



# Bringing Home the Word

*Most Holy Trinity (C)*  
June 15, 2025

## I Believe in God

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

**W**hat do we mean when we say this? We are saying that we don't understand it, but we believe it; we accept it as truth. How do we know it's true? First, we must remember that we are standing before the greatest mystery of all—the mystery of the triune God. The best we can do is open our eyes to the power of God working in our lives. Today's readings help us do that.

In the first reading, the wisdom of God takes our hand and leads us through the marvels of creation. Who has not stood in awe before a sunset, a waterfall, or the smile of an infant? We

are surrounded by the wonders of the natural world—wonders that can fashion us into natural mystics and prompt us to praise our Creator.

Once transformed by his encounter with the risen Christ, Paul proclaims again and again that “we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1). He knows from experience that Jesus is his Savior and the Savior of us all. We may not always realize this, but there are times in the life of each of us when we experience a profound need to be saved.

Finally, in the gospel, it was Jesus himself who promised that the “Spirit of truth” would come and strengthen our faith (John 16:13). Without that Spirit, we might simply wander about in confusion. These readings provide a glimpse into the action of God in our lives. Do we believe what they say? †

## Sunday Readings

### **Proverbs 8:22–31**

When he established the heavens, there was I.

### **Romans 5:1–5**

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

### **John 16:12–15**

[Jesus said,] “When he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth.”



***We are standing before  
the greatest mystery  
of all—the mystery  
of the triune God.***

## A Word from Pope Francis (1936–2025)

If God is love, do our communities bear witness to this? Do they know how to love?... Do we know how to love in the family?... Do we know how to welcome everyone—and I emphasize, everyone—as brothers and sisters?... God is love, God is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 4, 2023



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Am I comfortable with doubt?
- In times of doubt, pray this simple prayer: “I believe. Help my unbelief.”



# The Difficulty of Explaining the Trinity

James L. Papandrea, PhD

It's been said that more heresy is (accidentally) preached on Trinity Sunday than at any other time of the year. This is because...the doctrine of the Trinity is difficult to understand, and it is even more

difficult to explain. When we have to explain the doctrine of the Trinity, we often resort to analogies of "three in one." This may be the best option we have, though all analogies ultimately fall short because none of them completely captures the balance between oneness (unity) and "threeness" (distinction). They are all either too heavy on the unity, with not enough distinction...or they are too heavy on the distinction, with not enough unity...

***It is this balance of unity... and distinction... that we strive for.***

It is this balance of unity...and distinction...that we strive for in explaining the Trinity with analogies—but which proves to be elusive. The problem is that no analogy from the created world can successfully exemplify both the oneness and the threeness at the same time. A thing is either one thing with three parts, or three things that have some common relationship.... We're trying to use creation to describe the Creator, and since creation is finite, that only gets us so far.

When analogies fail, the only option left may be to describe the Trinity by saying what the Trinity is not. The Trinity is not three gods. The Trinity is also not simply three masks, or hats, worn by the one God when he wants to perform different functions. †

From *Trinity 101: Father, Son, Holy Spirit* by James L. Papandrea, PhD, Liguori Publications (820823). To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).

## Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "What Catholics Believe" by Leonard Foley, OFM

There is a sentence that sums up the whole Bible: "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him" (1 John 4:16). God is spirit. God is not "he" or "she." God is mystery—not a puzzle, but unfathomable being and love. God is not just another being, but the foundation of all being. We would never have known that God is Father-Son-Spirit—one God, three persons—unless he had revealed his inner self through Jesus. Jesus brought the Good News (gospel) that God loves all people on earth—sinful, saintly, or lukewarm—and offers them eternal life.

*Catholic Update*—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) • 800-325-9521



God of all people—  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—  
as you are love, teach us  
to love each other and  
create a world that is safe  
for every mother's child,  
we pray. Amen.

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

June 16–21

**Monday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 6:1–10 / Mt 5:38–42

**Tuesday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 8:1–9 / Mt 5:43–48

**Wednesday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 9:6–11 / Mt 6:1–6, 16–18

**Thursday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 11:1–11 / Mt 6:7–15

**Friday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 11:18, 21–30 / Mt 6:19–23

**Saturday, St. Aloysius Gonzaga:**  
2 Cor 12:1–10 / Mt 6:24–34