

The Trinity at Work

The gospel for this coming Sunday (Trinity Sunday) is John 3:1-17. The word “Trinity” is not found anywhere in the Scriptures. But there are texts that show the work of each member of the Trinity. Our gospel lesson is one of those.

The setting is Jesus’ meeting with the Pharisee Nicodemus. Nicodemus was intrigued with Jesus’ actions and teachings. But, he was not ready to publically be a disciple of Jesus, so he came to Jesus by night. Nicodemus was no lightweight in the religious world of his time. He a member of the Ruling Council and knew the OT well. Nicodemus later spoke on Jesus’ behalf and participated in providing Jesus an honorable burial.

Below find action of the Trinity:

- The *Father* loved the world so much that he sent his one and only Son to redeem all mankind. He did not send the Son to condemn the world but to save it.
- The *Son* in this text is preaching/teaching and bearing witness to the truth of the Father’s plan. Three times Jesus says “*I tell you the truth*” (3,5,11). He is the solution to the world’s woes by his carrying out the plan of salvation the Father had for the world.
- The *Holy Spirit* was sent by Father and Son to bring spiritual birth through the water baptism. Jesus tells Nicodemus that unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Our catechism says: The only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one divine Being. We go about God’s work as stated in Matthew 28:19-20: “¹⁹ *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* ²⁰ *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*”

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for the work that each member of the Trinity does in our lives. Amen