

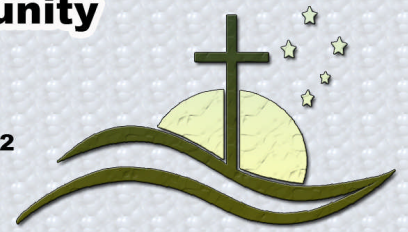


St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

5 Williamhovell Drive, Endeavour Hills, Vic 3802
T. 9700 3781 / F. 9700 6228
office@stpaulapostle.com.au
www.stpaulapostle.com.au

The year of the Priest



The Holy Trinity Sunday

29th-30th May, 2010: No 19

Reflection

A teacher asked her grade one class to paint something of their own choosing. All the children got busy about the task. As the teacher walked around she noticed Beckie was particularly focused on her painting. 'What are you painting Beckie?' asked the teacher. 'I'm painting God, Miss' replied the little girl. 'Well that must be difficult because no one knows what God looks like.' At which Beckie stopped, looked up and confidently announced, 'But they will when I'm finished.'

The names Christians give to God – Father, Son and Spirit – are both ancient and important. But we should never think they exhaust the possibilities of God's reality. Creator, mother, lover, redeemer, Saviour, higher power or friend all go some way to help us put words around our experience of our God, who is more and beyond all names we can possibly use.

The naming of God, however, is an important, but secondary focus to today's feast. There are two other facets to it that are more central.

The first is that the Trinity declares that relationships are at the very centre of God. We believe that the Father, Son and Spirit are in full communion, communication and relationship with each other at all times, in all places. To know Jesus is to know the Father and the Spirit and vice versa. They are one. This special relationship also indicates to us that nothing should matter more in our lives than our relationships with one another. To be like the God we profess every Sunday is to

commit ourselves to our relationships, in all their varieties. To work hard on our relationships is, for a Christian, to touch the divine.

The second extraordinary thing we celebrate today is that the Father invites us into this loving relationship with Him, Jesus and the Spirit. What is especially consoling about this is that we are the only world religion that believes our God took our flesh. So through Jesus' life, teaching, compassion and sacrificial love we not only discover who he is, but, at one and the same time, we find out what God and the Spirit are like.

Some people think themselves unworthy of such invitation. Others argue they have to be a better person to deserve such an offer. While both of these responses to God's invitation are understandable, they fail to take into account that in Jesus we have been made worthy of God's love and if we are waiting to get to a certain level of goodness to deserve God's love, we will wait forever.

God invites us into the compassionate embrace of the Trinity where we are and as we are, so that we can become all that God knows we can be. We don't have to get good to get God. We have to get God before we can get good.

Let's not be like the small boy who once said to me, 'The feast of the Trinity is all about that old bloke, his younger son and that bird.' On this Trinity Sunday let's celebrate the intimacy and dignity to which we are called by signing ourselves with the focus of our love – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.



This Week

SUNDAY 30th

9am, 11am, 6pm

Presentation of Confirmation Candidates

Welcome - Baptism

MONDAY 31st

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass

TUESDAY 1st June

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass

9.30am Adoration

WEDNESDAY 2nd

7.00pm Mass

7.30pm Meditation

THURSDAY 3rd

9am Mass

North School Gr 1Q

FRIDAY 4th

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass with

Gr 1 South School

After Mass-

Divine Mercy Chaplet

SATURDAY 5th

Reconciliation 10.30am

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 6th

Body & Blood of Christ

9am, 11am, 6pm Mass

Baptism Sunday