

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

May 27, 2018

First Reading ~ Deuteronomy 4: 32-34, 29-40

Moses said to the people:
"Ask now of the days of old, before your time,
ever since God created man upon the earth;
ask from one end of the sky to the other:
Did anything so great ever happen before?
Was it ever heard of?
Did a people ever hear the voice of God
speaking from the midst of fire, as you did, and live?
Or did any god venture to go
and take a nation for himself
from the midst of another nation,
by testings, by signs and wonders, by war,
with strong hand and outstretched arm,
and by great terrors,
all of which the LORD, your God,
did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?
This is why you must now know,
and fix in your heart, that the LORD is God
in the heavens above and on earth below,
and that there is no other.
You must keep his statutes and commandments
that I enjoin on you today,
that you and your children after you may prosper,
and that you may have long life on the land
which the LORD, your God, is giving you forever."

Psalm 33

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Upright is the word of the LORD,
and all his works are trustworthy.
He loves justice and right;
of the kindness of the Lord the earth is full.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made;
by the breath of his mouth all their host.
For he spoke, and it was made;
he commanded, and it stood forth.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,
upon those who hope for his kindness,
To deliver them from death
and preserve them in spite of famine.

Our soul waits for the LORD,
who is our help and our shield.
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us
who have put our hope in you.

Second Reading ~ Romans 8: 14-17

Brothers and sisters:
For those who are led by the Spirit of God
are sons of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear,
but you received a Spirit of adoption,
through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"
The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,
if only we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.

Gospel ~ Matthew 28: 16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.
When they all saw him, they worshiped,
but they doubted.
Then Jesus approached and said to them,
"All power in heaven and on earth
has been given to me.
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe
all that I have commanded you.
And behold, I am with you always,
until the end of the age."



Words from our Holy Father

Let us recognize that God is not something vague, our God is not a God "spray," he is tangible; he is not abstract but has a name: "God is love." His is not a sentimental, emotional kind of love but the love of the Father who is the origin of all life, the love of the Son who dies on the Cross and is raised, the love of the Spirit who renews human beings and the world. ... The Most Holy Trinity is not the product of human reasoning but the face with which God actually revealed himself, ... walking with humanity ... with his people in the history of the people of Israel and Jesus has always walked with us and promised us the Holy Spirit who is fire, who teaches us everything we do not know and from within us guides us, gives us good ideas and good inspirations.

-Pope Francis, Angelus, May 26, 2013

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Abba! Father!

*Abba, Abba Father. You are the potter.
We are the clay, the work of your hands.*

Mold us, mold us and fashion us into the image of Jesus, your Son, of Jesus, your Son.

Father, may we be one in you. May we be one in you as he is in you, and you are in him.

Glory, glory and praise to you. Glory and praise to you forever, amen, forever, amen.

Carey Landry, Text and music © 1977, NALR. OCP Publications

Psalm 33

*Blessed the people the Lord has chosen,
chosen to be his own.*

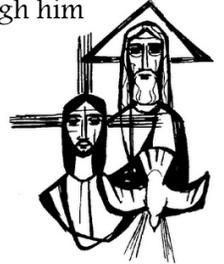
God So Loved the World

*God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son
that whoever believes in him, shall never die
but have eternal life*

God did not send the son into the world to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him

God sent a holy light into the world and we sought the dark but Jesus calls us to follow him

Paul A. Tate, Text and Music © 1998, 1999 WLP



“Ground Rules” for Small Group Faith Sharing

- Maintain confidentiality – “Whatever happens in small group stays in small group.”
- Judgment-free zone – You don’t have to agree with everyone, but you have to have respect for everyone.
- No “shut downs” or “put downs” – See Christ in one another, BE Christ to one another.
- Don’t be a “discussion hog” – Be sure that everyone that wants to gets a chance to share.
- Leave room for the Spirit – Silence is OK! Not everyone has to share.
- Practice active listening – Avoid interrupting, fidgeting, criticizing, lecturing, or thinking of what you’re going to say while another person is speaking.
- Questions are a guide - You do not have to answer all of them or go in order.
- Be open – God is doing amazing things!

Petitions

Our response: “Abba! Father!”

Closing Prayer

In the name of the Father ... With us from our beginnings, you so loved the world that you sacrificed your Son.

And of the Son ... who came to live among us, your everlasting gift of your self.

And of the Holy Spirit ... with us now, in our hearts, always: our soul mate.

God, our Lord, you are loving, slow to anger, rich in kindness. We praise you for your goodness. You are Savior. We honor you for your total gift of self. You are the Spirit of life, forgiveness, and peace. We delight in your tender love. One God, three persons, be near to us who are formed in your image. Dwell in us. We ask this, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, living and true, forever and ever. Amen.

Questions for Reflection on the Gospel

1. What word, image, or phrase struck you from the Gospel?
2. The Holy Spirit was put in our hearts that “we might understand the things freely given by God” (1 Cor. 2:12). Is the Trinity one of those things? How can this be since the Trinity is a mystery?
3. Read Pope Francis’ words below. What do you think he means when he says that God is the origin and the aim (goal) of the whole universe? What is the Holy Spirit’s job according to the Pope?
4. In the First Reading, we hear from Moses, who heard the voice of God from a burning bush. Where do you most often hear the voice of God? Where do you find it most difficult to hear God?
5. Moses couldn’t imagine anything comparable to the love God had shown his people, but was writing before Jesus’ passion, death, and resurrection. In this Hebrew scripture reading, where do you see manifestations of God as Father (creator)? God as Son (savior)? God as Holy Spirit (sheer love)?
6. In the Second Reading, we are called “heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.” What do we inherit with and in Christ? Which treasures do you need the most?

More Words from our Holy Father

The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity ... leads us to contemplate and worship the divine life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: a life of communion and perfect love, the origin and aim of the whole universe and every creature: God.

The Holy Spirit, gift of the risen Jesus communicates the divine life to us and thus he draws us into the dynamism of the Trinity, which is a dynamism of love, communion, mutual service, sharing.

- Pope Francis, Remarks before the recitation of the Angelus
Feast of the Holy Trinity, June 16, 2014