



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY MAY 27 & BEYOND

The Trinity — of God and of Man



When you come to Church to worship God you will always find prayers where the language speaks of what is known as The Trinity. It refers to who God is. We say “is” because Trinity refers to the very “being” of God. If we were to talk about YOUR “being” – who you “is”, if you will -- we won’t be able to simply describe you as “a baseball player”, or “a mother”, or “a father”, or “a priest”, or “straight”, or anything else as if that were the core of who you are, your “being.” Yes, sometimes those things are so very strong in you that you might FEEL it is your very being. But they are simply things “about” you.

I’ve come to think that one of the reasons it may be so difficult to really understand what it means for God to be Trinity, is because we have such a hard time simply trying to figure out who WE are. On this Sunday, try your hardest to listen and comprehend the language being used to describe God as Trinity. It is not easy, and never has been since the early Church began to realize this identity of God. Your hard work in this, along with your worship of the Tri-une God may actually assist you in understanding more of your own “being.” And why would that be? Because we are made in the image of God.

That word, Trinity. It certainly has been made use of around the world and throughout history, hasn’t it. In the same way that land and lakes, cities and islands, so also has the word – and specifically the word referring to God – graced the names of magazines and book publishers, companies and even names given to children. I’m pretty sure that things were not always named “Trinity” because someone was actually proclaiming their understanding of how God is Three -in-One. Trinity. Tri-unity. Often, the name has been given for other reasons. One of

California's oldest namings – at least from the time of European discovery – is when the Spanish Navy was anchored off the northern California coast, just off what is the small town of Trinidad. That would be “Trinity” in Spanish. The reason the bay and the early community was called Trinidad is because the official possession and naming ceremony on land took place on this very Sunday, Trinity Sunday (June, 1775). The area was thus named “la santísima Trinidad” (the Holy Trinity). And, of course, from that naming came not only Trinidad, but Trinity County, the Trinity Alps, the Trinity River, the mysterious Trinity Wilderness, etc. Not because of its “being”, but because of the specific Church calendar day the land was claimed for Spain.

You and I, too, may have been named for a whole host of reasons. As much influence as a name can have on an individual and their future, it is still not a person's Being. But we are created in the image of God, and we can see in ourselves something of this being of God called Trinity. You and I have a body, we have a spirit, and we have a soul. If we were to lose one of those we would no longer be alive. We can talk about each, but they cannot be separated from who we are. One of the disciples' first inklings of what this meant in terms of God is when Jesus said, “I and the Father are One. If you have seen me, you have seen the Father.” As well, the Holy Spirit is often described as the Spirit of Jesus, and the Spirit of God. You can see them, even “touch” them, but you cannot separate God out of His very being. And the same way with us, whereby you cannot simply say that my human trinity is simply facets, “faces”, of something deeper. No, more than facets. Distinct parts. And now you know why it is so difficult to describe the identity of God in terms of Trinity.

It is very important to try, though. It will help us understand more of who God “is”, and thus it will help us understand more about who we “is.” And as the bible points out, our understanding will always begin and end as we come and worship Him.

Would you like to know more about God and who He is, in His Being? To start, then, Come and Worship.

Father Rob Eaton, Interim Rector

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: Trinity Sunday

8:00a Low Mass (Church)

10:30a Solemn High Mass (Church)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue—*

Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY: 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY: AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY Societies of Mary Day of Devotion

11:00am Rosary (St. Mary's Chapel)

11:30am MASS (St. Mary's Chapel)

Noon Potluck Lunch (Parish Hall)