

Homilies from last Sunday

Homily for the Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity – Year A

Readings: Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9: Corinthians: 13: 11-13: John 3: 16-18



Fr Michael says:

Our Wonderful God shows us the wonder of who S/he is

Today's celebration was inspired by St Thomas a Becket, martyred Archbishop of Canterbury in the 12th Century. A time for us to celebrate, pray and live! As the first Reading reminded us, God has revealed Himself on Mount Sinai, as a God who is faithful to His promises, rich in tenderness and compassion, despite the sinfulness of the People, who have betrayed Him thorough sin! So as Paul invites us, we live our lives in peace and love, as best we can, as Jesus was sent into the world to show us how this can be done, by a God who is unchangeably and totally in love with each and every one of us, no matter who we are or what we have done!

Nobody likes to feel left out! We all feel let down if the expected invitation does not arrive. Then, we might need to ask ourselves how inviting are we to others? How welcoming are we? Do we keep people on the doorstep, some we might treat as people coming on business, once concluded, we then show them to door? There is a select group we admit into closeness, sharing, eating and drinking together.

Most of us are familiar with the icon of the Blessed Trinity by Rublev: the 3 divine persons are seated at a table, food is on it and there is a vacant space immediately in front of us, showing openness, hospitality and welcome towards the stranger, the outsider. That space is for all of us fill, called as we are to share in the divine life. We are not excluded, but called to sit, eat and drink, as the Gospel has reminded us: "God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son..."

We feel intimidated by the concept of the Trinity, but we need to try and see them as our friends, to whom we can relate, to whom we can chat in prayer. Through the Mission of Jesus, we can do just this! We are God's children; we are part of the family!

We can already share in the banquet of eternal life in the Eucharist, this offer brings us also to the fullness of that life in the Kingdom – it is there that we reach the nourishment that totally satisfies us! God is a God of love, so our response can only be one of trust and love towards others, as Paul has reminded - us: "Help one another. Be united; live in peace and the God of love and peace will be with you."

A young boy was watching a gypsy taking a drink from the village well and then spent time simply looking into it, as though he could see someone. He was a big man, but with a friendly face, so the boy went up to him and asked: "Who lives down there?" "God does" he replied. "Can I see him?" the boy asked, "surely" replied the man and he lifted him up to be able to see over the edge. All he could see was himself, reflected in the water. "It's only me" the boy said, disappointed. "So now you know where God lives – He lives in you!" he replied.