

## Trinity Sunday

The Jews have a prayer called the “*Shema*”. It’s as common to them as the Our Father is to a Christian, or the Hail Mary to a Catholic. It goes, “*Shema, Israel, Adoni, AlahenU. Adonie, Echod.*” And that’s all of the Hebrew I know.

It means, “Listen, Israel, The Lord is God, The Lord.... Is ONE.” In fact, the Jews were the First to believe in the ONE, TRUE, God. They were the first Monotheists. And in our first Reading from Deuteronomy today, we hear Moses outline the covenant that Yahweh is making with the Children of Abraham and Sarah through their son, Isaac after HE freed from slavery in Egypt.

Muslims are also Monotheists. They are said to be the descendents of Ishmael, the other son of Abraham from his maid Hagar. They call God, Allah, but He is the same **One**, True God

And we Christians are also Monotheists. We believe in this same One True God..... But with a TWIST.

You see... we believe that God is SOOOOO immense, SOOOO incredible, and his love, SOOO awesome.... That it can’t be contained in just one person, or entity.

If God IS love, he has to have someone... someone that is EQUAL to Him, to share that love. The way we love a spouse, or a parent, or a son or daughter. Not like the love we have for our pets, but what’s only possible with other people—our equals—that we can have TRUE love—reciprocal, shared love.

So, it makes sense that God must have... an equal... a Son, with whom He can share reciprocal love.

And that love is so great... so Awesome and powerful, that it can't be contained. So, through the Holy spirit, this shared love then creates the World. And the crowning jewel of that Creation is Adam and Eve; the human race, made in God's image. But Man sinned, and separated himself from the Father, So Jesus became one of us so that he could show us the Father and reunite US with Him... Them, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God wants US back. That's the whole point of Jesus; to get US back.

And how does he get us BACK::: through Baptism! The Gospel we just heard today was the very last passages from Matthew. The final thing Jesus says is, "Make disciples of ALL Nations—Baptizing them—and how??? In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. God wants all of us BACK, and not just a little bit, but totally submerged, Drowned within HIS Triune Love.

And NOT just as pets, but as Equals. As Paul tells the Romans "those who are led by the Spirit of God.... Are Sons (and daughters) of God, and did not receive a spirit of slavery (He freed us from that with the parting of the Red Sea) but, through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, we received a Spirit of Adoption. Through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, we are actually DEIFIED. We become the Body of Christ—We can call Yahweh...., the Great I AM—ABBA.... Father. We enter into His Love.... Their Love..... We are His Children. We are a part of the Triune Mystery... part of the ONE. The *Echod*.

Do you realize how incredible this IS??? Can you grasp what this really means???

I should probably stop trying to explain it. Books have been written by scholars, graduate courses are required to be taken by priestly

candidates, and Church Councils have been held, that TRY to define and explain the Trinity.... And in the end.... It is simply declared..... A Mystery.

A mystery that actually DEFINES us as Christians, because we agree with the Apostle Thomas, when he saw Jesus after the Resurrection and professed him, "My Lord and My God?"

We believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and that He is in the Father, and the Father in Him... and they are ONE.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father and the Son, to teach us all Wisdom. Who is the breath of God that created all things, and that was breathed into Adam... which gives US our very life.

Thank you Father..... for creating us.

Thank you Holy Spirit, for giving us life.

Thank you Jesus Christ, for gaining us Salvation for all eternity... and making us ONE as your Body.

Praise the Holy Trinity.

Undivided Unity.

The ONE... TRUE.... GOD!