

**Homily — Trinity C, 2019
By Rev. Bob Schramm**

**The official name for today is
“the solemnity of the most holy trinity.”**

We’re talking about something BIG here, really BIG.

**God is both one and three . . . AND,
Logic says that it can’t be true. If it’s THIS, then it can’t be THAT.
If it’s one, then it can’t be three.
If it’s three, then it can’t be one.**

This one-in-three-ness is a solemn and most holy reality.

**Two central beliefs that set Christianity apart all other world religions:
God is Trinity
God has become INCARNATE**

**All that is way beyond our ability to get our minds around.
Nonetheless, it’s also important to keep working at it.**

**All of our readings today speak
of the profound closeness, intimacy, there is between
the one we so inadequately name God and all of us human beings.**

**First reading refers to Lady Wisdom as a prodigy.
Prodigy = one who is highly gifted.
“Finding delight in the human race.”**

**St. Paul assures us that in God’s eyes we are standing in grace.
Charis = gifts
God’s love, he says, has been poured into our hearts.**

**In the Gospel, Jesus assures us that despite our puniness,
and we are all in some sense puny from greatest to the least,
we have the gift of the one he calls SPIRIT.
“Everything that the Father has is mine, and what is mine is yours.”**

We are drawn into God’s inner circle, the center of God’s very being.

God’s very being is communal in ways we can never fully comprehend.

**We Christians need to remember
that when we use gendered and relational images for God,
they are always insufficient.
We should always be seeking the truth,
instead of thinking “I’ve found it!”**

**Jesus is telling us that it's OK that our concepts are inadequate,
that we don't know the answers and that we can't understand
all God is doing or asking of us.
That's the human condition — we are limited.**

**At the same time, Jesus is saying that our limitations are surmountable.
and that the Holy Spirit will guide us to the extent
that we allow ourselves to be led.
Revelation is an ongoing process.**

**One of challenges is our God language.
Our pronouns became a special challenge.
God is not a he any more than a she or an it.
In Hebrew, the word for Spirit is "Ruah" and it's a feminine noun.
It wouldn't be correct to follow it with a bunch of masculine pronouns —
Shirley, Betty followed by "he."**

**We need to be skeptical about pronouns
and to remember, especially on this feast day,
that all our words about the mystery of the divine
reveal more about the poverty of our language
than about the reality of God.**

Today's SOLEMNITY above all calls us to three things:

- **To humility**
- **To faith/trust as we pursue TRUTH**
- **To community**

Called into solidarity in this time of profound grief:

Sister Kay De Smedt, IHM

Sister Catherine Mary Zacharias, IHM

Announcement of the closing of Marygrove College

Back to what I said when we started all this:

All of our readings today speak

of the profound closeness, intimacy, there is between

the one we so inadequately name God and all of us human beings.

Happy Father's Day