

Trinity Sunday 2017

Every week we begin Mass by blessing ourselves in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Then, at the Creed, we profess our faith in God the Father (the Creator of Heaven and Earth), in Jesus Christ (his only Son our Lord), and in the Holy Spirit (the Lord the Giver of Life). Finally, at the end of Mass, we are blessed in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy. From start to finish our worship is centered on the mystery of the Blessed Trinity. We believe in one God who is trinity of persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

There are many people today, however, who find it difficult to believe in God. Or if they do believe, God seems to be at the edge or periphery of their lives. For some, God no longer speaks to their lives, and so they ask, "Where is God? How can I believe in God when I cannot see or hear God? Others ask, "Why doesn't God do something about the suffering and evil in the world?"

These are important questions, and we should not dismiss them. But over the years, I have become more and more convinced that I cannot convince other people by a purely intellectual argument that God exists. I am more and more convinced that what is important is the witness we give to others when we live in and for Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God.

First, because we are Jesus' disciples who follow him in the way of the cross, we believe in God who is a trinity of persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not simply believe in God, we believe in God who is the Father and Creator of all. We do not simply believe in God, we believe in God who sent his only Son into the world. We do not simply believe in God, we believe in God who gives us his life-giving Spirit that enables us to live in the way of love, joy, and peace.

Second because we are Jesus' disciples who follow him in the way of the cross, we believe in the God who raises the dead. We believe in God who raised Jesus, and we

believe that just as God raised Jesus from the dead, so God will raise us from the dead if we live and die with Christ. And so live in a new way because we believe in the God who raises the dead.

Finally, because we are Jesus' disciples who follow him in the way of the cross, we believe in the crucified God who died on the cross for the salvation of the world. We believe that God's response to suffering is the suffering of the cross. Because God has suffered on the cross, we cannot say, God does not know what it means to suffer; God does not know what it means to lose a child. Because we believe in the God who suffers, our suffering change and transforms us.

We cannot convince others to believe, but we know why we believe. We believe because God who is a trinity of persons who loves us, because God will raise us from the dead, because God has suffered for us in Jesus Christ.