

Feast of Holy Trinity

By Fr. Greeley

Background

The doctrine of Holy Trinity was not revealed to baffle us, to test us, to challenge our faith. Rather it discloses to us that there is so much knowledge and so much love in God that it flows over into different personalities.

God is necessarily a community of knowledge, power, and love. If a God like that is on our side, of what do we have to be afraid?

The doctrine of the Trinity is for our reassurance and consolation. The Gospel today echoes this theme: it depicts Jesus telling his disciples that there is nothing to fear, even if he is about to leave them. He and the Father and the Spirit will continue to protect them. He does not guarantee that there will not be trouble or suffering but he does promise that there will be victory and eternal life.

Story

Once upon a time there was a sophomore basketball team which was, to tell the truth, something less skilled than the Chicago Bulls. Or that was the way they seemed.

They couldn't shoot very well, their passing was sloppy, they almost never got a rebound, they didn't hustle, and, worst of all, they knew they were no good.

Then they got a new coach and two new assistants that volunteered to help them. You are going to take city, the coach said. You are the most talented group of young women your age I have ever seen. There is no reason why you can't beat everyone.

They laughed. The three coaches stared at them sternly. "No more laugh," the head coach said. "Now the first thing we are going to do is practice free throws. Young women as good as you are should make nine out of ten free throws. We'll accept nothing less.

Shaq shoots less than fifty percent, one of the kids said. You're better than Shaq, the coach replied. Well, you know what? The coach was right. Inspired by the coaching's staff's confidence and experience and their skills honed by lots of practice and hard work, they did win city. They were the greatest.

Or at least with that threesome on their side, they came to believe they were the greatest which was all that mattered.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Exodus 34:4-9 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 John 3:16-18

June 15, 2014

靈 修 生 活

天 主 聖 三 節 的 意 義

鄒 保 祿 神 父

十五世紀時，蘇聯的一位藝術家安德盧布來夫(Andrei Rublev) 畫了一張天主聖三像，今已流傳西歐各地，它的特色是解釋創世紀的亞巴郎故事：三人探訪亞巴郎和撒辣，亞巴郎很熱烈地招待，給他們食物。三人在臨走前，對亞巴郎說：「你的妻子撒辣要有一個兒子」(創十八 10)，天主籍着這三個人給亞巴郎的一個賞報。

在盧布來夫的畫中，亞巴郎的家被畫成一個宮殿，即為天主的居所。在後園的橡樹象徵生命的樹。在宮殿的裡面有三個人坐在一個半圓的桌子裡，在中央，一在左邊，另一個在右邊，桌上擺著一個聖爵杯。這三個人互相望著，解釋天主聖三的奧跡。

從這張畫像中，我們得到一些啟示。即解釋天主聖三不是一個封閉的，而是開放的。

正如聖若望所說的：「天主是愛」(若一：四 8)。三位一體的天主不是單獨地與人群分隔，而是與整個世界人類共融。這張像的三個人代表三位一體，它給予人門生命和愛。

初期教會的信友曾問耶穌基督是否附屬於天主父，尼西亞信經給他們答覆這個問題說：「耶穌不是附屬，而是與父同性同體。這更證明耶穌是救世者，同時也包括聖神在內。」

聖奧斯定說：「在這偉大的聖三奧跡中，我們是無法完全了解的，因為聖三是無限的，而我們是有限的，有限無法了解無限。為此，在聖三內，每個是在一個內，一切也在一個內，一切就是一個。」

雖然安德盧布來夫的畫像給我們解釋了三位一體的天主的部分，但此奧跡仍然無法完全了解。

為此，我們應該如聖三主日的頌謝詞中所說的：「在承認真實永恆的天主時，我們頌揚三位分明，本體唯一、尊威均等。」這就是我們的信仰。

摘自「公教報」

本 週 讀 經

二 零 一 四 年 六 月 十 五 日

出 34:4-9; 格後 13:11-13; 若 3:16-18