

I heard mentioned that preaching on the Most Holy Trinity can be difficult, mainly because you start out with three separate and equal persons to talk about, and one would want to expound on every aspect of each individual, only to wrap up the homily with another dissertation on the UNITY of the three.

There is the simple theological talk as was given by St Patrick using the clover leaf with its three separate leaves on a single stem to explain the Unity of the Holy Trinity.

Or a more modern, or maybe even secular, approach might be to explain how bad things, and GOOD things, come in threes, like when you have two funerals during the week you might expect a third, or when the Yankees come to Minnesota for a three-game series – well, you know the outcome.

My thoughts this week seemed to be more around three aspects of the Most Holy Trinity: God, the Father, as Creator; God, the Son, as Redeemer; God, the Holy Spirit, as Love. Moses, in the first reading, acknowledges God as the creator, not only of mankind, but of nations, and most specifically, the Jewish Nation, whom He will place in their own country forever.

Yet, this offering of God to His Chosen People comes with a stipulation, that they keep His statutes and commandments. This is an offering even we here today can see from the standpoint of a loving, caring parent. “You can go to the party; be home by 10.” “Here’s the keys to the car; drive safe.” God the Creator is a loving father to us all, to ALL His creation, even when we stray from His rules, always looking and waiting for us to turn back to Him.

In the gospel reading for today, the end of Matthew’s gospel, the Risen Jesus appears to His disciples giving them to order to baptize ALL nations. Why? So that the redemption of all mankind may come to fruition. God the Son, thru His suffering, death, and resurrection, is the redeemer of mankind, opening the gates of heaven to all.

Thru his disciples the Good News is to be preached to every living creature. To teach "them to observe all that I have commanded you", both in word and action, to treat all as brothers and sisters in Christ, just as He treated them, not as slaves but as friends, heirs with Him to heaven. And that preaching continues today around the world, around the clock.

Being heirs to heaven with Jesus Christ is reiterated by Paul in the second reading as he reminds us to call God "Abba, Father". How is it that we come to be able to call God "Father", or more rightly "Dad"? It comes thru the LOVE that exists between the Father and the Son, and that same love that the Son shared with his disciples and all he came in contact. "If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." (JN 15:10)

This love is God the Holy Spirit Himself. The spirit of life breathed into Adam and Eve. The spirit of love that blew across the River Jordan, making way a path to free the Jews fleeing from Egypt. The spirit of inner strength given Jesus before he went out into the desert. The spirit of boldness that alighted on the Apostles in the upper room, dismissing their fearfulness and opening their minds to the true wonders of God.

This is the SAME spirit WE receive at Baptism and Confirmation, a spirit who is with us ALWAYS, even when we aren't aware of His presence. Isn't it wonderful to know that the Spirit of Love is always with us, especially when the love we may be looking for may be missing.

Creator. Redeemer. Love. Father. Son. Holy Spirit. God is the one I AM.