

Fr. Canisius' Reflection for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday at Pentecost we celebrated God, the Holy Spirit. Next weekend on the feast of *Corpus Christi*, we will commemorate the real presence of God, the Son, in the Eucharist. Today, we celebrate the very essence of God and the definition of what it means to be a Christian, in the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. We believe in one God, a Trinity of Persons, working in perfect unison to offer us a way home.

As we pray in the *Glory Be prayer*, the Judeo-Christian God has been, and always will be, the one God in three persons. There have been heresies and false teachings about who God is and what it means that he is a Trinity. This solemnity allows us to be clear in our own minds and hearts regarding who God is and how his divinity affects our humanity.

The Trinity is about relationship, unity, and love. Indeed, it is the unceasing love of the Father and the Son that generates the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit for all eternity. The Trinity is a model for us, the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church. We are all his sons and daughters, brothers, and sisters in Christ. Inasmuch as we seek relationship, unity, and love in the Church, then we are truly seeking the path that will lead all of us to God's kingdom, where we will see him as he truly is.

The Church, by its very nature, is sacramental and communal. We showed that in the celebration of our diverse catholic cultural heritage last Sunday. We are united as Christ's bride, the Church, through our coming together as one body of believers. Each parish is a microcosm of that union of the Trinity. In other words, parishes are more than the sacraments they offer; they are a home.

And just like any good home dynamic, parishes depend on involvement from others. The heart of every parish should consist of committed disciples of Christ who are eager to build it up communally, spiritually, and financially (Acts 2:42-47). When one follows Christ, the call to serve His church goes hand-in-hand. But we cannot fulfill that call if we don't actually find a place to plant our roots.

So, as we celebrate this doctrine of our faith, let us give thanks for the mystery of our redemption by God, through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us give thanks for this divine outpouring of pure gift for our sake. And may we respond by glorifying God by living in right relationship with him and with one another.

Thank you so very much for taking part in our cultural heritage celebration. I am deeply grateful to all of you for your presence and all who helped out in any way. That is what a parish is! We are called to continue to build a sense of community and belonging within the parish.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Canisius