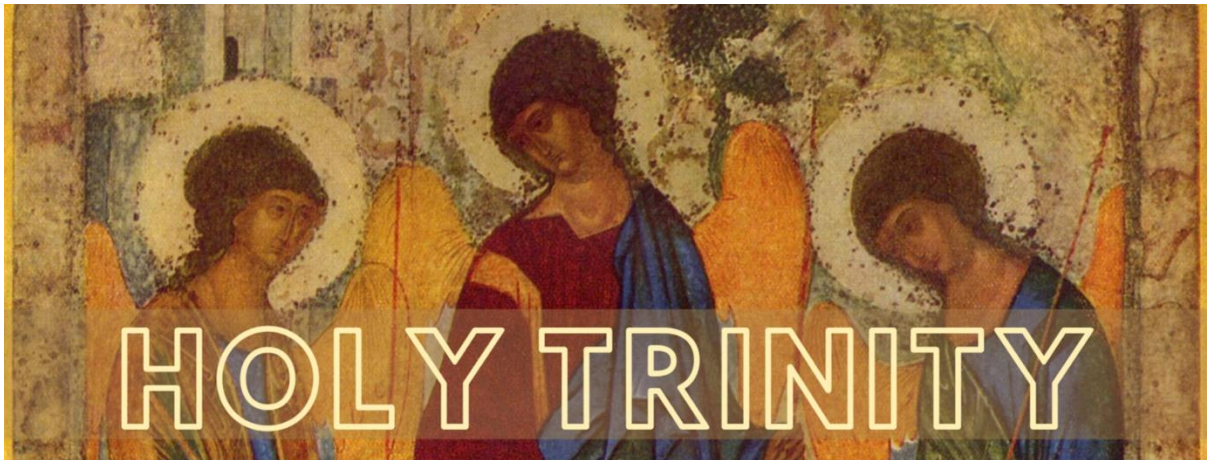


“AND REMEMBER, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE END OF THE AGE”

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY – 30 MAY 2021



The Trinity by Andrei Rublev 15th century | public domain

SEEING CONNECTIONS

As we begin today’s reflection,
we see connections between land/water and sacredness.

The stole for today’s Mass tells stories

- of water and education
- of mountain and land forms
- of water - fresh and salty, river and reef and ocean
- of the relationship between nature and humanity
- of celebrating community sacredness and oneness with God’s creation.

The stole was presented by ACU on Friday during this National Reconciliation Week.

THANK YOU FOR ANNUAL MURRI ECUMENICAL SERVICE

On Thursday evening, Murri Ministry hosted an annual ecumenical service in our parish church.
Thank you to all who made it such a wonderful event.

OUR CONNECTEDNESS TO GOD

Let us turn now to the Scriptures and our connectedness to God.
The Biblical passages are memorable as they mark turning points in human understanding of our relationship with God.

FIRST READING - DEUTERONOMY 4:32-34, 39-40

As well as highlighting the wonders of God in the experience of the Israelite people, and the commitment required by people to be with God, we hear of the momentous revelation that there is only one God.

Let us read this revelation.



Jane Ceolin, Director First Peoples Directorate, Australian Catholic University presented me with this beautiful stole

*“So acknowledge today and take to heart
that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath;
there is no other.
Keep his statutes and his commandments,
which I am commanding you today for your own well-being
and that of your descendants after you,
so that you may long remain in the land
that the Lord your God is giving you for all time.”*

SECOND READING - ROMANS 8:14-17

Saint Paul teaches the community in Rome about revelations by Jesus.

Jesus revealed that

- God is not remote or aloof.
- God is the parent and we are children together.
- God cares for us, God loves us.
- We are not isolated individuals. We are family.
- It is the Holy Spirit who leads us to understand this.

Let us read this revelation.

*“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you have received a spirit of adoption.
When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit
bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—
if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.”*

TODAY’S GOSPEL - MATTHEW 28:16-20

This passage is known as *the Great Commission*.

Jesus teaches and commissions the disciples.

He commissions them to baptise

in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

On most weekends this year in our parish, there are either celebrations of baptisms or preparation sessions for baptism.

Yet today’s Gospel reveals even more.

Let us read this Gospel teaching together.

**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**
The last sentence affects our whole lives and all we do and are. It says:
“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Sometimes we are so busy doing things.
Sometimes in modern urban and rural life, we feel so much pressure on us.
Jesus is always with us, but we don't always acknowledge his presence.

St Paul acknowledges the presence of God in challenging moments such as

- The times when we are weak
*“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness;
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,
but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.”*
- The times when we feel overwhelmed by life's challenges.
*“Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”*

Jesus is always present, including when -

- we face challenges of urban and rural life,
- we respect the Earth our common home.
- we live as family – the human family created by God.

Jesus is with us.

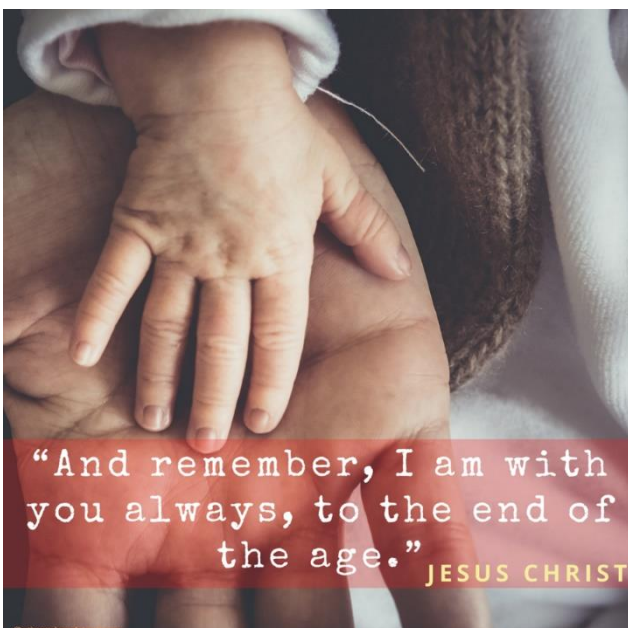
Jesus says to each of us –

“I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Let us pray.

Fr Gerry

readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/053021.cfm>



Aboriginal artefacts from Murri Ministry