

June 15/16: Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity: Faith-in-Action Weekend: Service

Readings: Proverbs 8: 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16: 12-15.

Summary: We are at peace with God our Father through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. This Spirit, who is Wisdom itself, will lead us into all truth. How wonderful the name of our triune God in all the earth.

Liturgical orientation:

The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity came to be observed throughout the western church during the fourteenth century. While many of the feasts of the church year celebrate events from salvation history, or specific moments in the life of Christ, the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity celebrates an "idea," an observance of a theological concept.

The transcendent God of mystery is intimately involved in the lives of the community and the individual believer. Mighty and wonderful are the awesome deeds of God's creative power and love in the wonder of creation. Paul writes to the Romans that we have sufferings yet to endure until God's plan is brought to completion. But these sufferings should bring forth in us unwavering hope, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit. It is that Spirit, promised by Jesus, that will guide us to all truth.

I: Prov. 8: 22-31: *Before the earth was made, Wisdom was conceived.*

Wisdom is God's going forth from God in revelation and in action.

Psalm 8: *O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth.*

II. Rom. 5: 1-5: *To God, through Christ, in love poured out through the Holy Spirit.*

Once justified, the Christian is reconciled to God and experiences a peace that troubles cannot upset, a hope that knows no disappointment, and a confidence of salvation. This peace that the Christian experiences comes from being introduced into the sphere of divine favor by Christ, who has reconciled all people and brought them into the presence of God.

Gospel: John 16: 12-15: *Everything that the Father has is mine; the Spirit will take what is mine and declare it to you.*

Since Jesus has not been able to tell his disciples everything they must know, the Paraclete will play an important role in guiding the community in the truth. The function of the Paraclete is to glorify Jesus and to take what the Father has given Jesus and declare it to the disciples.

Stewardship Orientation:

This weekend is the final weekend of our Stewardship Renewal when people are asked to actually make and/or renew commitments to sharing their gifts with their families, their co-workers and employers, in the local community and our parish family - in effect, the world! Even though our focus is on parish ministries (when it comes to **Our Faith-in-Action Plan** people will be invited to complete), the understanding needs to be broad and all-encompassing. So, it is critical here that any presentation in homilies or otherwise reflect this.

During this weekend, those present at each Mass will be asked to submit the **Our Faith-in-Action Plan** (even if they are already involved in parish ministries or activities. A goal should be that *everyone* who is already involved in parish ministries *recommits* to **service** each year!). The overall idea here is spiritual renewal and service either through recommitment and/or making new commitments.

Think of the **4th Pillar of Stewardship – Service** – as a commitment to our **Faith-in-Action Plan**. And, being that our faith tells us we are not just individuals, but individuals who are dynamically connected to the Christian community, we make and renew these commitments within the context of community - at the place where the individuals in the community gather, celebrate, and find their fullest identity (individually and corporately) - the Sunday Liturgy.

