

Homily for Trinity Sunday Matthew 28 16 to 20

Today is Trinity Sunday that is the day in the church year when we remember the Holy Trinity. Today we think of the significance of one God but three persons:-

God the Father

God the Son

And God the Holy Spirit.

We remember how God the Father created us.

We remember the events of his Son's life through Christmas and Easter.

Last week, at Pentecost we celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church.

So today, Trinity Sunday, we take a step back and remember an amazing mystery of our three in one God!

Since the birth of the church Christians have struggled to explain the mystery of the Trinity.

Last year I used a picture of a clover leaf.

Three leaves joined together.

Some people have used a triangle three sides but one triangle.

These different symbolic pictures attempt to describe the notion of the Trinity.

Let's try and explore (not explain) what the

Trinity means to each one of us.

First God the Father.

Here we see the creator.

Not only the creator of the world but creator of the universe and beyond.

Of all we see, hear, feel or smell.

I don't know about you but I often muse on the little things if you like the minutia of God's creation. It amazes me how God's creation is so perfect in all the little details. But I still can't work out why he created slugs and snails!

Secondly God in the work of his Son.

The cross of Jesus reminds us all of his saving grace.

I collect crosses some are old and very special others are quite new and in some cases plastic but they all have a special resonance. Even the plastic ones remind me that God is in everything.

They remind me that the saving power of Jesus is for us all of us - The fine and the not so fine.

Jesus gives us the facts and the directions. He says:-

I am the way.

I am the truth.

I am the resurrection and the life.

I am the good shepherd.

I am the bread of life.

I am the light of the world.

Then the Holy Spirit

Last week we explored how the Spirit of God:-
Fills us with energy.
Fills us with life.
Fills us with inspiration.

If you look at the edge of a triangle there is no beginning and if you follow the line on each side there is no end. Like God, no beginning and no end and yet it is a complete shape.
I wonder do we need to complicate our faith with deep theological explanations?

Matthew's Gospel ends with Jesus' words to the disciples.
As he leaves them he gives them a job to do.
"Then Jesus came to them and said "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The disciples were the first Christians, so the job which Jesus gave them is the job of the church - that means it's our job too.
But what is the job of the church in the world?
Well let's not think too big here.
Let's ask:-
What is our role here in Rastrick?

What is our interaction with those who live round our church?
What do we do to serve the community?
What do we do to support our own congregation?
What do we do to help our uniformed organisations and our toddler group.

Perhaps our role today is to bless all those we meet "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."
I believe if we do that our world will be a better place.
Revd. Stephen