

Trinity Sunday, 7 June 2020

Scriptures: Exodus 34:4b-6,8-9; 2 Cor. 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

Homily: Fr. Ken

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Trinity: God the Father, as Creator; God the Son, as Redeemer; God the Holy Spirit, as Sanctifier.

In the ancient if not infamous Baltimore Catechism, there are these questions and answers: "Who made us? God made us"; "Why did God make us? To know, love, and serve Him in this world".

In this world, we cannot actually know God fully. Our attempts to get a grasp on God by natural reflection are better at telling us what God is not, rather than what God is.

We have always been taught that there is no contradiction between the God of reason and the God of faith. But our faith takes us into the realm of perception and imagination that reason struggles with.

The mystery of the Trinity emerged gradually in the Church's thinking and teaching, and there have been many different ways of reflecting on it.

What God reveals to us is always for our benefit. That is why Jesus was sent into the world. Through his coming to us, and through his sacrifice on our behalf, we shall have eternal life. We shall enter into the mystery of God's own existence. This gift is not offered just to us, but it is offered to the entire world. Jesus came into our world so that through him the world might be saved.

We, as Jesus' followers, are the ones who proclaim that message and who try in our own lives to live out the truth and the love expressed in the mystery of Jesus' own life which God has shared with us.

By looking at the roles of the Trinity, we gain insights into understanding our human relationships. God as Father offers the role of creator; God as Son offers the role of healer and redeemer; God as Spirit offers the role of enlivener and sanctifier. And so we speak of the Trinity as God the Creator, God the Redeemer, and God the Sanctifier.

Thus, for us to keep our human relationships alive and well, all three of these qualities are essential.

We need to sustain each other, to be there for each other, and be a reliable support in good times and in bad. We also need to heal each other, and not just when we fall out between ourselves.

When things go wrong in our lives, when we lose our jobs, or become sick, or have any sort of trial or tribulation, we need those who are close to us, to hold us, and help the restoration of our confidence, health, and self-esteem. And we need to offer each other excitement and adventure, risk and horizons, challenge and inspiration.

In such a scenario, the life of the Holy Trinity is not a distant mystery, but lies at the very heart of what it means to be fully human and fully alive.