

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (5/17-18/2008)

Exodus 34/4-9, Daniel 3/52-55, 2 Corinthians 13/11-13, John 3/16-18

Admittedly, many preachers - including this one - grow inarticulate when they have to talk about the essential nature of God.

We know what the Church teaches about the Almighty: one God, three Persons, two natures.

But we also realize that our words are human and inadequate at all times, even when those words are “canonized” by the teaching Church.

We use descriptive words like infallible, infinite, all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise, etc.

We exhaust our language in trying to capture the essence of God.

And, in the end, we are left with the simple fact that God is unknowable by us humans.

I conduct individual spiritual direction with over two dozen people.

We meet regularly, about once or twice a month, to talk about their journey in faith.

Each one faces into God in his or her own particular manner.

Each one is at a different stage along the way.

I never cease to be amazed at the variety of their visions of God.

Our Catholic religion offers us ways of thinking about God that can help override some of our own inadequacies.

For instance, in the Bible, we have Jesus who, as we have heard over and over again this Easter season, is one with the Father, the very image of the Father.

When he speaks, the Father speaks.

When he acts, the Father is acting.

As Jesus said to Philip when the curious apostle asked to “see” the Father, “*Philip, whoever has seen me has seen the Father.*”

As I read and pray over the Scriptures, I understand them as the revealed word of God.

The holy Scriptures are God’s message to me - and others, of course - about Himself, about His love of the people, about His hopes for us all.

As the Church, in its teaching capacity, explains the word of God to each succeeding generation, the Holy Spirit keeps it on track.

In the life and teaching of the Church, God makes His will and His presence manifest.

Maybe it doesn’t seem that way at times, especially when human error creeps into the mix.

But, as we said above, the Spirit of Truth will out in the end.

