Dear Padre,

I unsuccessfully tried using a clover to explain the Trinity to a non-Catholic relative. She says the leaves are separate and share a single stem, so it doesn't mean they're one entity. How can I help her understand?

ANDREAS F. BORCHERT / WIKIPEDIA

Legend tells us St. Patrick used a shamrock to speak about the God who is one and three, but that doesn't mean everyone will find the clover imagery convincing. It took hundreds of years, many arguments, and multiple Church councils to refine the basic outline of orthodox Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God. So, it's no great shock that you can't easily break it down into convincing sound bites for a resistant relative.

You should concentrate on the way humans came to know the Trinitarian God, how we have encountered the God who is at once Father, Son, and Spirit in the events of history and revelation. In sharing the way Christians have gradually understood what we do about the nature of the God who saves us, you can speak of how that understanding leads us to pray. Perhaps you can relate the Trinitarian concept to something more recognizable: the idea of a father and son, and the spirit of love that exists between them and also pours from them.

At our liturgies, we have a distinct pattern of praying to the Father, through the Son, in the Spirit. There's more than a shamrock to discuss in all of that. And remember the Creed we pray each Sunday. Discussions like yours are what the Creed was made for.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday
MAY 31
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Zep 3:14–18a
or Rom 12:9–16
Lk 1:39–56

Tuesday
JUNE 1
St. Justin, Martyr
Tb 2:9–14
Mk 12:13–17

Wednesday
JUNE 2
Weekday
Tb 3:1–11a, 16–17a
Mk 12:18–27

Thursday
JUNE 3
St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs
Tb 6:10–11; 7:1bcde, 9–17; 8:4–9a
Mk 12:28–34

Friday
JUNE 4
Weekday
Tb 11:5–17
Mk 12:35–37

Saturday
JUNE 5
St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr
Tb 12:1, 5–15, 20
Mk 12:38–44

Sunday
JUNE 6
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
Ex 24:3–8
Heb 9:11–15
Mk 14:12–16, 22–26

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

God loves each one of us even when we make mistakes and distance ourselves from him. God the Father loves the world so much that, in order to save it, he gives what is most precious to him: his only-begotten Son....The Trinity is therefore love, wholly at the service of the world.

ANGELUS, TRINITY SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2020

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Liguori PUBLICATIONS
A Redemptorist Ministry

Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 30, 2021
The Most Holy Trinity (B)
Dt 4:32–34, 39–40
Rom 8:14–17
Mt 28:16–20

Ask from one end of the sky to the other:
Did anything so great ever happen before? Was it ever heard of?
DEUTERONOMY 4:32

OATAWA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Wow!

Some might think that "Wow!" is an inappropriate, even irreverent response, when talking about God. But what words would be appropriate? There are no words, there are no precise doctrinal statements that even come close to identifying God. The readings for today's feast invite us to ponder, not define, this mystery.

The people at the time of Moses had no concept of a Trinitarian God. However, they were convinced that God worked in their lives. They believed they had been delivered from bondage by God, invited into a special relationship with God, and promised by God a long and fruitful life in a land they could call their own. In other words, they were cared for by God, who demonstrated again and again that they were loved. The Gospel story tells of how Jesus entrusted his disciples with the mission he himself had exercised during his lifetime.

What once might have been considered the special privilege of the nation of Israel was now seen as a promise for all nations. All people could now rely on God's care for them and God's ever-present love. Saint Paul identifies this privilege as the Spirit of adoption.

Today's readings may not paint a clear picture of God or provide a precise definition. God is far beyond any picture or definition. However, each reading gives us a glimpse into the way God works in our lives—inviting us into intimacy, caring for us, loving us. Wow!

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *Spend time thinking how your life has been blessed with goodness.*
- *Pray the Glory Be slowly and thoughtfully.*

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ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

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Very Rev. John P. Nolan, VF, Pastor Rev. Cajetan Amaechi Anyanwu, CMF, Parochial Vicar

May 30, 2021, The Most Holy Trinity

SERVICES & MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	May	31	No Service	
Tuesday	June	1	9:00 AM	†Alfred "Butch" Duecker
Wednesday	June	2	12:00 Noon	†George Vogel
Thursday	June	3	12:00 Noon	Rodríguez Family
Friday	June	4	9:00 AM	†Bart Botta, Jr.
Saturday	June	5	5:00 PM	Wayne & Judy Petsch's 50th Anniversary
Sunday	June	6	9:00 AM	†John & Virginia Pehl
Sunday Bilingual	June	6	11:00 AM	Parishioners

OTHER SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

FAITH FORMATION/CCD CLASSES-Sunday–Immediately after Mass @ 10:00 AM (Sept-April), Grades K-12
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION–Daily in the Adoration Chapel. (Ask the church office for door combination.)
WEEKLY ROSARY – Before weekend Masses
CONFESSION – Saturday at 4:30 – 5:00 PM; 1st Wed of Month at 11:30 AM – 12:00 noon & by appointment.
~~**COFFEE is served in the hall** on Sundays after 9:00 Mass & on 3rd Sunday of month after 11:00 Mass~~

GIFT BEARERS: May 30 9:00 AM Glen & Nicole ienecke Family 11:00 AM Luis & Maria Vargas Family
June 6 9:00 AM Michael & Michelle Zarella 11:00 AM Zenaida & Nahomi Arias

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE: June – Wes McInnis & Dan O'Loughlin

COLLECTIONS: Weekend Collection – $1,727.00

Holy Communion for the sick or home bound call the Church Office @ 644-2368 or Renie Litton @ 644-2470
Immediate prayer - To be placed on the "Prayer Chain", Email - stfrancisxprayerchain@gmail.com or call 992-9633(DeAnn).
To have a name printed in the "Bulletin Prayer List" for 3 months – *call, give a note or email the church office.*
In the hospital – if you or a member of your family is in the hospital or ill and would like to see a priest, please call the parish office at 644-2368 or call St. Mary's, Fredericksburg, at 997-9523.
Bulletin Items – need to be submitted to the parish office by **Tuesday (8:00 AM)** for the following weekend. Please submit in writing to the office, leave on the church's answering machine, email to stfrancisx@beecreek.net or mail to the church office. To verify that the message was received, you may call or leave a follow-up message at the church office.
Flowers for Church Altar Area – To provide the weekly Church flowers in thanksgiving, in memory of, or in honor of someone special, please sign up on the "Flower Calendar" in the entrance of church or call the church office. You can provide the flowers or they can be purchased through St. Francis Xavier ($40.00) ($20.00 during Advent & Lent). Please include your name & tele # when signing up on the calendar. The church office will contact you prior to your weekend to provide the flowers.
Mass Intentions – Notification Cards are available from the church office for Mass Intentions to be celebrated here at St. Francis Xavier. You may also call & request a Mass intention without obtaining a notification card.
St. Thomas Hall Rental – contact the church office.
AA – for Alcohol or Drug Addiction – for you or for a loved one, you may contact John Snabley, 990-1720

Bulletin Prayer List – **Rogelio López**, Susan Ulrich, Erna Jacoby, Roy Weinheimer, Andrew Nielsen, Mary Peska, Gloria Priess, Kimberly McAllister, Michael Killewald, Camry Weinheimer, Esperanza Vidales, Peter Jacoby, Cecelia Pearson, Allen Petsch, Richard Morey, Gene Morey, Jodie Lepperd, Joyce (Mrs. Anthony) Jenschke, Ignacio Tabullo, Lucas Smith.

Wedding Anniversaries - We congratulate Tommy & Cindy Eilers on their 50th anniversary and Bernie and Rosana Merz on their 16th anniversary. May God grant them many more happy years together.

Altar Flowers this weekend have been provided by Tom & Cindy Eilers in honor of their 50th anniversary.

Pancake / Sausage Breakfast Sunday, June 6, 2021 St Thomas Society will hold a Pancake / Sausage Breakfast with Orange Juice & Coffee in the Hall after 9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass. All are WELCOME. By Donation Only. All proceeds will be sent to the Hinkley Family Mission in Honduras.

June 2, 2021 - First Wednesday of the Month Lunch - Fried Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Lemonade, Tea and Cake will be served. The social and lunch will take place in the hall after the June 2nd Wednesday Mass and the anointing of the sick. Please sign up on the list in the entrance of church or call the church office by noon Monday, May 31st, if you plan to attend. Cost of the meal is by donation to cover the expenses. This will be the final First Wednesday lunch for the spring and we plan to resume in September. Thank you Seth and Rosie Crain for preparing the fabulous Mexican meal last month and thank you to Cindy Eilers, Janie Nielsen, Renie Litton, Kathy Antus and Judy Petsch for planning the June 2nd chicken picnic lunch. FYI - the dessert will feature our priests' and deacon's May and June anniversaries and birthday.

2nd Collection Next Weekend for the Priest's Pension

Formed.org – Our parishioners have access to media content on Formed.org at no cost to parishioners. Please take advantage of the Catholic movies, programs, and educational opportunities. If you are interested, please contact the parish office for details.

Immediate Prayer Requests: to place yourself, a family member or friend on the church email prayer chain, send your request to stfrancisxprayerchain@gmail.com. If you would like to receive an email notice of the prayer requests, send a note to the same email address and you will be added to the contact list.

The Chalice Program is a family prayer devotion for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. If your family would like to participate in the Chalice Program, please call the office or send an email.

St. Francis Xavier has Online Giving – The link for online giving is available on our website.

Mass at Hill Country Spirituality Center with Fr. Jim is streamed daily Monday-Saturday at 10:00 AM and Sunday at 11:00 AM at https://Facebook.com/hillcountryspiritualitycenter

Catholic Television – EWTN - Daily mass @ 7:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM, and 11:00 PM. Dish Network – Ch. 261, Direct TV – Ch. 370, & ewtn.com/tv/watch-live.

Broadcast TV mass is Sunday at 8:30 AM on channel 54-1.

St. Francis Xavier Church is on Facebook!! If you are on Facebook, be sure to check out and follow our SFX page https://www.facebook.com/SFXcatholicchurch