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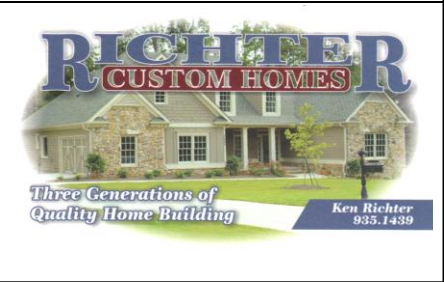
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Good News!

May 22, 2016
TRINITY SUNDAY (C)
Prv 8:22–31 / Rom 5:1–5 / Jn 16:12–15

There was a period in my life when I thought I knew everything and that my way was the only way to go. The opinions of my parents and friends were politely (and sometimes not so politely) set aside. I blithely followed my own advice and did my own thing until time, maturity, and a few uncomfortable situations helped me to acquire a little humility. Even now, to be completely honest, I must admit to suffering a relapse from time to time. Is there anyone who hasn't occasionally thought, "Be reasonable: do it my way?"

We tend to think we know what's best for us and for others. We rely on our experience and intelligence. Sometimes we're right; often we are wrong. When our self-confidence and power become more important than the truth and common good, we easily verge into arrogance and stubbornness. Jesus reminds us that the Holy Spirit, whom he calls the Spirit of Truth, is the ultimate guide. In choosing to follow the Spirit and accepting Christ's authority, we admit that we do not know it all and that we are not the greatest.

Our Creed is built on this acceptance. From our first profession of faith, we stand in humble awareness that God alone knows it all and desires what is best for us and the whole world. This "best" includes a God who is an everlasting relationship-in-being: Three Persons who were at the beginning, are now, and ever shall be. Our celebration of the Trinity should include a giving thanks for the wisdom that comes from union with God and his Church.

Mary Katharine Deeley
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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Monday
MAY 23
Weekday
1 Pt 1:3–9
Mk 10:17–27

Tuesday
MAY 24
Weekday
1 Pt 1:10–16
Mk 10:28–31

Wednesday
MAY 25
Weekday
1 Pt 1:18–25
Mk 10:32–45

Thursday
MAY 26
St. Philip Neri,
Priest
1 Pt 2:2–5, 9–12
Mk 10:46–52

Friday
MAY 27
Weekday
1 Pt 4:7–13
Mk 11:11–26

Saturday
MAY 28
Weekday
Jude 17, 20b–25
Mk 11:27–33

Sunday
MAY 29
Most Holy
Body and Blood
of Christ
Gn 14:18–20
1 Cor 11:23–26
Lk 9:11b–17

dear Padre

May 22, 2016 Why an annulment is needed

I'm not Catholic and already divorced.
Why do I need an annulment to remarry?

You need an annulment because the Church presumes that your marriage is valid. If two baptized Methodists marry before a Methodist minister, the Church presumes that the marriage is valid and sacramental. The Catholic Church recognizes Protestant baptisms in the same way. For this reason we do not rebaptize Protestant converts or remarry a couple when one or both enter the Catholic Church. The annulment process is not a "Catholic divorce"; it is an investigation of a relationship to see if at the point of the wedding, a true (valid) marriage was effected. If a marriage is valid according to Christ, it cannot be annulled. If, however, something was lacking from the very beginning, the marriage was not valid and can be annulled, freeing the parties to remarry.

For a marriage to be valid, the spouses must:

- be free to marry and freely exchange their consent;
- in consenting to marry, intend to be together for life, to be faithful to each other, and to be open to children;
- intend the good of each other; and give their consent in the presence of two witnesses and before a properly authorized minister.

Through the annulment process the Church tribunal determines whether a marriage was valid. This is the same for all marriages, whether between Catholics, Christians, or nonbaptized adults.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
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