



IT IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY TRINITY!

Each time we make the sign of the cross we are blessing ourselves “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

It is indeed the first prayer we were taught as a child and in turn teach the children in our lives. The prayer itself is declaring God is the Trinity. It is our core belief. The words are simple but think about the message - the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity - God revealing Himself in Three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



Explaining the Trinity is often a stumbling block for us. We could use the analogy used by St. Patrick with a three-leaf clover. Each leaf is different but makes up one shamrock. We could also use the candle reference that was taught as the Trinity is like a candle. When it is lit the candle is made up of three important parts in order to give light - the wax candle form, the wick, and the flame. They are three distinctive parts, but one source of light.

It is truly the central mystery of the Church.

As Pope Francis said back in 2017 addressing a general audience, the Trinity and the Sign of the

Cross reminds us “we are redeemed with the Lord’s cross.”

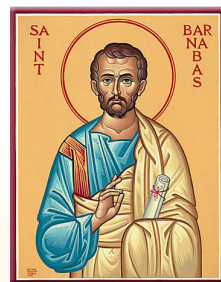
As we make the sign of the cross and say the simple prayer, do so lovingly and slowly by touching our forehead - we know God; our heart - we love God; and the reach of our shoulders - we serve God.

God loves each one of us and the Trinity enables Him to come to us in these three roles. God the Father created you, loves you, and cares for you. God the Son taught us, died for us, and forgives us. God the Holy Spirit guides us and empowers us to serve with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE

As we celebrate the Memorial of St. Barnabas the Apostle in the Church on June 11, we share this catechesis from teachingcatholickids.com about the forgotten one.



Legend recalls Barnabas as one of the 70 disciples of Christ in the Gospel, but few details about him were recorded in the New Testament. However, the fact that he is mentioned by name repeatedly indicates a certain significance, and the context in which he is mentioned, particularly his partnership with Paul, expresses further importance. Given these realities, what we know about Barnabas from Scripture deserves closer reflection, especially since Barnabas’ role in the early Christian community remains relevant for us all. But, even more, his designation as an apostle informs us that Barnabas was held up in the early Church as an exemplary Christian and a pre-eminent leader, and so he provides a model for all of those in ministry.

Barnabas’ name means “son of encouragement” (Acts 4:36), or sometimes is rendered “son of consolation,” which speaks of a pastoral nature. He is found to teach the truth come what may. But he also is a unifying figure, unafraid to go out of his way to let the light of Christ shine in others, even when it means he must diminish. Therefore, he is seen as a leader who recognizes that he must encourage and tease out the gifts and talents of others for the sake of the Kingdom and success of the mission. He recognizes he cannot go it alone. It could be said, then, that Barnabas embodies pastoral leadership, priestliness of the New Covenant, in a dynamic, life-giving way.

AWAKING FROM OUR SLUMBER: A NEW MINDFULNESS

By: Sister Ellen Dunn, OP

Events of the immediate past have been even more disturbing than the Covid-19 pandemic. Media coverage is a witness to this fact. It is deeply disturbing to watch our major cities embroiled in the fight to expose and end racism in our not-so-United States. This scene spotlights the direct opposite human behavior we have been engaged in for the past three months, a stark contrast to the visual of our shared efforts to support one another through the dangers and agonies of the coronavirus. Messages from every social arena have poured out to encourage and to assist in keeping people alive and well. Most people have been following the 'rules' and putting others' concerns before their own, learning and practicing a new level of respect for one another. Our collective consciousness has been focused on protecting the vulnerable in our midst. Mindfulness has been

increased as we have stayed home, made choices that were at the service of the other/s in our lives.

What has happened to us so swiftly as a nation? What has happened to alter our consciousness in this present moment? What changed our focus from being FOR one another to violence AGAINST others? Who disrespected the vulnerable 'other' in full view of the rest of us? Why? And How? What memories does this act of disrespect of Mr. George Floyd raise up one more time? How long will this inhumane activity be tolerated in our midst? Where are WE now who have been publicly helping and assisting and praying for each other? Where is the leadership to guide us in this national struggle?

Our individual and collective mindfulness and responsible action is critical now. Come Holy Spirit! Enlighten us and guide us into right paths ahead! It is

time for us who have forever enjoyed 'white privilege' to become more self-aware, to begin to acknowledge that RACISM is really OUR issue to address. It's true that BLACK LIVES MATTER; in fact, BLACK LIVES MATTER more than ever, because our nation has never acknowledged this in word or in deed.

This moment in the year 2020 is the marker for the change needed to begin to set things right. It is also true that all lives are sacred and do matter. But right now, black lives matter MORE because creation is deeply harmed, and justice is out of balance. It's way past due for 'whites' to actively practice respect and care for our sisters and brothers of color— but especially now, our deeply-wounded black family members. Let us step up together. Let us grow taller and wiser as God's creation!

WE CANNOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO RACISM ~ POPE FRANCIS

The following was reported by Vatican News.

In his greetings to the English-speaking faithful at the weekly General Audience, Pope Francis addressed the people of the United States, as protests continue throughout the nation.

"I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd," he said. "We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life."

Denouncing Violence

The Pope then cited a recent statement from Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), to denounce outcroppings of violence at some protests.

"At the same time, we have to recognize that 'the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost'."

Pope Francis added that today he joins the Church in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and throughout the entire US, "in praying

for the repose of the soul of George Floyd and of all those others who have lost their lives as a result of the sin of racism."

The Pope concluded his remarks with an invitation to prayer.

"Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn," he said. "May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of

America, intercede for all those who work for peace and justice in your land and throughout the world."



From the Desk of Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

Department of Catholic Schools • www.WVCatholicSchools.org

WORD OF GRACE FOR WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

As families welcome some well-deserved rest and relaxation, our principals are welcoming new families registering for the 2020-2021 school year and our teachers are preparing for two key summer objectives - training for enhanced online learning and summer enrichment days to identify academic needs.

These leaders continue to shine. No matter what the circumstance - weather, building issue, or health/safety concern - our Catholic schools continue to learn, lead, and succeed under the roof of the building or apart.

You don't have to take my word for it, below are a few of the many messages shared with me by our Catholic school principals from across the state.

Chris and Stacy Cullinan, parents to Viv, a Pre-K3 student at St. Paul's School in Weirton, wrote, *"March 13, 2020, changed all of our lives. How were we to know that this would be the last time (Viv) would be in class? How do we as parents explain the world around us, let alone a worldwide pandemic, to a four-year-old child? Without hesitation or delay, Mrs. Shreve and Mrs. Neeley stepped to up the plate. Every day we received thoughtful messages from them, interactive conversations that encouraged them to talk with their classmates, activities and lessons, virtual tours of their houses, games, (etc.). As if that wasn't enough, they came to each child's doorstep to talk to them in person and to say, 'we will see you later' with an emphasis on 'later' as this was not a 'goodbye'.*

"They created a sense of normalcy for the children when nothing around us was normal at all. We truly appreciate and are eternally grateful for you and your efforts. What you've done will leave a lasting impact on these children."

Keeley Cunningham, a parent at St. Patrick's Catholic School in Weston, emailed, *"The COVID-19 pandemic threw our families, schools and communities a complete curveball. However, with all the fear and uncertainty one thing remained constant and that is the care and education my daughter received. St. Patrick's School remained dedicated to keeping our students in routine and learning. We had weekly assignments and evening read alongs to keep the kids connected. I was very excited that our teacher used this time at home to incorporate life skills. My daughter enjoyed doing dishes, laundry, making breakfast and writing notes of appreciation to front line workers. Thank you, St. Patrick's for keeping my daughter safe and consistent in this time."*

Alexis Rinschler, a parent at Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg, said, *"Notre Dame went far beyond and above during this challenging time to ensure our children's academic, as well as social and emotional needs, were met each and every day! We are secure in the knowledge that the safety and well-being of the students is of paramount importance! Faith and family combined with exemplary compassion, that is the true embodiment of Notre Dame!"*

Any expert will tell you the best marketing tool in any business—including our Catholic schools—is the word of mouth of a satisfied customer. The buzz is impressive.

We work hard on the spiritual and academic formation of our students, and when we hear these accolades it drives us to raise the bar.

May God continue to bless our schools, and may he watch over your family this summer.

Peace,



Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

MASS READINGS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

First Reading: EX 34:4B-6, 8-9

Early in the morning Moses went up Mount Sinai as the LORD had commanded him, taking along the two stone tablets.

Having come down in a cloud, the LORD stood with Moses there and proclaimed his name, "LORD." Thus the LORD passed before him and cried out, "The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship. Then he said, "If I find favor with you, O Lord, do come along in our company. This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own."

Responsorial PSALM 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30

R. (52b) Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever; And blessed is your holy and glorious name, praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, praiseworthy and glorious above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne upon the cherubim, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Second Reading COR 13:11-13

Brothers and sisters, rejoice.

Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Alleluia

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 3:16-18

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Church leaders, especially Pope Francis, Bishop Mark Brennan, that they may be beacons of hope for all those suffering and in despair, we pray . . .

For leaders of nations, states, and local communities, that they may promote the ideals of peace, justice, and acceptance of all they serve, we pray . . .

For an end to the rioting and violence around our nation, that harmony and peace may once again be restored, we pray . . .

For protection against the Coronavirus as people begin to resume their normal daily activities, we pray . . .

Lord hear our prayer



A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS



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YOUTH MINISTRY CONTINUES

YOUNG WV CATHOLICS invites teens to be part of



Instead of feeling cooped up, encourage your teen to feel energized by participating in the PROJECT YM LIVE event and Young WV Catholics Zoom conversation. Office of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Interim Director, Shawn Madden, invites you to find out more and sign up at:

www.youngwvcatholics.com/ymlive.html

Project YM, a national youth ministry organization, streamed its first hour-long live youth night last week. It was attended online by more than 9,000 households! The event at projectym.com/live had games, prizes, a solid message, and engaging prayer. Help middle and high school students you know by sharing this opportunity.

ONLINE RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK:

In addition to our diocesan website, DWC.ORG, check out:

- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website, for resources presented in text, audio, and video formats.
Daily Readings written: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS Daily Readings audio: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS-AUDIO.CFM
Video Reflection USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/REFLECTIONS/INDEX.CFM
The usccb.org site will also give you tutorials on how to pray the Rosary, the Divine Chaplet, and other prayers and devotions.
- National Catholic Register for Catholic news, stories, blogs, etc. at NCREGISTER.COM
- The Catholic News Service for the latest headlines for Catholics WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.COM
- My Daily Living with Fr. John Chapin Engler at MYDAILYLIVING.COM
- Fr. James DeViese - Altar-ed State: WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/FRDEVIESE
- Music ministries on Facebook: My Heart is Ready, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WWW.DAVIDHAAS.US and John Angotti Music Mission, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHNANGOTTIMUSICMISSION