

# OUT OF THE TRENCHES

## A COMMUNION OF SELF-GIVING LOVE

### Operations Order

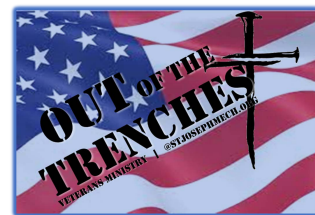
- **SITUATION:** "The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in Himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching." Life with the Trinity is truly the whole point of the Christian faith and the goal of every human life.
- **MISSION:** Proverbs 8:22-31  
Romans 5:1-5  
John 16:12-15
- **EXECUTION:** Reflect on this week's readings. God's inner life is a communion of self-giving love. What is the difference between a "self-giving" love and a "self-getting" love? Did you learn anything else about God from the reading? For example, what is the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives?
- **SUSTAINMENT:** Reflect on the most important relationships in your life; with a spouse, a child, or a parent. What might the Spirit of truth be telling you about those relationships? Is God prompting you to make a change in the way you relate to that person? How is the Spirit calling you to a greater self-giving? Prayerfully consider how God might be guiding you to love in a more Trinitarian way.
- **COMMAND & CONTROL:** Pope Saint John XXIII and Saint Patrick, pray for us.

### Call to Battle: During the Week

Talk to God about one relationship in your life that is suffering or in distress. Make a specific resolution that will help you reflect the self-giving love of the Trinity more in that relationship this week. Ask the Holy Spirit to center that relationship in God's grace.

### Discussion

- The first reading describes a God who has been ever present in the lives of his creatures. Did you feel God's presence in your life today? Describe a moment/event that reassured you of his presence.
- Paul speaks of "boasting" in one's afflictions. What does this mean in your life? Can you take it too far? Can you think of an example when someone made their suffering all about them? How can you learn to embrace and offer up your sufferings to Jesus?
- What does it even mean to love in a more Trinitarian way? Could you explain the concept to someone? Does the way Saint Patrick explains the Trinity help (or even make sense to you?)
- Jesus came to explain the Trinity; that God the Father, Son, and Spirit love and serve each other because of the love they bear for each other. Is this in any way like love you have for your family or your country? Did your love for your family or your country have anything to do with why you decided to serve in the military? Explain.



### Next: Giving the Lord the Little We Have

Our Eucharistic faith gives us confidence that Christ abides with us, leading us to His unveiled presence in Heaven. Join us to discuss the gift of the Blessed Sacrament! Invite the Veterans in your family to join us. There's always room for more!

#NoVetLeftBehind