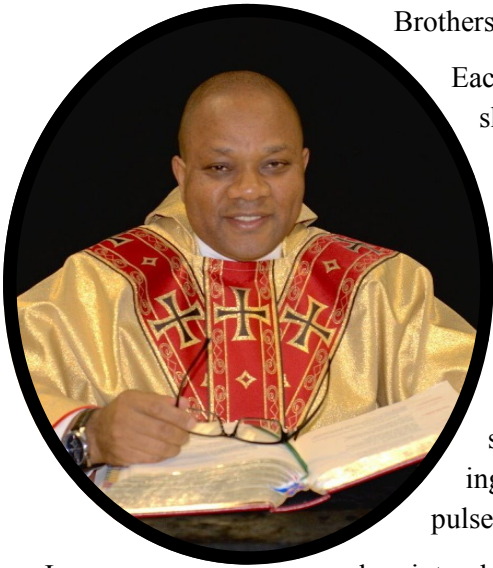


FROM THE DESK OF **Fr. Julius**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ; Grace and peace!

Each year on the First Sunday after Pentecost, our liturgy seamlessly shifts to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Herein lies the deep teaching of the Three distinct Persons in one God, eternally sharing the same Divine Nature. It is indeed a mystery to the human mind, since we cannot grasp how the unexplainable calculations of one plus one plus one equals *one* and not three! But we believe in this doctrine because from the very beginning, the Lord God taught clearly in the book of Genesis when He said, “Let us make man in Our image.” The Evangelists recorded this same teaching, the Fathers of the Church deepened the understanding, and the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople defined it as the pulse and dogma of Christian faith.

In several scriptural passages, as in our Gospel today, Jesus explicitly commands his disciples to go and to baptize “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All our official prayers in the Church begin and end in the name of the Holy Trinity. All Sacraments are administered in the name of the Holy Trinity. This dogma is so central that we turn to the Holy Trinity *before* praying so that we can put ourselves spiritually in order; and then *after* praying, as we are graced with the permanent temple for the Most Holy Trinity.

I believe the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity becomes the ultimate standard for a circle of love and sharing. When we break this circle, we observe how egotism, radical individualism, and apathy become deep-seated obstacles to the Christian way of life. A good Christian, therefore, strives to live within the tenet of love and sharing. If God is properly understood as Trinity, the monks and hermits need to come back from the desert and live Christ-like *within* the community of believers!

Thus, from the Trinitarian point of view, genuine love requires going beyond our selves and becoming part of a community where love is practiced. You have heard the old saying, ‘two is company, three is a crowd.’ Brothers and Sisters, the Most Holy Trinity confirms that three is *not* a crowd – three is community, three is love at its best! We can therefore honestly say *I am a Christian insofar as I live in a relationship of love with God and others; not merely limited to my own family or background.*

My prayer for all of us is to more fully grasp the mystery of the Trinity spoken through this favorite devotion of St. Francis Xavier: “Most Holy Trinity who lives in me, I praise you, I worship you, I adore you, and I love you.” Each Sunday when we receive the Eucharist, may we acknowledge this eternal undivided Unity as an everlasting offering for Him.

Joyous Trinity Sunday!