

Holy Trinity Sunday

A pastor was trying to explain to a little Sunday school child that God is calling people everywhere in the world to believe in him. "God is much bigger than we imagine him to be and God can use all of us in lots of different ways to do his work everywhere," the pastor said. "God is everywhere!" "Everywhere?" asked the little boy. "Everywhere!" said the pastor. The boy went home and told his mother, "God is everywhere! The pastor said so." "Yes, I know," said the mother. "You mean He is even in the cupboard?" "Yes," said the mother. "In the refrigerator — even when we close the door and the light goes out?" "Yes," said the mother. "Even in the sugar bowl?" the lad asked as he took the lid off. "Yes," said the mother, "even in the sugar bowl." The boy slammed down the lid and said, "Now I've got Him."

Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Holy Trinity. One God in three Person. Over the centuries, there had been discussion on it. St. Augustine says, "If you comprehend, it is not God and God is best known in not knowing him." It is a mystery. How can we understand in our reality though he cannot be comprehended fully?

As we all live in this world. God lives. we try to create a relationship among us. This feast and our faith affirms something very important and Christian about our relationship to God, namely, that God is not, first of all, a formula, a dogma, a creedal statement, or a metaphysics that demands our assent. God is a flow of living relationships, a trinity, a family of life that we can enter, taste, breathe within, and let flow through us.

"God is love," scripture says, "and whoever abides in love abides in God and God abides in him or her." Too often, we miss what that means because we tend to romanticize love. We've all heard this passage read at weddings; appropriate surely, but, within that circumstance, all too-misunderstood for it is pictured as romantic love, as falling-in-love, wonderful and holy though this may be. Thus, at a wedding, we can easily miss the sense of what this text means.

It might best be rendered this way: "God is community, family, parish, friendship, hospitality and whoever abides in these abides in God and God abides in him or her." God is a trinity, a flow of relationships among persons. If this is true, and scripture assures us that it is, then the realities of dealing with each other in community, at the dinner-table, over a bottle of wine or an argument, not to mention the simple giving and receiving of hospitality are not pure, secular experiences but the stuff of church, the place where the life of God flows through us.

The readings today tell us the nature of God. the way we have to come to know the Trinity is through the gift of time and relationship. God created through love that began his relationship as friendship with individual and community. God maintained the intimacy with people. God sent his son and when he went to heaven, he sent the holy spirit.

God is a flow of relationships to be experienced in community, family, parish, friendship, and hospitality. When we live inside of these relationships, God lives inside us and we live inside God.

Gospel invites us to make disciples in the name of the father and the son and the Holy spirit. Let us make disciples of relationship as God is a relationship.

St. Francis Xavier's favorite prayer was: "Most Holy Trinity, who live in me, I praise You, I worship You, I adore You, and I love You." May the Son lead us to the Father through the Spirit, to live with the Triune God forever and ever. Amen