

Trinity Sunday

June 7th 2020

Job 1:1-20

A big shout out to Thalberg on their church's feast day. May God continue to bless all of you on this day with health and prosperity.

All too often sermons on Trinity Sunday start in the sky. They generally open up talking about the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We call it theology in the clouds. Many times, talking about the three persons of the Trinity is unpractical and unrelatable to most of us. I thought it would be interesting if we brought things down to earth and start there this morning.

I remember as a student, one of my professors was Charles MacDonald. He was a former Catholic priest who left and married the love of his life. Charles was a student of Fr. Joseph Ratzinger at Tübingen as well as Hans Kung. He had a solid theological foundation. One day Charles said that the Trinity was all about relationships and the building of community. That was the essence of the Trinity. It truly was not all that complicated. This was a very Celtic approach to understanding the Trinity. Patrick would come later and confuse the simplicity. Over the years we have pulled the Trinity apart and analysed it too much. We have tried to understand it with the brain instead of experiencing it with our hearts. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit is a community held together by love. This is the greatest example of the perfect relationship. Where do we find this type of relationship around us?

As human beings we experience the concept of Trinity mostly in marriage. It usually starts out as two joined together in a committed relationship. Then it

could grow to three, four or twelve. We have come to call this type of Trinity experience a family. They are the foundation of our society and communities. Families working for a common purpose form cities, provinces, countries and our world. Trinity and marriages require: energy, focus, work and sacrifice. There is an ebb and flow that creates the harmony in Trinity and marriage. Sometimes it is knowing when to ebb or flow. That comes with time and trials. That is the dance of the relationship. One professor told me that the energetic type of love among newly-weds is the type of love between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Over time it does not grow too familiar or casual. They still always want to be around each other all the time.

Trinity is all around us. We just need to stop and look around. We can find Trinity concepts and energy in nature. We see it in bee colonies and ant colonies. In lion prides and wolf packs. Most importantly we find these relationships and love in church. I think that is why many are wanting to get back to worship. People are missing these connections and relationships that we have built over the years. We seem to be hard wired toward it. Maybe it is that Trinity energy that we are all missing.

Trinity does not have to be the three persons in the clouds. The important thing to draw from this idea of Trinity are relationships, community and love. Trinity is not so much about dogma as it is about these three. Ironic that it happens to be these three. This was how the Celtic Church understood the idea of Trinity. It was something you experienced around you. Either being in the middle of it or watching it happen. You knew of it with your head but understood it with your heart. God Bless and take care, Pastor D