



Daily Reflections

May 27, 2018

Scripture

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."

Our Scripture Reflection

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. How did the Church come up with such an idea as the Trinity? It was all about evangelization. After Jesus had been raised and ascended to the right hand of the Father in Heaven, the early Church took seriously its commission from the Lord to "Go make disciples of all nations." Their audience consisted of two groups of people:

1. Jews who believed in only one God. When the Christians addressed them proclaiming Jesus as God, that was a problem for them in accepting the faith.

2. The Gentiles believed in many gods. But when the Christians proclaimed that there was only one God, that idea was a problem for them.

In time, and after having lived the faith for a couple of centuries, Church leaders from across the world gathered in a town named Nicaea, located in Asia Minor to pray, study, worship and teach. And in 325 AD, the Church put forth its first formal statement of faith about God as One but in three Divine Persons....the Trinity. Now the disciples had a program to teach the world about how God created, saves and blesses His people as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This teaching is deeply rooted in the Holy Bible.

Food for your Journey

A prism is a three-sided piece of glass. Were it two-dimensional, or nearly so -- like window-glass -- light would shine through it in the ordinary way. Yet, a prism's not two-sided, but three, so it diffracts white light into a colorful rainbow.

Who would have known such a spectrum of different colors is present in ordinary light? The three-sided prism demonstrates that the colors are there all along.

In the same way, the Trinity reveals a riot of color in depicting the complexity of who God is.

There is a tree in Johannesburg, South Africa, that stands in the yard of a Catholic retreat center. When viewing from a particular angle, one sees a singular tree with a very large trunk. From another angle, the tree appears as three distinct trees, down to the very roots. The tree was nicknamed Trinity — Three-in-One. The base of the tree became a meeting ground where community was experienced. There, and around its trunks, the deep things of life were discussed. No matter where you leaned on the tree, you were supported. No matter where you gazed upon it, it was beautiful. Three trunks, one tree, inseparable and unified at its base, drawing us into fellowship with one another. It was amazing.

The existence of this tree is a natural and compelling illustration of the existence of our triune God, a God who operates in community to create community. Whether calling out YHWH, Jesus, or Holy Ghost, it is the Three-in-One God, inseparable and unified, who responds to our every need. No matter what name or office you call out, God will bear you up. No matter

where you look, you can see the beauty of what God is doing. God, the Creator; God, the Savior; God who empowers, luring us into loving relationship with God's self and with one another. It is just so amazing! Look again, it is one tree down to the very roots.

—Marilyn E. Thornton.
gbod.org/worship/default_body.asp?act=reader&item_id=14002. Retrieved December 30, 2005.

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious and Merciful God, Because of Your incredible love for us, You create us and redeem us in Jesus Christ. You guide and direct us through the power of the Holy Spirit. As the Holy Trinity Your love for us is steadfast and true. Help us to show our gratitude for Your love by spending our time in this life loving You with our hearts and minds and strength. Amen