

THE BLESSED TRINITY

- The existence of the Trinity is hinted at in the Old Testament of the Bible and boldly proclaimed in the New Testament.
- Three events in the life of Jesus show us the Trinity: his conception, his Baptism, and his Transfiguration.
- When the angel came to Mary to invite her to be the Mother of God, Mary understandably asked how it was possible. Gabriel replied: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God” (Lk. 1:35).
- At Jesus’ Baptism, the Heavens opened and the Spirit of God descended upon him accompanied by the voice of the Father saying: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Mt. 3:17; see also Mk. 1:11; Lk. 3:22).
- During his public ministry, shortly before he began his final journey to Jerusalem, Jesus took the apostles Peter, James, and John to a high mountain where he was transfigured before them. In the course of this astounding event a cloud, representing the Holy Spirit, overshadowed the three apostles, and a voice once again proclaimed: “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” (Lk. 9:35).

- Jesus says: “But when the Counsellor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father - the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me” (Jn. 15:26).

The Relationship of the Three Persons to One Another

- The Trinity is a family of persons with a never ending exchange of love between them. Human beings are destined to share in the life of the Trinity forever.

The “Works” of Each Person of the Blessed Trinity

- Each of the divine persons is God, whole and entire. Although the divine persons are One God it is possible and to identify “works” that are proper to each.
- God created us to share his life forever. Sin, however, cut us off from God and from our destiny.
- Nevertheless, in his great mercy, the Father did not abandon us (see Neh. 9:31). “When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman” (Gal. 4:4), to reveal his plan, to show us how to live, and to pay the price for our sins.

- When this was accomplished, the Holy Spirit came to activate the new and eternal life won for us by Christ's redemptive self-giving (see Acts 2:1-4).
- The Holy Spirit empowers and guides the Church to fulfil her mission to preach the Good News of salvation to the whole world and to make God's life available to all men and women, without exception.

The Trinity as Mystery

- The Blessed Trinity, three persons in one God, is a profound mystery. Because it reveals who God is in his inmost being, the mystery of the Blessed Trinity "is the central mystery of Christian faith and life" (CCC 234).
- Our faith convinces us that the Trinity of God the Father who made us out of love, God the Son who saves us out of love, and God the Holy Spirit who infuses us with love and who sustains us in the Church will be revealed to us completely in Eternity. (CCC 102, 232-260)