



Reflection from Deacon Ross Beaudoin

Hello, St. James people! I appreciated our celebration of Pentecost last Sunday! Always do. Pentecost at St. James seems so special to me because of our richly diverse community and its parallel to the crowd in Jerusalem at the first Pentecost; "...[people] from every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5).

I consider it a blessing to be a member of St. James community. The variety of individuals, races, nationalities, gifts and interests is astounding. This diversity enriches my life. This diversity is also a reflection of the gifts within God that are bestowed on the people of God. No one person has an "edge" on the gifts of God. God gives various gifts to each - and in abundance. The more people we know, the more we will know about God and the gifts of God.

And that brings us to the feast of this Sunday: Most Holy Trinity. God is One God in Three Persons. No human could come to that conclusion on their own. This is a mystery revealed to us by Jesus. We take it on faith. God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit: three persons in one God.

Now, to my small brain, that revelation of the Trinity is not so "out there" if we consider God's creation of this VAST universe. There is our own Milky Way Galaxy, and then add on the hundreds, thousands, millions of stars and galaxies that we are discovering with the Hubble Space Telescope and now the James Webb Space Telescope. This creation we are a part of is SO BEYOND OUR HUMAN COMPREHENSION – that the CREATOR and SUSTAINER of all this is bound to be a mystery to us.

The mystery of God - our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier - is that these three persons are truly ONE GOD. We can't figure that out, but we have it on the Word of God, Jesus, who came to live with us. This immense God, the Creator of this vast expanse of galaxies, became a person within our quite small and limited planet earth. The Second Person of this Trinity became a tiny infant in the small Middle Eastern town of Nazareth. He lived a life here to show us that the love and care of God extends to all – even to the lowliest person inhabiting this planet. And this Jesus, God among us, showed us the way to live our lives in love and harmony with each other and all of creation. How we need that lesson today – in every corner of our lives and of the world.

And so today let us celebrate the Holy Trinity of a loving God. A mystery, and a relationship of creating, redeeming and sanctifying love. Today let us glory in having been baptized "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Thus brought into the life of the Trinity it is for us to carry on the work of love, reconciliation and harmony given to us by Jesus.

We have our challenge. Happy Trinity Sunday.

Peace,
Deacon Ross