

In Three There Is One

The Most Holy Trinity-June 11, 2017-John 3:16-18

As we celebrate the Most Holy Trinity this week, we are reminded of the relational nature of this mystery. The three person of the Trinity are both individual and corporate. They are both one reality and separate parts of that same truth.

I grew up an only child. Born to older parents, I was a rather unique oddity in my ginormous Irish Catholic family where the average family size was ten. For me, being an only child was a burden and a joy.

The burden was the label, only child, spoiled-rotten, never having to share. The joy was that Mom, Dad and I were one. I went everywhere with them. I lived in an adult world and learned to be part of a wider culture. We were a unit. Now I am not comparing my small nuclear family to the Holy Trinity but it does provide a springboard for our reflection today.

The Holy Trinity operates very much like a family (large or small) in the sense that the Trinity is a dynamic, energy-filled, and moving corporate life. The working parts have their own respective roles but together they form a whole. That whole is the Divine Mystery that we celebrate today on this feast of the Most Holy Trinity.

The Church is very much the same. We are individuals who come together as a community bound by faith and belief to worship and serve the one undivided Triune God. Within the Church everyone has a role. The religious brothers and sisters don't serve the Church alone, but together. The Holy People need the ordained. The ordained need the Holy People. The Pope can't be pope alone. None of us can operate as an island unto ourselves. We need each other to corporately carry out the mission of Christ.

Life was created to be communal. This communal aspect of life is reflected in our belief that God, three persons in one, forms a collective whole. You can't have one without the other. The theology of the Trinity is truly beyond our comprehension. The Church offers to us this week a way for us to be in communion with God through Christ. This is the reason Jesus came. **"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."**

The Trinity is an eternal truth. The continual movement of the three persons in and around each other is what provides for us the constant Divine love that was given and sacrificed so that we too might be eternal.

Blessings!

Sue Schettler