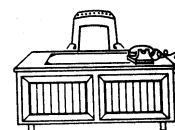


The Most Holy Trinity

June 16, 2016



From the Desk of
Fr. Romanus

Dear Parishioners,

Most Holy Trinity:

This Sunday is the celebration of the Most Holy Trinity, which is one of the fundamental beliefs of the Church. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity states that there are three persons in one God (expressed in Greek as *hypostasis*) namely: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The three co-exist in absolute harmonious relationship and share one nature (essence). Scholars refer to the union of the three persons of the Trinity as “hypostatic union.”

Many have tried to dissect the inner workings of this divine relationship with little success. The difficulty in comprehending the nature of the Trinity is due to the fact we are dealing with the mystery. Limited human intelligence is incapable of fully grasping the overwhelming mystery of God. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity is not a proposition to be broken down, but a mystery to be lived. The much we know about God is essentially through revelation and the mediation of Jesus Christ.

Trinitarianism is the designation for Christian belief that there are three persons in the Holy Trinity. This is in contrast to Unitarianism, a belief that there is only one person in one God. Unitarianism is not to be confused with Monotheism, a belief in one God, which is a fundamental part of our Christian faith. Unitarianism itself is in contrast to Binitarianism, a belief that there are two persons in one God or that there are two Gods.

The complexity of the early doctrine of the Holy Trinity led to various heresies in the early Church. Among them were Sabellianism, which taught that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were the same, with only verbal distinctions describing the functions of a single being (one person). Arianism was a heresy that taught that the Father existed before the Son who was not God by nature but a creature granted the dignity of becoming the Son of God. A related heresy, Adoptionism, states that Jesus was an ordinary man born to Joseph and Mary but adopted as a Son of God at his baptism. The Council of Nicea (325 A.D.) addressed these heresies and gave us the Nicene Creed with a clear Trinitarian doctrine.

The harmonious relationship of the Trinity is a model for Christian relationships. Harmonious relationship is more than tolerating others, but a willingness to love unconditionally.

Nomination for Trustee:

The term of office for our Trustee Secretary, Mark Kuchta, has expired. On your behalf, I thank Mark for his service to our parish. He has also expressed a willingness to continue as parish trustee. Hence, I am pleased to nominate him to another term as trustee. Trustees serve a two-year staggered term to ensure continuity. The nomination process is now open.

Archdiocesan guidelines state that after the pastor makes the initial nomination, parishioners may nominate additional candidates in writing. Signatures of ten or more registered parishioners should accompany each nomination. The nominee must be Catholic, registered and practicing member of the parish, and at least 25 years of age. If there are other nominations, an election will take place. The winner becomes trustee only if approved by the Archbishop.

Happy Father's Day:

Please, join me in wishing Happy Father's Day to all our fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, stepfathers, foster fathers and reverend fathers.

Have a great week!

Fr. Romanus