

Bulletin Article for the Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity

June 7, 2020

Happy Ordinary Time!! That is a greeting that I dare say MOST do not ever hear. Most, I also dare say, are not accustomed to hearing the greeting of “Happy Lent!!”, but that has never stopped me before! With the Feast of Pentecost which we celebrated last week, the Great Fifty Days of Easter came to an end and the church began the long “green” trek through the weeks of “Ordinary Time”. And while it is true, liturgically, that the Easter Season ended with Pentecost and Ordinary Time has begun (at least in the weekday Masses), it is ALSO true that the Church ends the great event of the Resurrection of Jesus with THREE great Solemnities on the Sundays following the Easter Season. In my mind, they are like three giant exclamation points!!! The Easter Season ends with the Feast of PENTECOST!; the Feast of the HOLY TRINITY!! (aka Trinity Sunday); and the Feast of the BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS !!! (aka the Feast of Corpus Christi). Very “Trinitarian”, don’t you think?

So, this weekend we celebrate the great theological Mystery of the Trinitarian Nature of our God. God is Three Persons, One God; God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Since the time of Jesus, theologians have tried to explain this Dogma. Indeed, the greatest minds that have blessed our world have grappled with how to understand this great Mystery. As with everything between us humans and God, at best we are able to grasp some small aspect of God’s Infinite Nature, and feel good about ourselves for the effort. Yet, in truth, there is SO much to the depth and meaning of our Triune God, the reality is that we have to be satisfied with our inabilities to grasp it all. Differences in opinion about how the dynamic of the Triune God “works” has been the center of the rift between the Eastern and Western Church since the Council of Nicea in 325 c.e. Yet, no matter how complicated this Dogma is, it IS a cornerstone to our Faith, and we are celebrating this great Revelation this weekend.

I think that there is something poignant about the timing this celebration; something very Providential about this Feast coming right *now* in our lives. One aspect of the Trinity that we can understand is that, as a Triune God, God is *relational*. At the very core of the Being of God is relationship: a perfect Union of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. I think that this is Providential because between the isolations caused by the pandemic and the painful divisions that we are experiencing in our country because of racial inequality in our Criminal Justice System, this is a time when being united or in any kind of meaningful union with one another feels very far away.

Perhaps a Grace for us this weekend is the opportunity to recall and to pray about the reality that as we believe that we are created in God’s Image, then that means that in God’s Image we are called to mirror the loving Union of our Triune God. And to mirror that Union necessarily means

that we strive to achieve our truest selves on our truest level and always seek to bring healing, reconciliation, peace, unity, and love in ALL the relationships we are blessed to be in.

~Fr. Tom Gaughan, csc