

TODAY THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY TRINITY .

THERE IS A STORY TOLD ABOUT A PREACHING INSTRUCTOR TALKING TO HER STUDENTS ABOUT THE CHALLENGE OF PREACHING ON “BIG FEAST DAYS.”

SHE TELLS THEM: “When the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity comes, if you are assigned to preach on that day, get the FLU!”

BOTH PREACHERS AND WORSHIPPERS GET A BIT STYMIED BY THE MYSTERY OF THE TRINITY . HOW DO ANY OF US ADDRESS THE MYSTERY OF THE TRINITY AND APPLY IT TO OUR DAILY LIVES?

I LIKE TO THINK THAT AS WE REFLECT ON THE MYSTERY OF THE HOLY TRINITY, WE ARE NOURISHED BY IT.

HECK, EVEN THE GREAT MINDS OF THE CHURCH HAD AND STILL HAVE DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING IT.

OUR FAITH TELLS US THAT THE INNER RELATIONSHIP OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, IS FULLY AND EQUALLY GOD, YET THERE ARE NOT THREE GODS. **THERE IS ONE.** HUMANS CAN NOT COMPREHEND THIS MYSTERY.

I went for an early morning walk yesterday and I found myself taking in the beauty of springtime . New Birth.

At one point, I was reflecting on the Holy Trinity and 2 large birds flew out of the top of some trees. As they were flying, a smaller bird that looked just like the symbol of the Holy Spirit was darting around and between them.

As I watched this smaller bird dance around the other two, it reminded me of the relationship of the Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A nice beginning to a very special day. It was as though God was speaking to me through nature, God's own creation.

Now mind you, I didn't solve the mystery of the Holy Trinity, but I did realize a nice moment with God, a moment simply brought on by the playful flight of a little bird.

The movement of this little bird brought a moment that I could bring with me and share with you this morning.

Lets take a look into the **movement** of the love within the trinity: TODAY'S GOSPEL TELLS US THAT GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MIGHT NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

AND WE ALSO KNOW THAT JESUS , TOLD HIS APOSTLES HE, PHYSICALLY, WILL BE LEAVING THEM SOON, AND THEY WILL BE SENT OFF TO DO HIS WORKS OF MINISTRY.

HE LOVED THEM SO, THAT HE WOULD BE LEAVING THEM WITH SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL -THE ADVOCATE-THE HOLY SPIRIT.

NOW LETS TAKE A PEAK INTO THE MOVEMENT OF LOVE WITHIN OUR LIVES.

A QUESTION FOR ALL OF YOU MOMS AND DADS HERE TODAY. WHAT WAS IT LIKE FOR YOU, AS YOU SENT YOUR LITTLE GIRL OR BOY OFF TO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME? WHAT WAS GOING ON INSIDE YOU AS YOU WALKED YOUR CHILD TO THE BUS STOP?...SADNESS? WORRY? ANXIETY? DID YOU SEARCH THE SCHOOL BUS WINDOWS FOR YOUR CHILDS LITTLE FACE AS THEY DROVE AWAY?

AS THEY SEPARATED FROM YOU, DIDN'T A PART OF YOU GO WITH THEM, KNOWING THAT YOU COULD NOT PHYSICALLY BE WITH THEM?

LET ME ASK YOU ANOTHER QUESTION. AS YOU SENT THEM FORTH, DID YOU LEAVE THEM WITH SOMETHING SPECIAL IN

THEIR LUNCH BOXES, A SPECIAL TREAT (OREO COOKIES, GUMMY BEARS), **A LITTLE HANDWRITTEN NOTE OF LOVE. JUST AS A REMINDER THAT MOMMY AND DADDY LOVED THEM VERY MUCH?

IT SEEMS THAT SOMETIMES THROUGH SEPARATION, WE COME TO REALIZE THE BLESSINGS OF LOVE, TOGETHERNESS AND UNITY. PERHAPS THIS IS A PEEK INTO THE BLESSED WORKINGS OF THE TRINITY.

REMEMBER HOW PAINFUL LIFE ON EARTH BECAME FOR CHRIST? HIS RITE OF PASSAGE WAS TO ULTIMATELY LEAD TO HIS ASCENSION TO THE TRINITY. CHRIST'S PAINFUL HUMAN EXPERIENCE PAID THE PRICE FOR OUR ULTIMATE UNITY IN ETERNITY.

WHILE JESUS WALKED THE EARTH, THE TRINITY HAD A HUMAN ELEMENT IN CHRIST. WHAT DOES THIS REVEAL TO US?

AS CHRIST LEFT US, HE BREATHED THE HOLY SPIRIT INTO HUMANITY.

BLESSED WITH HIS GRACE, IT WAS HIS INVITATION, HIS WISH, FOR US, TO CONTINUE HIS MINISTRY. TO LOVE GOD AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

OUR PARISH IS A VIBRANT COMMUNITY THAT ANSWERS CHRIST'S INVITATION TO MINISTRY.

AS AN EXAMPLE, YOU SEE THE STEPHEN MINISTRY, WHICH IS DEVOTED TO ONE ON ONE CARE FOR PERSONS SUFFERING THROUGH A CRISIS IN THEIR LIVES.

SEVERAL SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES, INCLUDING THE RAIHN MINISTRY A MINISTRY TO THE HOMELESS.

PEACEFUL HEARTS, A CANCER CARE MINISTRY.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRIES, LITURGICAL MINISTRIES,
YOUTH MINISTRIES, AND THE LIST GOES ON AND ON AND
ON.

Paul's preview into the mystery of the trinity :THE GRACE OF
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE
FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT is WEAVED INTO ALL
OF THESE MINISTRIES.

AND AS CHRISTIANS WE KNOW THAT WHEN WE LOVE ONE
ANOTHER , WHEN WE VISIT A PERSON WITH A TERMINAL
DISEASE, CARE FOR A PARENT GRIEVING OVER THE LOSS
OF A CHILD, OR BRING FOOD TO THE HOME OF THE POOR
AND HUNGRY, WE SENSE A TRUE CONNECTION WITH THE
DIVINE.

MOTHER TERESA ADDED, THIS IS WHERE WE FIND THE EYES OF
CHRIST, AND RECEIVE A TRUE GLIMPSE OF THE DIVINE WITHIN
OUR LIVES AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

AS WE RECEIVE THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST THIS
MORNING, LETS LOOK WITHIN AND DISCERN THE
MOVEMENT OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES. WHERE IS THE
SPIRIT LEADING US?

LETS TAKE A PEAK INTO THE LUNCHBOX JESUS PACKS
FOR US, AND SEE WHAT SPECIAL LITTLE TOKEN OF LOVE
HAS BEEN PLACED BENEATH THE PEANUT BUTTER AND
JELLY SANDWICH .

