Feast of the Holy Trinity

Today is the Feast of the Holy Trinity. The environment committee struggled for a symbol to express the Feast of the Holy Trinity. Carol Lawrence came up with the three intersecting circles opening up to embrace the world. The Feast of the Holy Trinity is especially celebrated in the Catholic Church.

Difference between Catholics and most Protestant communities.
- Emphasis on the Trinity as opposed to emphasis on Jesus.
- Example from our walks of Friday nights.

Tradition of Protestant communities frequently break off from each other. Catholics stick together.

Communion of believers flows from our understanding of the Trinity.

The transcendent love of God was made visible in the Son.

The bond of that love between the Father and the Son is the Spirit of the Living God.

The human race is not alone but adopted into the bonding love of God. We are called to form communities which share in that love. We are called to share God's love in word and deed.

Let me give you a recent example of how we live out our belief in the Holy Trinity. Neighborhood cleanup by Chrysler Corporation this past Friday.

That effort to rebuild a neighborhood began with the founding of O'Hair Park Community Association by Corpus Christi seven years ago. The square mile community organization is a living sign of the Body of Christ. It invites individual households to form a community of love.

The theme of O'Hair Park is <u>love where you live</u>. People did not want simply to be isolated in fear in their homes or feel they needed to run to the suburbs for safety, but they wanted to be a community of loving concern reflecting the life of the Trinity.

Members of our faith community found creative ways to join in the effort by being O'Hair Park Board members or by helping with activities to strengthen the neighborhood community.

For example, a member of our parish reached out to his co-workers at Chryslers; that's how 35 engineers show up last Friday to clear empty lots and create gardens and places where people can come and rest and form community.

Two of the neighbors witnessed the work of the Chrysler engineers and came out to thank them and say how they themselves are forming community: The neighbors are buying abandoned homes near them and fixing them up, in one instance at least, for a relative to come and live in.

Another example of how people are living out the communal love of the Trinity is the involvement of St. Frances of Assisi Parish in Ann Arbor. Each year families from St. Francis Hundred donates hundreds of bags of food for our Food Depot and for our summer camps brought up during the offertory of the mass. They are living out their belief in the Trinity as a community of love outpoured.

It is because of our belief in the Trinity that the Catholic Church has been so involved in founding hospitals and in taking such a strong commitment to the marginalized in our society. We reach out not only because others have needs. We reach out to include them in the embrace of the love of the transcendent God made visible in Christ Jesus.
It is our belief in the love-life of the Trinity which challenges is to support the Church, the Body of Christ, and donate so that we can spread of the Spirit of God's love.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Trinity in both word and deed, we move away from a strong thrust away from individualism in America which racks our families, neighborhoods, and nation. Rather than being first and greatest, the Gospel calls us to be the last and servant of all. If we are to be like God,

if we are to be bonded to the Triune God in a community of love, we care called to eternal interdependence. Not dependence where we lean on each other but mature interdependence within our families, neighborhoods and among nations. We each have our role of service in the bond of love.

Every time we bless ourselves, it is in the name of the Trinity. May we live what we believe. May we live

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.