[Proverbs 8:22-31](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/proverbs/8?22)

            Thus says the wisdom of God: "The LORD possessed me, the beginning of his ways,   the forerunner of his prodigies of long ago; from of old I was poured forth, at the first, before the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no fountains or springs of water; before the mountains were settled into place, before the hills, I was brought forth; while as yet the earth and fields were not made, nor the first clods of the world.
            "When the Lord established the heavens I was there, when he marked out the vault over the face of the deep; when he made firm the skies above, when he fixed fast the foundations of the earth; when he set for the sea its limit, so that the waters should not transgress his command; then was I beside him as his craftsman, and I was his delight day by day, playing before him all the while, playing on the surface of his earth; and I found delight in the human race."

[Psalm 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/psalms/8?4)

R (2a)  O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!
When I behold your heavens, the work of your fingers,
            the moon and the stars which you set in place —
What is man that you should be mindful of him,
            or the son of man that you should care for him?
R O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!
You have made him little less than the angels, and crowned him with glory and honor.
You have given him rule over the works of your hands, putting all things under his feet:
R O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!
All sheep and oxen, yes, and the beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas.
R O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!

[Romans 5:1-5](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/romans/5?1)

Brothers and sisters: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character,
and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

[John 16:12-15](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/16?12)

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own,
but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.

Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you."

I would like to wish a Happy Fathers’ Day to all our fathers who are present today and to those who cannot be with us today. I also wish to extend a very special Happy Fathers’ Day greeting to our spiritual Fathers, our priests here at Prince of Peace. Happy Fathers’ Day Father.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Trinity. What is the Trinity?

The Trinity is the name of the central Christian teaching about God – that in the unity of God there are three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each of these three Persons is God, and there is only One God – yet the Persons are distinct as Persons. For this reason Jesus constantly speaks of His Father as a distinct Person. In today’s Gospel Jesus also refers to the Holy Spirit by a personal pronoun. So Scripture refers to three distinct Persons, but one God.

That was pretty straightforward, right? Understand it all? No?

Me either! If you are confused, you are supposed to be because the bottom line is God is mystery. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that, “The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life.”(CCC234)

Reason and logic can take us only so far, and then faith must kick into take us the rest of the way.

We can be comforted in the fact that we are in pretty good company in our lack of comprehension and understanding of the Most Holy Trinity. There is a story about St. Augustine of Hippo, who wanted so much to understand the doctrine of the Trinity and to be able to explain it logically. One day as he was walking along the seashore and reflecting on this, he saw a little child all alone on the shore. The child made a hole in the sand, ran to the sea with a little shell, filled her shell with water, and came and poured it into the hole she had made in the sand. Back and forth she went to the sea, filled the shell, came back and poured it into the hole. Augustine went up to her and said, “Little child, what are you doing?” She replied, “I am trying to empty the sea into this hole.” “How do you think you can empty this immense sea into this tiny hole and with this tiny shell?” To which she replied, “And you, how do you suppose that with your small brain you can comprehend the immensity of God?” With that the child disappeared. St. Augustine realized it was God’s personal message to him.

Like St. Augustine, we may not be able to fully understand the mystery of the Trinity, but I think it is very important to understand the WHY.

In the first book of the Bible it tells us God is community, Genesis 1:26, “Then God said: “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” We have heard that God is Love. We most resemble God when we live in harmony with one another. Why? Because the loving relationship within the Trinity, demonstrated perfectly by Jesus’ life on earth, offers us the perfect model for human relationships. We resemble God first and foremost, in loving. When we relate to one another in love we both image God and work together with God to bring about the kingdom on earth.

Pope Benedict wrote in his first encyclical: “In the saints one thing becomes clear: those who draw near to God do not withdraw from men, but rather become truly close to them”

*(Deus Caritas Est, #42)*

Saint Pope John Paul II said: “In the communion of grace with the Trinity, man’s ‘living area’ is broadened and raised up to the supernatural level of divine life. Man lives in God and by God.”

We have a calling not only to know that there is a God, but also to know God as He knows Himself. Through our baptism we became the children of God. The final goal of our lives is to see God in the Kingdom of heaven. Ultimately, our goal is to become one with God.

 God saves us through all three Persons of the Blessed Trinity. The three Persons are together at work whenever one of them is at work. No one of them works apart from or separate from the others. How could they since they are One God? Whenever God acts, He acts triunely. One of the options for an opening prayer for today’s liturgy is, “God, we praise you: Father all-powerful, Christ Lord and Savior, Spirit of Love. You reveal yourself in the depths of our being, drawing us to share in your life and your love. One God, three Persons, be near to the people formed in your image, close to the world your love brings to life.”

 One thing that is at the very core of God is His urge for and drive toward unity. The urge that drives us to union, community and love comes from God. Jesus said we must, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. And Love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.” (*Matthew 22: 37 – 40)*

We are supposed to live in love and community. The reason we come to church is to worship, praise, and love God as a community.

If we are made in the image and likeness of God, and God is Love, and God is always in relationship, then we are made to live in love and relationship. We are made to be a community of love.

God is a not a God who is way off somewhere. God is a God who lives here! God has been in relationship for all eternity. The Father has always loved the Son; the Son has always loved the Father. Their Love is so real that it is the Spirit. This God of relationship wants to share Himself with us. He wants to become one with us because God is always self-giving. How awesome is that?

 I’d like to share a short prayer to the Trinity with you.

“O Father who sought me.

O Son who bought me.

O Holy Spirit who taught me.”

O Father who sought me.

God is always seeking us. Psalm 139 says, “O Lord you search me and you know me, you know my resting and my rising, you discern my purpose from afar. You mark when I walk or lie down, all my ways lie open to you.”

 O Son who bought me.

The Father sent His Son Jesus to buy us with His blood. St. Paul wrote, “You have been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:20)

 O Holy Spirit who taught me.

In today’s Gospel we heard, “But when He comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on His own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.” *(John 16: 12 – 15)*

 We, as Christian Catholics, believe that God loves us, that he sent His Son to tell us about God and how much He loves us, and teach us how to live in God’s ways according to His Commandments.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that, “By sending His only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, God has revealed His innermost secret: God Himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and He has destined us to share in that exchange.” *(CCC 221)*

We believe that God wants to share His very life with us. Not only that, but also that God wants His very own life to fuse with our lives deep within us. God wants to join our lives into His life.

It doesn’t get any better than that!