



I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me

Sunday, May 30, 2021

Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity

African American Community of the Diocese of Phoenix

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As Christians or disciples of Jesus Christ, we all should be distinguished by only one word: love. God created us in Christ Jesus to love and be loved. Yet we live in a world that has forgotten how to love. Hatred, violence, and revenge seems to dominate our culture and our relationships. How do we move from a culture of hatred to a culture of love? Jesus Christ gives us the answer by revealing to us the great mystery of the Holy Trinity.

The Holy Trinity is all about love. The Holy Trinity shows us what love is and how to love. God the Father defines love by giving all that he is to the Son. The Son in turn gives all he is to the Father. This eternal and uncreated exchange between the Father and the Son is the uncreated and eternal person of the Holy Spirit. Consequently, the Trinity defines love as the gift of self. The Trinity is an eternal and uncreated exchange of love. What can we learn from this?

First, love is the gift of self. It starts with giving ourselves completely to God in Christ Jesus after the example of the Holy Trinity. If we cannot love, Love itself which is God, how can we possibly love anyone else? The act of love always begins with God. Second, we love others by giving ourselves in service to others. "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison and did not help you? He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." (Matt.25:44-45) And third, the Holy Trinity teaches us that true love is selfless and sacrificial. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

As your chaplain, I encourage all of you to bless yourselves frequently with the sign of the Holy Cross invoking the Holy Trinity in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This will remind us that God the Father created us in His image and likeness. It will remind us as well that God the Son redeemed us by his Precious Blood and that we are made holy or sanctified by God the Holy Spirit. We proclaim this great mystery of love: One God in three distinct persons.

May Our Mother, Mama Mary, helps us to always to invoke the power of the Holy Trinity and so enter into the great mystery of Love which is the Most Holy and Blessed Trinity. Let the Church say AMEN!

With my priestly blessing,

Fr. Andrew McNair,

Chaplain for African American Community for the Diocese of Phoenix