

'PRAYER TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD'

Trinity Sunday – 16th June 2019

BEFORE LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Before listening to God's Word today,
let us touch on God now in our lives.
This *Trinity Sunday* is a time of wonder, of love, of stillness in God.
In reflecting on today's Readings,
and on our experiences of prayer within our church,
I offer a simple personal reflection on God,
who touches us at St Joseph's and St Anthony's Parish.

A PERSONAL REFLECTION

It is such a pleasure to sit in our church
and look out through our large windows to creation.
Our gaze changes with the time of day and of season.
The mountains on the western rim of our picture.
Clouds forming in patterns of delight.
Bird calls offering their seasonal tributes.
The canvas painted with light and dark.
The western sunsets of gold and grey and crimson.
The storm season of unfolding drama in light and sound.
Rain upon our roof, other times the breeze of comfort and wellness.
Listening to the Word of God on creation.

Each weekend is different.
Bringing our life to church in prayer.
Memories and queries,
silence and wonder.

Each weekend as family gathering,
On arrival our voices greeting,
In the Word our spirit listening,
In Eucharist our hearts opening,
Shared stories before departing.

Together before God and each other.
The sounds of life as community.
And the stillness of love within.

We come together before God revealing.
We listen to the Word of God moving.

We pray in depths of love within.
We and I - a community.
Each with sacred stories sharing.
Each before God praising.

With hymns in our voices singing.
We praise God as Creator, parent, lover.
We, humbly drawn by the wonder of God
Loving and inspiring and correcting,
Forgiving and healing and being.
Wonder, of love, of stillness in God.

PROVERBS 8:22-31

We are now invited to take the time to enter into dialogue with the Word of God.

Today's First Reading opens us to God's Wisdom in creation.
Let us wonder together.

*'The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,
rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.'*

ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS 5:1-5

HOW DO WE BUILD UPON OUR EXPERIENCE?

St Paul wrote to the community in Rome.
In this passage he brings together

Faith and peace, suffering and endurance,
Hope and love.

*'Therefore, since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have obtained access
to this grace in which we stand;
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.
And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings,
knowing that suffering produces endurance,
and endurance produces character,
and character produces hope,
and hope does not disappoint us,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.'*

GOSPEL OF JOHN 16:12-15

In today's Gospel, we come to God as Father, Jesus and Spirit

*'I still have many things to say to you,
but you cannot bear them now.
When the Spirit of truth comes,
he will guide you into all the truth;
for he will not speak on his own,
but will speak whatever he hears,
and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
He will glorify me,
because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
All that the Father has is mine.
For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'*

During this week, may we put to paper our experiences in prayer and parish community.

Margaret is now invited to share about our **parish ministries**.

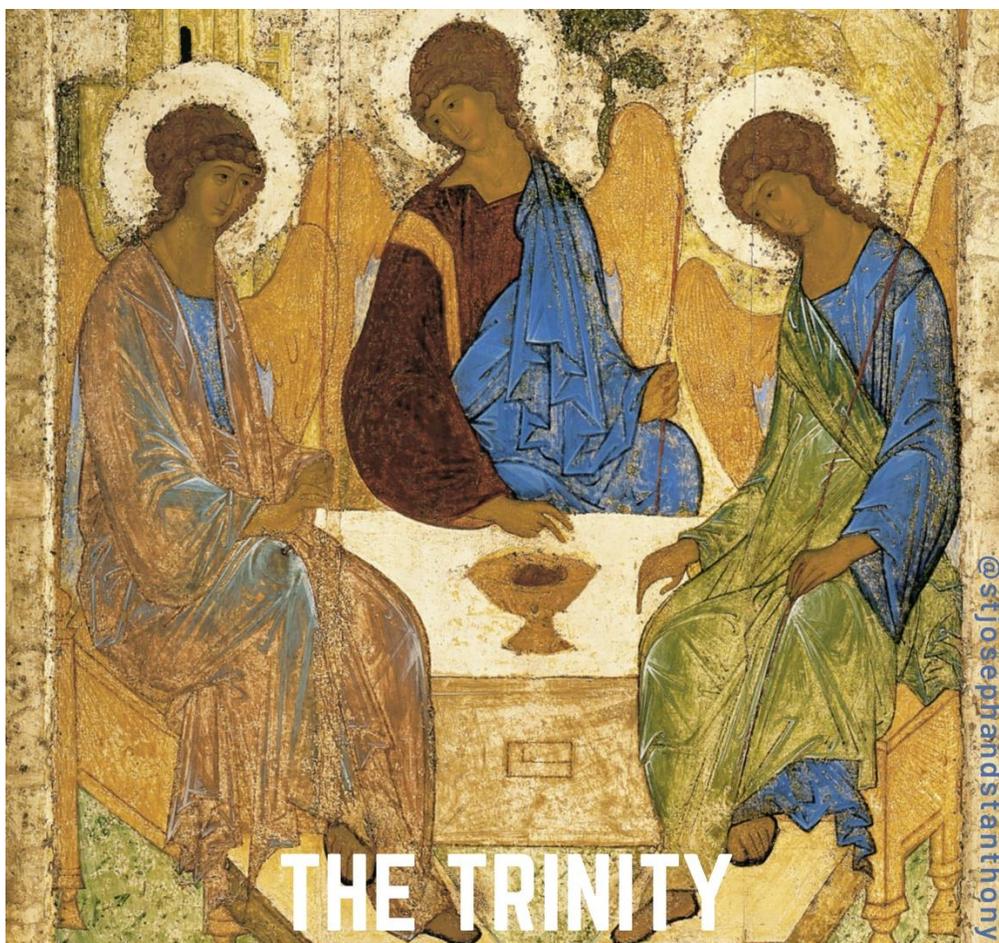
[Presentation]

Let us pray.

Fr. Gerry

[Readings: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/061619.cfm>]

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THE TRINITY

HOMILY: PRAYER TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD