

2020 June 07

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Readings:

First: Exodus 34.4b-6, 8-9, "Pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance." (9c)

Psalm: Daniel 3.52-56, "Blessed are you who look into the depths." (55a)

Second: 2 Corinthians 13.1-11-13, "The God of love and peace will be with you. (11b)

Gospel: John 3.16-18, "The one who believes in him is not condemned." (18a)

Trinity means relation

We come across magicians some time in life. They seem to be doing impossible things and we do not know how, and often they do not tell us. We are inclined to say that we cannot do the impossible. However, a close look at some of us might give the onlooker the impression that we are attempting the impossible. Any exercise at explaining or presenting Trinity is such an act! Even St. Augustine, the great Doctor and teacher of the Catholic Church attempted it, and was told that he was on a futile mission.

On the feast of the Most Holy Trinity we attempt to figure out what the Most Holy Trinity is. Philosophers of ancient times defined humans as social animals. Most animals have social life, but for humans, to be called humans, have to be essentially social, that means relational. The bible teaches that man was created in the image and likeness of God and our God is worshipped as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thus Trinity means a relation. Only in a relation we can find love, and love is not necessarily a physical good, it is a spiritual or mental good. Physical love or physical union is but one expression of human love. It is not the whole of love or the end of love. We define and call God as Love or Love as God, and our God is the Trinity or Trinitarian, that is "love in a flow".

When God took flesh and appeared in human form he/Jesus became the expression of God's love or manifestation of God, who is love. Thus God the Father is love, God the Son is love and God the Spirit is love. We may say that the Trinity is or are three expressions of love, and that love is One, that love is True and that love is Beauty. One, True and Beauty are the philosophical attributes of God.

Hence we may safely say that the Trinity is the sum total of an undivided and indivisible relation and it is an undivided Love. We humans are invited to join this relation and are incorporated into it or them. In the act of love there is a giving and there is a receiving. To call these acts of giving and receiving as love it has to be total giving and total receiving. That is God. God's love for us humans means God fully giving himself to humans and human beings fully received or accepted by God as we are. This act of love is practiced and experienced through faith and trust. Let us surrender ourselves totally to the Trinitarian love! Our families need to be replicas of the Trinity. Let us also listen to Paul today in 2 Corinthians 13.11.

Fr. George