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LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TRINITY

By Leanna Cappiello

Last week we celebrated Pentecost, when we relive the New Testament narrative when Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles, inspiring them with the gifts of wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage. knowledge, piety, and reverence. This narrative is alive in us today. This week we celebrate Trinity Sunday: the divine mystery of the three persons in one God. Perhaps the most mysterious of the three persons is the Holy Spirit and its crucial role. And many of us, though blessed with the same gifts as the apostles, still have trouble with the mystery of how these gifts are lived in our "ordinary time". In order to explore this fully, we must fully immerse ourselves in the very nature of the Trinity: relationship.

I believe the mystery of God is deeply rooted in mystery of human relationship and wholehearted community. That is to say, that the way we are with each other reveals a great deal about where we're at with God. We cannot live a fulfilling life in total isolation, nor are we designed to. Though meaningful solitude is a signifier of healthy self-awareness, God does not mean for us to be perpetually alone and lonely. Truly, we are in our best state when we are joyful in each other's company. There will most certainly be messy, complicated and uncomfortable things about entrusting yourself to others, but it is what God is asking of us! Welcoming the stranger is an act of justice and charity. Inviting those who were once strangers and are now friends into relationship is an act of love. These Gifts of the Holy Spiriut are exercised most practically when we choose to be with each other in relationship, like the Trinity itself. By volunteering our time, lending our time to others, visiting the sick, committing to a community outreach program, lingering a little longer after Mass, or even conversing in the line up to get your morning coffee - you are allowing the Holy Spirit to surprise you, influence you, and act through you.

Sunday's Readings: Proverbs 8.22-31; Romans 5.1-5: John 16.12-15

St. Basil's Parish Atrium- OPEN HOUSE

Next weekend, on **May 28 and 29** you are invited to the launch of St. Basil's children's atrium- an environment dedicated to the biblical and liturgical formation of our youngest parishioners!

The atrium is an essential component to our catechetical program called "Catechesis of the Good Shepherd", a form of evangelization and catechesis that responds to the developmental and religious needs of the child and joyfully nurtures the child's intimate relationship with God. Programming will officially begin in the fall for **children ages 3-6 and 6-9**. Children under the age of 3 are welcomed, so long as they are diaper free and can remain in the atrium independent of their parents!

Before and after all Masses on May 28 and 29, we hope that all parishioners will come and explore our atrium space located in the church hall. Our program coordinator (Marilena Berardinelli) and trained catechists will be on hand after the 10:30am and 12:00pm Sunday Masses to answer questions. Light refreshments will be served to celebrate this new ministry!

"The Trinity" (a poem written about Rublev's 'Icon of the Trinity')

Encircling the table, the angelic three. And yet not angels – Holy Trinity. Here I stand in time, aware Of love inviting me to join them there And in their circling fellowship to share. Entering, I hear them say: "I am the end of journeying, the way; Where, now arrived, you shall forever stay." Love again then speaks his word: "This joy grows deeper as the bliss is shared." At that I turn and beckon to my paired. Now she joins the ring of grace And, side by side, we share the Three's embrace; Until we welcome others to this place. Widening still, the circle grows, As each brings others to the love that flows And, in the bringing, true belonging knows. "Limitless," declares the Three, "Love's spreading circle has no boundary." And in its compass one day all will be.

~Neil D. Booth

There they sit eternally,

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

As you are aware, the Archdiocese has been engaged in its first-ever, multi-year capital campaign called "Family of Faith". Designed to address the capital needs of parishes across the Archdiocese, as well as some for services provided by the Archdiocese itself, the campaign is coming to a conclusion.

If you go to the Archdiocesan website, you will see that St. Basil's only met 24% of its commitment – the second lowest in the Archdiocese. You may recall, we ran bulletin announcements and hosted information sessions late last fall and over the winter; very few parishioners attended, and while some parishioners generously made a donation (thank you), many parishioners did not.

Why we have not met our commitment is a question the Archdiocese, quite rightfully, has asked of myself and the parish council. A variety of ideas have been offered, and should you have your own thoughts, I am interested to hear as to why we under performed relative to other parishes? Why did this parish, which does so many things so very well, do so poorly at this?

However, we also want to meet this commitment. We are a parish of the Archdiocese – an important one at that – and they are asking us to help take care of the needs of our broader community. It is important that we do.

As of today, we need to raise \$280,000 to meet our commitment, and we would like to do so by the end of June.

You may also simply make a contribution to "Family of Faith" and put it in the collection. (Pledges may also be made with a post-dated cheque). If you have questions or thoughts, I would very much like to hear from you. Please call me at the parish office: 416-926-7110 or email me at chris.valka@utoronto.ca.

I thank you in advance for your consideration and for all that you do to support our Parish and broader Archdiocesan community.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY

Sunday, May 15, 2016 \$6,687.52



Sunday Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

9:00am- Annunziata Sacchetti (+)

10:30am- Pro Populo

12:00pm- Attilio Colussi (+) 4:30pm- World Peace

Monday Victoria Day 7:30am- Souls in Purgatory

*No Confessions today or 12:10pm

Mass.

Tuesday

7:30am- Pro Populo

12:10pm- Margaret Shipsey (+) & Albina

Martinez (+)

Wednesday

7:30am- Angeline Barte (+) 12:10pm- Margaret Brennan (+)

Thursday St. Philip Neri 7:30am- Lena Cusimano

7:30am- Lena Cusimano (+) 12:10pm- Terry Mangan (+)

Friday St. Augustine of Canterburry

7:30am- Luisa Gopengco (+) 12:10pm- Felipa Aspiras-Yee

Saturday

5:00pm- Ryszard Brzezinski (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Marina Kazakis, Luz Manalo, Betty Hill, Robert Benn, Claire Fidler, Helen Lau, Gloria Lau, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, Joe Torres, Hilary McCormack, Leslie Beck, Ann Breslin, and Lucille Mirvish.

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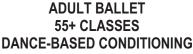
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