Homily for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
St. Francis of Assisi Parish – Belchertown, Massachusetts
May 27, 2018

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Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40 ✠ Psalm 33 ✠ Romans 8:14-17 ✠ Matthew 28:16-20

It began in a garden, what we know as the Garden of Eden. The one true God made His presence known and walked with Adam and Eve. But the plan was disrupted by disobedience to a simple command and the result was very serious. Adam and Eve had to leave and live under different circumstances.

Afterward, the one true God made His presence known by the chosen people, the Jewish race, in the person of Jesus. As salvation history continued, another garden came on the scene: The Garden of Gethsemane. It loomed as a struggle between the forces of good and the forces of evil. The one true God would still be worshipped, but now in a new way. Jesus claimed that God is His Father, and that the Holy Spirit would come to guide and strengthen the Church He established. The one true God would be acknowledged now as three divine Persons in one divine nature. We are told to believe it, but we are not told to figure it out.

The Trinity, which describes God as three divine Persons in one divine nature, is puzzling to the ordinary Christian and even to theologians.

There is nothing about the notion of three Persons in one God in the Old Testament. The fact that there are three Persons in one God has been revealed by Jesus himself. He spoke of being equal to the Father, but as a distinct Person from the Father. He spoke of sending the Holy Spirit who would guide the Church and its followers after He ascended to heaven. We accept the mystery, not because we understand it, but because we have it from Christ who is truth Himself.

The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity involves more than a theoretical acceptance of an ancient dogma, a truth to be believed; it calls us to rejoice in our privileged position as children of God, and it challenges us to live in a manner worthy of our calling.

It calls us to respond to the love of God which is poured into our hearts by Christ and by the Holy Spirit. It invites us to look forward with joy to the day when we shall share the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. ✠