

The Most Holy Trinity (B)
(Deuteronomy 4:32-34.39-40 / Matthew 28:16-20)
31.05.2015

From uniformity to unity

Dear brothers and sisters,

We long for **uniformity** because we long for security. Diversity makes us feel insecure. We don't know how to cope with it.

We like a box with a label on it and nothing else in the box but what is written on the label. Order is a good thing, something very useful. But life always brings surprises with it. Are we ready to welcome them? Our God is a God of surprises, is He not?

In politics, we like one party, obviously "our" party. Secretly we dream that it will impose itself upon the others, annihilating or absorbing them. We feel uncomfortable with differences and opposites. But, is life possible without differences and ever oppositions? Does life not spring up from differences and ever oppositions?

In the Church, we like our own Christian denomination. There is nothing wrong with that! We pray for the unity of the Church and sometimes it can happen that we think: One Church, yes, provided that it is our own denomination! We may be inclined to think: If all the other denominations could come back to the one fold, to our fold! This is uniformity, this is not unity.

When we think about God, we dream of a God whom we could express in one word, a word which would say everything about God. But that does not work. It is impossible to reduce God to one word. The Risen Lord met the eleven disciples and told them: "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". To speak of the one God in whom we believe, we need three words: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Perhaps some of us are thinking: but God can be defined or summed up by one word. God is love. The word "love" says everything that can be said about God in one word! Yes, but love implies interpersonal relationships; love implies at least someone who loves and someone who is loved.

So we cannot say everything about God in one word! Once more, our longing for uniformity is defeated! Uniformity is an unrealistic dream! Uniformity cannot be the right attitude in all the spheres of our lives. Uniformity must give the way to **unity** which is a communion of differences. We have a perfect illustration of what unity is in the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

The Trinity: three names, three persons to speak of one God! This means that there is life in God. God is not an idol; God is not something, even something sacred! God is someone, someone alive. God is life, fullness of life. God is a relationship of three persons who are one God: the Father, creator and giver of life, who sent his Son into the world to reveal his love for us, and to reconcile the unfaithful creatures which we are with the Father. The Holy Spirit is the communion of love which unites the Father and the Son which lives within us.

In God who is love, there are three persons in relationship with each other. Their relationship is one of mutual respect. Their relationship is a communion in diversity.

The Father reveals himself totally to his Son. The Son knows the Father and reveals Him to us. But The Father is not the Son and the Son is not the Father. The Trinity is a communion of persons without confusion! A communion of persons without separation!

We were created in the image of God. As God is relationship, so we are made for relationship, relationship with God and relationship with one another. If God relates to us in different ways as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the consequence is that we have several ways of relating to Him.

We can relate to God the Father and Creator as a child relates to his Father, receiving our existence from Him. We are not our own creator. We are creatures who have to receive our lives as a gift from God. We are not here to do our own will but the will of the one who created us.

The Father sent his Son to reveal his love for us; we have to listen to Him. The Son is the way who leads us to the Father. He came to live among us, suffered his passion, died and rose from the dead for us. We are called to live with Him and in Him. We are called to remain in Him, abide in Him, putting his commandments in practice. He loves us; we are called to remain in his love.

The Holy Spirit is the presence of the love of the Father and the Son within us. The Spirit does not cease to pray the Father within us with the words of the Son which alone can please the Father. We have to make His prayer our own.

Our relationship with God Father, Son and Holy Spirit takes place mainly in prayer, but our relationship with God has consequences for our life in all its dimensions, consequences which have their roots in the mystery of God Trinity.

In politics, we are invited to walk and work together with members of all political parties, in mutual respect, listening and speaking to one another, in order to discover together the way forward, the way to follow to arrive at the common good for all the inhabitants of our country and indeed the good of the whole world.

Our Christian communities should not live as in a ghetto, closed within themselves, afraid of others, but on the contrary open to other communities. The Church is a huge mosaic made of many chunks of different colours and shapes. Each one of us is a chunk and is beautiful. Each one of our Christian communities is a beautiful part of the ensemble of all the chunks relating to each other. Together all our denominations are called to form something much richer and more beautiful, an icon of God as Trinity, an icon of the God of life offered to the world as a living testimony.

May the example of the life between the three persons of the Holy Trinity inspire all our relationships in every sphere of our lives!