

Trinity Sunday – Cycle C San Clemente Catholic Church, Los Lunas NM 5/29/10  
Readings: Prv 8:22-31; Ps8:4-9; Rom5:1-5; Jn16:12-15 Theme: Trinity as family  
*“Everything that the Father has is mine.”* On this first Sunday after

Pentecost, the Church invites us to celebrate the mystery of that perfect union that is the most Holy Trinity. We live in a world that is deeply confused about truth, as was Pontius Pilate, a world that is uncomprehending and unknowing of even the most fundamental and basic truth of all, the truth that is God. It is no wonder then that a profound mystery like that of the Most Holy Trinity – three persons in one God – remains totally incomprehensible to modern minds that are dulled and darkened by the habit of sin and impurity, minds that are incapable of communion with God because they are incapable of grasping or comprehending God’s inestimable goodness, the total self giving that is the very nature of God.

The existence of the Most Holy Trinity is a revealed truth of God – one that is beyond human imagination, a truth so mysterious and so profound that it took an explicit revelation by Christ to make it known to us: God is a Trinity of persons. St Teresa of Avila, while contemplating this divine mystery was given an extraordinary grace to behold and contemplate the inner harmony and unity of the Most Holy Trinity. After experiencing this revelation, St Teresa said “I was shown so clearly how it was possible for there to be one God alone and three persons that it caused me both amazement and much comfort.” The secret to understanding the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity lies in recognizing the perfection of unity in the divine relationship. A divine person does not and cannot exist in isolation; this is the fundamental error of Islam. Rather, the divine goodness of God is so infinitely exquisite and so extraordinarily loving that God is compelled by his own nature to communicate himself to others who are capable of responding to his divine goodness and reciprocating his divine love.

Throughout scripture – from Genesis to Revelations - God uses one fundamental image for his relationship with us: marriage, and the family that marriage brings into being. Perfect loving relationship is the very essence of the

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most holy Trinity and our Christian families are intended by God to be living  
images of the divine relationship that is the Trinity. Loving relationship is the  
essential distinguishing characteristic of the most Holy Trinity. Scripture tells us  
that it is God's plan and desire that a man should leave his father and mother and  
cleave to his wife and the two should become one flesh. This one flesh union is  
meant by God to be a human image of the divine unity of the Trinity. In marriage,  
a husband is husband only by virtue of his relationship with his wife, and a wife is  
wife only in relationship to her husband. In marriage, the two are one and yet  
separate and distinct - just as are the divine persons of the Trinity. There is no other  
relationship in human experience that is as intense, as personal and as intimate as  
the relationship between spouses. The relationship between parents and children is  
special and unique, but it is not the same. In marriage both persons become one  
flesh in a unique and mysterious way. After a time of growing together, spouses  
can often finish one another's sentences, know one another's thoughts and feel one  
another's pain. This is the real meaning of the one flesh union, a unity of heart,  
mind and soul that is meant by God to be a reflection – even if humanly imperfect -  
of the perfect unity of the most Holy Trinity itself. The spouses retain their  
individual identity, personality and character but they enter into a spiritual union  
that will make them truly one if they will but obey Christ's command: *“love one  
another as I have loved you”*.

Let us therefore ask Mary – daughter of the Father, spouse of the Spirit and  
mother of the Son – to lead us to the perfection of her own union with the most  
Holy Trinity so that we may truly become members of that Holy Family of God for  
which we were created.