

## **05/26/2024 The MOST HOLY TRINITY [B]**

There was story about a man who was suspected of being out of his mind, climbed a tree. Many were worried about this. So, they shouted at him to come down from the tree but he did not. They called the captain of the fire department to convince him to come down but he was not convinced. They called the mayor but it's hopeless. Finally, they called the old parish priest of that place and asked him to make a blessing if in case he will fall down and die. And the priest came and made the Sign of the Cross. After a while the man went down from the tree and the people were surprised why it happened that way.

They asked the priest how he was able to convince the man to come down by making the Sign of the Cross. The priest told them: I don't know I just said, 'If you will not come down (tracing a vertical line), I will cut this tree (tracing a horizontal line in the air). After that he came down.'

Trinity Sunday is a good opportunity to pay special attention to what we do and pray every Sunday at Mass so that we realize more deeply that every Sunday is Trinity Sunday. Thomas Edison, the inventor, once remarked: "We don't know what water is. We don't know what light is. We don't know what electricity is. We don't know what heat is. We have a lot of hypotheses about these things, but that is all.

But we don't let our ignorance about these things deprive us of their use." The truth of that statement is real. Most of us do not know how an electric light works, how a telephone or a TV works, but this does not prevent us from using them. Let us try to apply the same common sense to our faith in the doctrine of the Trinity.

Let me end by saying that the doctrine of the Trinity does not attempt to explain God. It only explains to us in a very elemental way what God has revealed to us about himself so far. To describe the tip of the iceberg above the water is not to describe the entire iceberg.

1) All prayers in the Church begin in the Name of the Holy Trinity and end glorifying the Trinity. 2) All Sacraments are administered: we are baptized, confirmed, anointed, our sins are forgiven and our marriage blessed, our Bishops, priests and deacons ordained in the name of the Holy Trinity. 3)

Church bells ring thrice daily, reminding us to pray to the Holy Trinity. 4) We Bless ourselves, and the priest blesses us, in the name of the Holy Trinity.

Let me try to give you some Biblical proofs: There are only vague and hidden references to the Trinity in the Old Testament. But the New Testament gives clear teachings on the Holy Trinity.

1)At the Annunciation, God the Father sends His angel to Mary, God the Holy Spirit overshadows her and God the Son becomes incarnate in her womb.

2)At the baptism of Jesus, when the Son receives baptism from John the Baptist, the Father's Voice is heard and the Holy Spirit appears as a Dove.

3)At the Ascension, Jesus gives the missionary command to his disciples to baptize those who believe, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Today's feast invites us to live in the awareness of the presence of the Triune God within us: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We believe the Blessed Trinity through faith and nothing more. This faith has to be realized, embodied and materialized in our concrete lives. And what is that, that makes the life of a Christian so important. we Christians affirm the Trinity, not as an explanation of God, but have the firm conviction that the Trinitarian God abides in us, that He is the Source of our hope, courage and strength and that He is our final destination.

We are made in God's image and likeness. The self needs to be in a horizontal relationship with all other people and in a vertical relationship with God. In that way our life becomes Trinitarian like that of God. And we are called to become more like the Triune God through all our relationships. Just as God is God only in a Trinitarian relationship, so we can be fully human only as one member of a relationship of three partners.

Therefore, as the Son leads us to the Father through the Spirit, to live with the Triune God forever let us practice the Trinitarian relationship of love and unity in the family relationships of father, mother and children and become members of God's Trinitarian family. **Amen.**