

TRINITY SUNDAY 2019 – C
Proverbs 8.22-31///Romans 5.1-5///John 16.12-15

→one of the blessings in my life has been the opportunity to receive a wonderful and comprehensive education....I spent 8 years in the seminary (4 in undergraduate...4 in graduate school)...2 years at ND....and 13 years of kindergarten, grade school, high school....added all up that is 23 years of school.

→and in all those years...I only got one “C” on my report card....it was class in the seminary on the Trinity....

→today is the Feast of the Holy Trinity....and so my reflection today will be a “C” homily...since according to my professor I only have an average understanding of the Trinity.

→this is a unique Feast Day in the Church year because unlike any other Sunday where we focus on an event...today our focus is on a concept...an understanding....an idea

→we celebrate the understanding that we believe in and worship God who is three-in-one...known to us as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

→[and] we remind ourselves of this belief every time we profess our faith by saying the creed...and we echo this every time we make the sign of the cross...

→but what does it all mean....

→well in some sense...understanding the Trinity is much like a novel...or watching a movie about a murder mystery

→as the story moves on...we keep getting more and more information and clues about the characters that encourage us to try to figure out the mystery....

→and a good mystery, if it's well done, never allows us to figure it out until the very end...when it all fits together and makes sense...

→and the Trinity...is a good...well done mystery....

→even Jesus sensed this when he tells his disciples.... *"I have much more to tell you but you cannot bear it now...."*

→like a murder mystery...the disciples had gotten some clues...some information but not all of it just yet...and the same is true for you and me.

→no matter how much we might try to explain and understand the Trinity...there will always be a feeling of incompleteness...and the words of Jesus certainly brings this to light as he looks upon his disciples.

→they had been together for three years and now the time was coming to send them on their own

→Jesus had educated them and nurtured them...and they were all stronger, wiser, and better because of what Jesus had done for them

→and yet, as we hear in the gospel, there is a sense of frustration....a sense of incompleteness on the part of Jesus....

... *"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now...however the Spirit will guide you to the truth."*

... *"the Spirit will lead you to the truth because the Spirit is from me...and the Spirit will announce to you the Word of the Father."*

PAUSE

→[now] I would like to suggest that perhaps....that is an appropriate way to look at the feast we celebrate today....[the Feast of the Trinity].

→the disciples of Christ were not theologians by any stretch of the imagination...instead they were just ordinary, plain, simple people who had come to know God in extraordinary ways...

→and today we celebrate God in all of God's dimensions

→the Father, Son and Spirit...AND their presence in our world and lives

→we celebrate the care and concern, the love and nurturing God has for us.

PAUSE

→God the Father who revealed His presence through His Son, Jesus Christ, and who with the Holy Spirit give us life....also gives us understanding and purpose to the lives we live

--AND as a result, we are united and joined intimately with God and with one another as members of his body.

PAUSE

→the feast of the Trinity...is a feast celebrating God's presence --Father, Son and Spirit...in you and me and in our world

--[and] today, Jesus is telling his disciples and he is telling us.... "to trust, have faith and believe in yourself

→allow the presence and life of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit to be a part of who we are

→in a certain sense...we ARE an unfinished people living in an unfinished world

→parents eventually have to let their "unfinished" children face the world on their own

....to learn....live...fail and falter

--and yet, we all know that in reality.... we are never really alone....our parents, or someone seems to always be around looking over our shoulder...making sure that everything is just right

→today, Jesus is doing the same for you and me....urging us to live our life of faith on own

--to be witnesses to the gospel message throughout our world and in our community

--to spread the good news to all people both near and far

→knowing full well that our God, His Son, and Spirit.....will always be there....looking over our shoulder and making sure that all is well.....

→...that is what the mystery means.....and that is not bad for “C”