

## From The Pastor

‘May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God our Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.’ This familiar greeting found at the head of many of St. Paul’s letters brings into focus the feast of the Holy Trinity celebrated this weekend.

As you know, the doctrine of the Trinity teaches that there is one God expressed in three ways of being: Indivisible in love and unity, one God, yet known in three distinct persons. God is a relationship of persons united in unlimited, freely given self-surrender; a love proceeds forth onto the world. God the Father creates, God the Son redeems, God the Holy Spirit sanctifies.

Like all doctrine of the Church, the doctrine of the Trinity developed out of the faith and experience of early believers. It is Jesus who reveals the three persons of God. Jesus prays to the Father in intimate and personal ways revealing the perfect oneness of the Father and the Son. Jesus reveals: ‘the Father and I are’, ‘he who has seen me has seen the Father’, ‘the one who loves me is loved by my father’, ‘all that I have has been given to me by my Father’. Further, Jesus reveals the Holy Spirit to the world: ‘I will send you another Paraclete, an advocate who will teach you all things’, ‘remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit comes upon you’, ‘it is much better for you that I return to the Father so that the Spirit of truth will come upon you’, ‘then He breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit”.’

Familiar as this doctrine and belief of the Church is, the Trinity remains a great mystery. Such a mystery begs our continual reflection and searching for its fullness. It is a mystery that invites our entry. Mystery is something known, yet hidden; not fully revealed, yet begging further study and contemplation. Mystery is not just a word we use to avoid the hard or unanswerable questions. Mystery is a reality of itself that invites inquiry. God is not a problem to solve, but a mystery of truth to ponder.

This search for meaning and understanding is the way of the human person in their search for God. Never will we fully discover the fullness of God this side of heaven. Yet, our search for God in our longing for meaningful and fulfilling existence reveals the truth of the One for whom we long. Christians find that truth in love, the love of God revealed in the person of Jesus Christ, now present in the world in the love of the Holy Spirit. This mystery of God must continue to be discerned and articulated in every age. The truth of God is constant, yet our prayer and pondering can inspire us to a new awareness of God. God has inclined our hearts to search and yearn for Him.

How does one search for God? How does one find God? These questions are not unlike the important questions of early adolescence. Who am I? Why am I here? What is the meaning and purpose of my life? Although these questions help form the identity of developing young adults, yet all people at any stage of life can fruitfully ask these questions. Seeking these answers gives meaning and direction to life, grounding us in something more than the immediate and passing challenges, pains, joys and successes of each day.

How do I find God? Ask yourself: when am I most happy or content? For what am I most grateful? To whom do I express my deep gratitude? What is my deepest desire? Answering these questions will often lead a person to an inner awareness of God’s presence. That might mean a sense of peace, oneness, or harmony. You might feel a confirming sense that you are a worthy and valued part of something infinitely larger than yourself. This kind of inner awareness begins to reveal the presence of God, and that God wants to know us in personal and real ways.

The feast of the Holy Trinity is a great witness to our experience of God as God gives himself to us in creation, redemption, and divine love. Everything about the Trinity tells us that God is about relationship, a deep and abiding love that includes each of us. God wants to be known to us, even as God knows us. In prayer, open yourself in trust to the love that is God. The more we act on our desire to know God, the more we will perceive his divine presence within and among us.

Thank you to all who have generously responded to the CSA. We are moving along to our goal. If all share the load, we will have a good result. I encourage those yet to give to respond generously to this important work.

I am very pleased to acknowledge the generous gift of an anonymous donor who has allowed us to re-carpet room 104 in the school. Also, our Easter candle each year is paid for by another generous donor. Good things are happening here! Thank you for these random and generous acts of kindness.

You are appreciated.

God Bless you all,  
Fr. John Esper