

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity – Year A

Around the year 415, St. Augustine was walking along the beach, taking a break from working on what's become known as one of his greatest doctrinal contributions to the Church, *De Trinitate*, "On the Trinity." Suddenly, a little boy caught St. Augustine's eye. He was running back-and-forth between the sea and a tiny hole in the sand. "My son," St. Augustine called over the crashing waves, "What are you doing there?" The boy called back, "I'm trying to fit that great big ocean into this tiny hole!" St. Augustine smiled. "My child," he said, "You could never fit this great, magnificent ocean into that tiny hole!" The child responded quickly: "And you could never possibly understand the Holy Trinity." Then in a flash, the boy disappeared.

This famous legend illustrates the limits of the human intellect in understanding the infinite nature of God, particularly the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. It warns against intellectual pride and it invites the Christian believer to recall that, while he can always grow in our knowledge of God, he can never exhaust His depths. Far from discouraging us, though, this truth should spur on our interest in learning more about God and His Catholic Church.

Lord Jesus, let me know myself and know Thee, and desire nothing save only Thee (St. Augustine).

Father Frei