TWO** for your Closing Reflection go to the Wikipedia page (1st link below) and using the handout (see page 2-3) reflect on the symbolism and prepare to report back on your reflections at our next class.
 - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_\(Andrei_Rublev\)#/media/File:Angelsatmamre-trinity-rublev-1410.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(Andrei_Rublev)#/media/File:Angelsatmamre-trinity-rublev-1410.jpg)

“Encounter with the Holy Spirit-Symbolism to explore faith’s Mysteries”

The Symbolism of the Icon of the Holy Trinity

- Go to [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_\(Andrei_Rublev\)#/media/File:Angelsatmamre-trinity-rublev-1410.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(Andrei_Rublev)#/media/File:Angelsatmamre-trinity-rublev-1410.jpg) and view the icon (artists interpretation of a religious person or concept). We will be looking at the first picture for our reflection.

THE PAINTING OR ICON IS INSPIRED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT STORY OF ABRAHAM’S VISITORS FOUND IN GENESIS 18.1-15. THREE MEN HAVE COME TO VISIT ABRAHAM AND HIS WIFE SARAH’S CAMP. THE MEN ARE WELCOMED AND OFFERED FOOD. DURING THE VISIT WE COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE MEN ARE ACTUALLY ANGELS WHO HAVE COME TO TELL ABRAHAM AND SARAH THAT OLD COUPLE WILL FINALLY HAVE A BABY OF THEIR OWN.

THE PAINTING IS ALSO INTERPRETED TO PROTRAY THE THREE VISITORS AS THE HOLY TRINITY. YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS TO VIEW THE PAINTING IDENTIFYING THE PARTS BELOW AND UNDERSTANDING WHAT THEY SYMBOLIZE. THE GOAL IS TO USE ART TO BETTER EXPLAIN THE MYSTERY OF THE TRINITY AS WORDS CAN FAIL US IN THAT UNDERSTANDING. IN OTHER WORDS, ONE PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS. SEE IF YOU AGREE AND BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

- NOTICE: The figures are part of a circle with the center being where the 2 fingers touch the table. The circle is love. God is love and the 3 persons of the Trinity are flowing to and from each other with love.
- Look at all 3 of the figures and notice their faces and size of the body. What do you see? *(They are all equal)*
- What do the 3 figures appear to be? *Angels. Note that the wings and seats are gold representing power and strength. The light around heads are white representing pure light as gold not enough to represent glory of God*
- Who are the 3 angels? *On one level this picture shows three angels seated under Abraham’s tree*
- Look at the figure to the right. We will follow the movement of the circle starting with the Holy Spirit.
- Notice the colors of the robe and garment? What do the colors symbolize? *The robe is green for the earth and the garment is blue for the sky. The Spirit of creation moves in sky and water and is with us on our earthly journey.*
- Moving up from the Spirit we find just above the halo a rock hill. What could that represent? *Over the Spirit represents the hill of prayer. It may be steep and rocky, but the journeying God goes before us along the path.*
- The journey leads to the Son who has the deepest colors; a thick heavy garment of the reddish-brown of earth and a cloak of the blue of heaven. What do these colors symbolize? *(In his person he unites heaven and earth, the two natures are present in him, and over his right shoulder is band of gold for divinity and kingship.*
- The Son is extending 2 fingers of his right hand. What might they symbolize? *The two roles of the Messiah (Jesus), that of Priest and King. The Anointed One, will be abused on the cross as a mock king while he is offering himself as sacrifice to the Father.*
- What is above the Son’s right wing? *A tree.*

- What does it symbolize? *Over the Son the shade of the tree represents a place we can rest in peace and security. Standing above the Son who was sacrificed on the cross, it turns the tree of death into a tree of life.*
- What is the tree leaning towards? *The tree is on the way to the house. Over the head of the Father is the house of the Father. It is the goal of our journey. It is the beginning and end of our lives.*
- Why do you think the door of the house is open? *It is always open to welcome the traveler.*
- Can you find the tower above the gold roof? Why a tower with an open window? *It is there so the Father can incessantly scan the roads for a glimpse of a returning prodigal (Prodigal Son reference – the lost soul)*
- Turn your attention to the Father located just under the house. What colors do you see? *He wears all the colors that change with light and seem transparent. The Father cannot be described or confined in words.*
- Notice the Father's posture. How is it different than the Son and the Holy Spirit? *The Son and Holy Spirit have their heads bowed down in reference to the Father.*
- What do you notice about the Father's hand? *The Father's hand raised in blessing to the Son – this is my Son, listen to Him.*
- What about the hands of the Son and the Holy Spirit? *The hand of the Son points on, around the circle to the Spirit. In this way we see the movement of life towards us, The Father sends the Son, the Son sends the Spirit and we complete the circle when we return to the house of the Father.*
- What the three figures holding? *A staff.*
- What does the staff represent? *The staffs are long and serve to cut the picture into sections. The staffs are there not to help the winged angel's journey but for us in our journey on the earth. God is with us in the weariness of our human road.*
- Take a look at the table. What do you see?
 - *It is white, the color of pure light making it an altar*
 - *It is at the center of the picture showing Abraham's hospitality to the angels and God's hospitality to us.*
- What's in the center of the table? *The chalice contains the sacred calf. The calf is the sacrificed Christ and preparation the Eucharist.*
- What do you think is the rectangle below the altar? *It marks the holy place where the relics of the martyrs were kept in a church.*