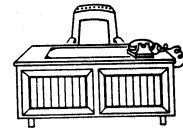


The Most Holy Trinity

June 7, 2020



From the Desk of
Fr. Romanus

Dear Parishioners,

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; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The three co-exist in absolute harmonious relationship and share one nature (essence). The unity of the three persons is often designated in scholarly circles as “hypostatic union.”

Many have tried to dissect the inner workings of this divine relationship with little success. The failure to fully comprehend the nature of the divine relationship underscores the fact that we are dealing with mystery, that is, the mystery of God. 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.

Christian faith in the Trinity is often designated as Trinitarianism, in contrast to Unitarianism, a belief in one God and one Person. Unitarianism should not be confused with Monotheism, a belief in one God, which is a fundamental part of our Christian faith. Unitarianism also differs from Binitarianism, a belief in one God and two persons. In contrast to Catholic belief, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints views the Trinity as three divine persons with three separate natures as opposed to one nature, sharing one purpose.

The harmonious relationship of the Trinity is a model for Christian relationships. Harmonious relationship is more than tolerating others, but a willingness to love everyone unconditionally, understanding that no one is perfect, including you.

The ongoing riots following the death of George Floyd in the hands of the police in Minnesota highlights the fragile unity in our nation. Racism in our society is like a bandaged wound that refuses to fully heal. Every now and then the bandage is peeled off and the wound resurfaces. No person with a conscience who watched the video of Mr. Floyd’s arrest will justify his death in the hands of the police. It may or may not have been motivated by race. It could be a case of poor training or recklessness on the part of the police. Whatever the motive behind his death, the video was enough to set the nation on fire. Unfortunately, some of the businesses destroyed provide essential services to the very people destroying them.

On the other hand, some people hide under the cloak of condemnation for the destructive actions of the protesters while condoning or even encouraging racism. That is a position that needs to be rejected. Obviously, two wrongs cannot make a right. Healing begins with the fundamental understanding that we were created in the image and likeness of God. One person’s life is not more precious than another’s. We all need to come to the realization that every life matter. Justice demands the protection of everyone’s right and giving everyone their due.

The Most Holy Trinity serves as a model of unity and harmonious relationship for our nation. We will live in harmony when we recognize there is more that unite than divide us. Racism is about a mindset that is manifested in attitude. Changing the attitude begins with changing the mindset. Only then will one begin to see with new pair of lenses. Only then will one overcome the impulse to emphasize the color of the skin, eyes and hair, and see a fellow human being.

As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Trinity, we are reminded of the need to change our mindset, so we can think positively of other races, and change our hearts that we may love and appreciate one another as fellow citizens of heaven.

Have a great week!

Fr. Romanus