

# From the PASTOR'S DESK



## Home Making

Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

The popularity of home improvement television shows indicates that the aspiration to create a safe, comfortable, pleasing place to live is very important. A good home nurtures us, allows us to rest comfortably, and encourages us to launch ourselves into the world. When Jesus says, we will come to him and make our dwelling with him, we wonder what connection this has with our natural desire to live in a good home.

In a sense, the way the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit make their home in us is like a home improvement. For example, we need help to acquire the potential necessary for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to make their home in us. Left to our own devices, without any help from them, it wouldn't happen. We would never be ready for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to make a home with us unless they had taken the initiative and given us that potential.

Likewise, once we've acquired the potential, that potential still needs to be realized, which can only happen through God's activity. Most strikingly of all, once the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit make their home in us, when the time is right, we can trade up to an even more wonderful home. We can join the Holy Trinity in their other home in heaven. Our opportunity to join the Holy Trinity in heaven is a consequence of their willingness to make a home in us.

What is our part? We cooperate in our transformation. We keep Jesus' word. We do what Jesus told us to do and live the way He told us to live. This is spelled out for us in the gospels, so we need to examine them carefully to see the word in practice. Then, we have to move from knowing what to do, to doing it. For this, we need the help of grace. Fortunately, God shares His grace with us through the sacraments.

If we accept the Church's sacramental ministry, we're able to keep Jesus' word, to do what Jesus told us to do, and to live in the way Jesus wanted us to live. This is the way to have our "dream house," our "forever home." The Holy Trinity does the home making. We allow ourselves to be transformed into good homes.

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