

Feast of the Holy Trinity

..... *A Word from Victoria*

- 30 Feast of the Holy Trinity**
 Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
 Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement
- 31 Monday**
 Communion Service: 9am - Church
- 1 Tuesday**
 Mass: 9am - Church
 Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm - Church
- 2 Wednesday**
 Communion Service: 9am - Church
- 3 Thursday**
 Mass: 9am - Church
 Choir: 7pm - Church
- 4 Friday**
 Baccalaureate Mass: 9am - Church
 Graduation: 7pm
- 5 Saturday**
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30pm
 Mass: 5pm
 Ministries Fair/Reception: 6pm - Victoria Hall
 AA Meeting: 7pm - Benincasa Basement
- 6 Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ**
 Mass: 8:30, Pancake Breakfast/Ministries
 Fair following
 Mass: 10:30, Pancake Breakfast/Ministries
 Fair following
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

A famous theologian claims that for many people the doctrine of the Trinity has little relevance to their lives. It seems an abstract understanding of God that is both difficult to comprehend and has little daily application. More and more, I appreciate the doctrine of the Trinity that we profess each week in the creed and that grounds our faith. I can't claim to understand it, but I do try to allow it to shape my life and faith.

What we know about the Trinity is what has been revealed to us in Scripture and in experience. Jesus himself spoke of God as his Father; he said he would send the Spirit to be with his disciples after he returned to the Father. The early followers of Jesus experienced God as Father, Son, and Spirit. In the middle of the first century, Paul captured the experience of the people in a phrase we still use in every mass: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you" (2 Corinthians 13:14). Only later in the 4th and 5th centuries was the more philosophical language of the creed developed and accepted.

Every attempt to put words to our experience of God is limited and does not adequately explain who God is. All of our attempts to understand are always inadequate to the reality of God. Still we seek to understand and put into words what we know by faith.

One of the most helpful descriptions of the Trinity is one that names three characteristics of the Trinity that also characterize the church and the ministries of the church. I often use these same characteristics to speak about marriage. These three characteristics can also be seen in the icon of the Trinity by Andre Rublev that is in the middle of our icon screen. These characteristics are: radical equality of persons; distinct identity in relationship; and communion of life, truth, and love. What is first known of God is God's great love. It is this love that characterizes the communion of the persons of the Trinity. As Paul's greeting indicates, in time, people came to recognize the different persons of the Trinity. It took much discussion and argument to come to the understanding of the radical equality of the three persons.

We are created in the likeness of God. Our life together is patterned on the life of God. We are radically equal, distinct in identity, and in communion with one another. This is where the doctrine of the Trinity shapes our lives. It is not an abstract understanding of God, but an understanding of God that has very practical consequences in our lives.

Though Jesus does not speak directly about marriage relationships and though the Scripture passages often read at weddings are about Christian community not marriage, we can consider marriages and friendships small communities and understand them as in the likeness of God. A good marriage or any significant relationship will be one in which there is equality of the partners, distinct identity, and a communion of life. It is the means by which we are drawn into communion with God. The doctrine of the Trinity is relevant to the whole of our lives. Thank God!

Victoria

Readings for June 6th
Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ

Genesis 14:18-20
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
 Luke 9:11b-17

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| <i>PRAYERS</i> | Bob Barone | James McNamara |
| | Luis Batayola | Mary Roberts |
| | Kay De Ambrosio | Effie Rohner |
| | Evan Dubicki | Sylvia Sheehan |
| | Martha Harris | Julia Simon |
| | Frank Martin | Chris Young |

PRAYERS

Announcements

Ministries Fair/End of Year Celebration

Next weekend, June 5 and 6, after each mass, we will celebrate our community with a reception (after 5pm mass) or a pancake breakfast (after 8:30 and 10:30 mass) and a Ministries Fair. This will be an opportunity to rejoice in our community, to welcome new members, and to learn about all our parish and school programs and ministries. Don't miss the fun and fellowship and food. RSVP to the parish office, 524-8800, or to jmcdermott25@comcast.net.

Pastoral Council Discernment

Are you interested in serving in leadership in the parish? Consider joining the Pastoral Council which is the leadership body of the parish. There will be an evening of discernment to learn more about the council and to discern whether this is for you at this time. The discernment evening is Monday, June 7 in the Benincasa Center, with pizza dinner at 6 and discernment at 6:45. Questions, call or email Victoria at the parish office.

Baptism of Infants

If you are planning to have your baby baptized this summer, please contact Victoria to set a date. Parents must meet with Victoria and also attend a class with other parents. Contact Victoria to arrange for the class and baptism.

Soccer Sign-up

Any child in our parish is eligible to play on our CYO sports teams. Registration forms for K-8 soccer are available on the tables at the doors of the church. They are due by June 4.

StrengthFinders

We have been using the StrengthFinders assessment as a means of discovering or becoming clearer about our God-given talents. This tool helps us to know ourselves, to strengthen our relationships, and to become good stewards of our talents in this community and beyond. There will be two sessions for those who are interested in learning more about StrengthFinders and in taking the assessment. This is a great tool for all relationships, for career discernment, for general self-knowledge. There will be a two-session introduction to StrengthFinders, that includes taking the assessment, on Wednesdays, June 23 and June 30 at 7pm in the Benincasa Center. There is a \$15 charge for the book, normally \$25 retail. For more information or to register for the class, contact Victoria at the parish office. All are welcome. Bring your friends, your partners, your family.

Parish Stewardship

May 23, 2010

Regular Collection: \$6,155.00

Annual Catholic Appeal
Pledged Amount: \$60,615.00

Cabrini Ministry Training

Our goal is to provide parishes and local institutions with capable, confident, faith-filled lay ministers who have grown in their self-awareness, and who possess effective pastoral listening skills. We accomplish the goals by inviting lay people called by reason of their baptism, to recognize and use their gifts in service to the Church.

We offer Quality Training that includes 5 months of weekly sessions with emphasis on pastoral skills, along with ethics, self-awareness, and more. The training is offered in a variety of locations, depending on the need. CMT graduates are ministering in parishes, hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons; giving solace to the elderly, persons with special needs, the homebound, the homeless, the dying, and many more.

Plan to attend an Information Meeting on Jun 14, 2010 from 7 – 8:30 pm at St. James Cathedral Place. Please RSVP (or for more information) to Tom Curran at 206-760-0583 Ext 4 or tomcurran@cabriniministry.org.

Mary's Garden Workshop

Saturday, May 29th, 9:30 - 3:30 pm

This inspiring and beautiful slide presentation explores the spiritual concept of the sacred enclosed garden through garden history and design, art history, symbolism, music, scripture and prayer. Learn about the modern revival of planted Mary gardens, and how your or your parish can nurture a contemplative Mary garden of your own. Presenter: Victoria Scarlett, Director of the Center for Sacred Art. Location: Epiphany Parish, in Seattle's Madrona District. To register (\$60) call the Center for Sacred Art at 206-781-8544. For more see www.centerforsacredart.org

Catholic Family Campout

Join us for the 28th Annual Catholic Family Campout for single adults and single parents with children, August 20-22. Contact Mary Pat at marypat@u.washington.edu for more information.