



Trinity Sunday Reflection With Fr. Rafal



Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Joseph Parish,

It is Jesus Himself who teaches us today and every day the mystery of **the Most Holy Trinity**. The Gospel today, from Saint John, is clear that Jesus understood both Father and Spirit. The development of this doctrine takes time because Jesus was not a teacher of philosophy or of theology. Jesus lived the mystery and spoke in such a way that we are able to come to understand it.

All of the Gospels tell us the same story. Jesus speaks so clearly to the Father and so clearly tells us that the Father and He are one. Jesus claims this relationship so strongly that He is accused of blasphemy because no one can claim such a relationship with God. Only God Himself could speak in such a way. All of the Gospels also speak of the Spirit and of Jesus sending His Spirit, who is also the Spirit of the Father. For us, it is not a matter of trying to sort out the philosophical and theological relationships. The challenge is to love Jesus and to understand Jesus from His own words.

In order to understand Jesus, we must come to understand the Jewish Scriptures. Jesus is a Jew and speaks from that tradition. In order to understand the Spirit, we must understand how Jesus could have understood spirit. Thus the first reading today comes from the Book of Proverbs and speaks of Wisdom. Jesus Himself comes to be seen as the Wisdom of God. Yet it is clear from the letters of Saint Paul that the gift of wisdom is the gift of the Spirit. Again, we do not need to have a text book, but simply to listen and to allow the statements of the Lord to form us.

The Letter to the Romans again affirms that the Holy Spirit is given to us. Already by the time of this letter, it is clear to the early followers of Jesus that the Spirit is divine and is given to us by Jesus. It is the Spirit of the Father and it is the Spirit of Jesus.

My sisters and brothers, we are invited to live in this mystery. It is a mystery that we contemplate every day as we seek to love the Lord Jesus and to do the will of the Father and to live in the Holy Spirit.

Today on June 15, 2025 many blessings to our fathers on their special day: *God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Happy Father's Day !!

Have a Blessed Week!

Fr. Rafal Ligenza.

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