St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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PASTORAL TEAM:

Rev. Fr. Thoma<mark>s Lim</mark> *Pastor*

Rev. Fr. Russell Asch Chaplain to the Faithful participating in the Extraordinary Rite of the Latin Mass

Julia Di Paolo - Secretary

PARISH OFFICE AND HOURS:

Mon to Thurs:	9:15 AM — 12:00 PM	
	1:00 PM —	4:00 PM
Friday:	9:15 AM —	2:00 PM
Sunday:	9:15 AM —	1:00 PM
Closed on Saturday and Holidays		

DEVOTIONS:

Holy Rosary: before 8:30am Mass Divine Mercy: Friday after 8:30am Mass Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Wednesday Novena to Our Lady of Miraculous Medal:

Every Monday, October - May Novena to St. Anthony de Padua:

13 Tuesdays (March - June 13) Eucharistic Adoration:

Mon - Thurs: 9am-12pm (Church) Every Friday: 9am - 7pm (Church)

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

For assistance call 416-410-3589

PARISH SCHOOL:

St. Lawrence Catholic School 416-393-5264

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm (English) Sunday Mass : 8:30 am (English) 10:00 am (Italian) 11:30 am (English) 1:00 pm (Latin) 5:00 pm (English)

DAILY MASSES:

English: 8:30 am Monday to Saturday Latin: 12:00 pm Monday to Wednesday 7:00 am Thursday 7:00 pm Friday 10:00 am Saturday

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays following the 8:30 am Mass Saturdays 4:15 pm to 4:45 pm (or by appointment)

BAPTISM:

Visit our website or call the Parish Office for more information.

MARRIAGE:

Couples must contact the Pastor ONE YEAR in advance. Marriage Preparation Course is required. Visit our website for more information.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:

If one of your loved ones would like to receive this Sacrament, please contact the Parish Office.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK:

Visitation and/or Holy Communion for the sick upon request.

A warm Welcome to New Paríshíoners! Please fill out a parish registration form found in the foyer of the Church, and kindly introduce yourself to the Pastor.

TRINITY SUNDAY – JUNE 4TH, 2023



GOD SENT HIS SON SO THAT THROUGH HIM THE WORLD MIGHT BE SAVED

At first sight this part of the dialogue with Nicodemus seems to mention only the Father and the Son. A chief concern of the Gospel of John is to show the relationship of loving obedience between Father and Son. The love

and equality in a perfect relationship between a human father and a son is the nearest reflection of such love which we can envisage. In complete trust and confidence father gives to son everything that is his. His only interest is the advancement of the son. Son's only care is to please his father and to be as close to father as he can be, in word, action and relationships. Each has a vibrant and continuous bond of love for the other. Such a relationship may be rare in human family life, but it can model for us a pale reflection of the loving relationship between the Father and the Son. And the Spirit is in fact mentioned because the love itself is the living bond which unites the two. We must, however, appreciate that any such language limps and belittles the divine relationship, which is of a different order of perfection and intensity. Human language can never begin to render the divine reality, which is utterly beyond our comprehension.

Spesso ci si immagina un "Dio" lontano, astratto, ridotto quasi a un sistema di idee contorte o semplicissime, ma inesplicabili. Soprattutto quando ci si accosta alla dottrina della Trinità, si ha l'impressione di essere di fronte a una sciarada beffarda. E invece, l'essere concretissimo di Dio è comunione che liberamente si effonde. Anzi, ci chiama a varcare la soglia della sua vita intima e beatificante.

Non riusciamo a capire perché Dio si sia interessato di noi: più di quanto, forse, noi ci interessiamo a noi stessi.

Proprio mentre eravamo peccatori, il Padre ha mandato il suo Figlio per offrirci la vita nuova nello Spirito. Liberamente. Per amore. "Dio ha tanto amato il mondo da dare il suo Figlio unigenito".

Cristo non si impone. Non costringe ad accettarlo. Si consegna alla nostra decisione.

È questa la vertigine della vita umana. Possiamo passare accanto al Signore Gesù che muore e risorge, senza degnarlo di uno sguardo nemmeno distratto.

E, tuttavia, non possiamo fare in modo che egli non esista come il Dio fatto uomo che perdona e salva. "Chi non crede è già stato condannato".

Ma se ci apriamo alla sua dilezione...

Allora Cristo si rivela come colui che ha suscitato in noi tutte le attese più radicali. E colma a dismisura queste attese. È la redenzione. È la grazia. È lo Spirito che abita in noi e ci conforma al Signore Gesù.

La vita nuova, che ci viene donata, apparirà in tutta la sua gloria oltre il tempo. Inizia qui, ed è la "vita eterna".



"He who possesses God lacks

nothing: God alone suffices.

~St. Catherine of Siena~

TRINITY SUNDAY – JUNE 4TH, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ, on the wall of my previous parish office hung the famous icon titled, The Trinity. This 15th century icon by the Russian painter, Andrei

Rublev, depicts the Old Testament story of the three angels, who visited the patriarch Abraham at the Oak of Mamre (cf. Gen. 18:1-18). Over the centuries, the consensus among scholars is that the image is an icon of the Holy Trinity, "one God in three persons." The left angel, who is blessing the cup, symbolizes God the Father. The middle angel, who blesses and accepts the cup set on the table, represents Jesus Christ. While the third angel, with a mountain drawn behind it, is believed to be the Holy Spirit. The three angels who are seated in a circle, each manifest certain gestures, which suggests that they are in a silent, sublime communion with one another. This image comes to mind since today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity.

The Church teaches that the Trinity is the central mystery of our Christian faith and life. The Catechism writes, "[The Trinity] is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the 'hierarchy of the truths of faith'" (234). The other mysteries that we profess (e.g., the death and Resurrection of Jesus, and the Eucharist) shows what God has done, and continues to do, for us. The mystery of the Trinity, however, tells us who God is. The Catechism further states, "The Trinity is One. We do not confess three Gods, but one God in three persons: [Father, Son and Holy Spirit]... The divine persons do not share the one divinity among themselves but each of



Andrei Rublev was the painter of The Holy Trinity. Jesus in the middle points to the Eucharist and both He and the Holy Spirit on the right look to the Father on the left. The Eucharist is the center of the life of the Trinity.

them is God, whole and entire" (253). Thus, the Trinity is really a mystery about God in himself, that is, one God, three Persons.

The teaching of the Trinity is referred or alluded to (either indirectly or directly) in both the Old and New Testaments. Today's first reading, for example, makes two such mentions. The Exodus reading comes from the famous story of the Lord appearing to Moses on Mount Sinai after he had just destroyed the two tablets of the Ten Commandments. The text reads, "*The Lord descended in the clouds and stood with [Moses] there, and proclaimed 'The Lord.'*" The cloud mentioned here symbolizes the Holy Spirit of God. The English word, "Lord", however, refers to the sacred divine name YHWH, or what is referred to as the *tetragrammaton*, the personal name of the God of Israel.

A more explicit Trinitarian reference is found in St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. Paul, who is a monotheist (a person who believes in a single, all-powerful God), concludes his letter to the Corinth community by saying, *"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."* Many people will immediately recognize these words, since they are one of the three greetings that priests are permitted to use in welcoming the faithful at the start of the Mass.

The Trinity isn't just a mystery that is to be understood or professed by us. Rather the Trinity is the prefect example by which we can model our lives after. If we have been made in the image and likeness of God, then we ought to experience something of the mystery of the Trinity within our own lives. If God exists in a communion of three Persons, each who directs love towards one another and receives love from one another, then we too must live a life that mirrors the example set by the Trinity.

Let us never forget that although we are individual persons, we are social beings. Though we are one, we are linked together. Though we can live by ourselves, we cannot survive or exist without others. Though we are many, we are ultimately one. Today's mystery of the Trinity is a powerful reminder that just as God is a communion of three Persons, we too belong to a communion of persons. Pax Christi, **7**r. **Thomas**

TRINITY SUNDAY – JUNE 4TH, 2023



Vocation Reflection . . .

"God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son ... "

VOCATIONS How can you best serve God in a response to that love? If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. <u>www.vocationstoronto.ca</u> email vocations@archtoronto.org

Stewardship Reflection . . .

St. Augustine describes in his treaty "On the Trinity" that the Father and the Son eternally look at each other with pure Love, and this unadulterated love is the Holy Spirit, existing for all ages. Hence, through reflecting on this mystery we come to understand the immense importance of community and the sharing of love. As stewards, we are called to imitate this divine life of the

Trinity by living with our brothers and sisters and fellow parishioners in a community of love.



PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

We keep in our prayers the sick, the homebound, and the forgotten members in our community.

Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries

Anniversary blessings are given to all celebrating couples after the Holy Communion at all Masses of the **last** weekend of the month.

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How does the program work?

- Married couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries are asked to contact the office.
- Please provide your names, the number of years of marriage you are celebrating, and the weekend mass time which you usually attend.



Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Program:

Our Parish offers the PAG Program. Those who wish to sign-up may do so by filling out a registration form found in our website or in the church foyer. Please submit forms with a void cheque to the office or place in the offertory basket at any time. PAG allows you to support your parish when you are away. For more information, please contact our church office.



Weekly Offertory: Last Week's Collection: \$5,256.15

thank

"Rise, you who were lying fast asleep... Rise and hurry to The Church: Here is The Father, Here is The Son, Here is The Holy Spirit." ~ St. Ambrose ~



June 4, 2023

Two relatives of mine died from a disease for which they never sought treatment. Both said, "God will heal me if that is his will." Wouldn't God have wanted them to see a doctor?

It is safe to say that God would have them see a doctor. Does doing so compromise our faith in God? No. Throughout all of salvation history, God has relied on human beings to be his instruments, his messengers. While we believe in God, who can and has acted miraculously throughout history, these moments are exceptions, not the rule. Ordinarily, God's work is done by human hands. The spread of the gospel itself has come about through people who have responded to God in faith.

Part of this gospel story is the healing ministry of Jesus. Christianity has from the beginning taken up Jesus' ministry of healing and attempted to restore health to the sick, not only through prayer and the sacraments but also through institutions that care for the sick and the dying. Even as we recognize that our primary relationship is with God, we must also see that caring for our lives and our health, gifts from that same God, is a responsible way to receive and be good stewards of these gifts.

Think of the training, knowledge, and experience that doctors, nurses, and all other health-care practitioners have spent years attaining. Is not their work a miracle of God's love when it brings healing, restoration, and renewal? ●

Excerpted from Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews; © 2011 Liguori Publications / DearPadre.org



