



RCIA

Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults
Holy Trinity – The Son



Opening Prayer



THE HOLY TRINITY

- **The one and the same God in three Divine Persons**
- ❖ GOD the FATHER
- ❖ GOD the SON
- ❖ GOD the HOLY SPIRIT
- Co-equal and co-eternal
- One in essence, nature, power, action and will



The Divine missions of THE HOLY TRINITY

- GOD the FATHER
 - The work of **CREATION**
- GOD the SON
 - The work of **REDEMPTION**
- GOD the HOLY SPIRIT
 - The work of **SANCTIFICATION**



THE HOLY TRINITY

- The central mystery of the Christian faith and the Christian life.
- A mark of our Roman Catholic faith.
- ❖ At Baptism, for the sacrament to be valid, the Priest must pronounce:
 "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matt 28:19)



THE HOLY TRINITY

- In our Eucharistic liturgy, the priest welcomes the people saying,
 "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." (2Cor 13:13)
- Catholics always bless and sign themselves in the name of the HOLY TRINITY.



The Second Person of THE TRINITY

- The SON – JESUS CHRIST
- Jesus is God Incarnate
“The Word became flesh and lived among us” – John 1:14
- 2 Natures in One Person
 - Fully Divine: Son of God
 - Fully Human: Son of Man



The Incarnational Principle

- God not only uses visions, voices and angelic messengers to convey His Truth and Grace to us.
- He also uses things, events and objects that we can experience with our senses – the Incarnational Principal



GOD INCARNATE

- God decided to be born on earth and to live among us.
- The angel answered and said to Mary, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the SON of GOD.” (Luke 1:35)



JESUS the SON

- In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son whom He appointed heir of all things and through whom He made the universe. (Heb1:1-2)



“Son of God”

- The Old Testament uses the term “son of God” in a figurative sense. It is used to refer to kings of Israel and Israel itself.
- The New Testament use the term “Son of God” in a literal sense. It is only used to refer to JESUS.
- “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16)



JESUS is the “Word”

- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.” - John 1:1-3
- And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John 1:1.14)



JESUS is the “Word”

- Jesus tells us about God and reveals God’s love and mercy to us.
- “This is indeed the will of my Father, that **all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life**; and I will raise them up on the last day.” (John 6:40)
- I am Way, the Truth and the Life. **No one comes to the Father except through me.**



The Birth of Jesus

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘**Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**’ 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him **Emmanuel**’, which means, ‘**God is with us.**’ 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus. (Matthew 1:18-25)



Jesus’ Genealogy (Matthew 1-2)

- Refer to Matthew 1-2 in your own time.
- When Joseph took Mary as his wife, Jesus became a descendent of King David.

Jesus – Servant & God

6 **Though he was in the form of God**, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, **taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness**. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 **and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** (Philippians 2:6-11)



One Person, Two Natures (Hypostatic Union)

- **Jesus is true God**
 - Father’s testimony at his baptism (Luke3:22)
 - Jesus has the power to forgive sins
 - Through His miracles, Jesus shows that He has:
 - Power over life and death
 - Power over nature
 - Power over all evil



One Person, Two Natures (Hypostatic Union)

- **Jesus is true Man**
 - He was born of a woman. (Luke1:30-35)
 - He slept, was tired, hungry and thirsty. He was tempted. He suffered and died.
 - He had emotions and feelings like us. He was sad, happy, upset....
 - He is like us in all things but sin.



One Person, Two Natures (Hypostatic Union)

- Because He is a man, he could be killed.
- Because He is God, his death brought us life.
 - Point to ponder: how so?
(more on this later)



“Jesus”

- Latin *Iēsus*
- Greek *Iēsous*
- Hebrew *yēšūā* or *yəhōšūa* (*Joshua*)
- Means “**God Saves**” or “**Saviour**”
 - Denotes the object of His mission
 - “She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)



“Christ”

- *Christo* in Greek
- *Messiah* in Hebrew
- Means the “**Anointed One**”
- Descendent of David, the anointed one.
- In the Old Testament, priests (Ex. 28:41; 40:15; Num. 3:3), prophets (1 Kings 19:16), and kings (1 Sam. 9:16; 16:3; 2 Sam. 12:7) were anointed with oil, and so consecrated to their respective offices.



“Christ”

- The official title of our Lord – **Jesus the Christ**
- Jesus was **anointed** for his great **redemptive work** as Priest, Prophet, and King of his people
- “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour. Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing”. (Luke 4:18-19.21)



Let’s go back to the beginning ...

De-creation:

- Sin came in this world through the **disobedience** of one man.
- **The First Fall** (Genesis 2:15-17.3:1-19) “... for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Gen 3:19)
- Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man (**Adam**), and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned. (Romans 5:12) : **DESTRUCTION**



The Coming of Jesus the Saviour

Re-creation:

- The human race is reconciled to God through the **obedience** of one man.
- Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. (Romans 5:18)
- **Through JESUS**, the new Adam, humankind gains eternal life : **REDEMPTION**



JESUS CHRIST our "Saviour"

- Jesus is the one that save the human race, which was doomed to destruction as a result of the first sin.
- "And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.' " (John 4:41-42)
- "And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world." (1 John 4:14)

Question



So, how does Jesus "Undo the Damage"?



GOD'S COVENANT of LOVE throughout history

- Beyond the witness to Himself that God gives in created things, He manifested himself to our first parents, spoke to them and after the fall, promised them salvation (Gen3:15) and offered them His covenant. [CCC 70]



GOD'S COVENANT of LOVE throughout History

- God made an everlasting covenant with **Noah and with all living beings** (Gen9:16). It will remain in force as long as the world lasts. [CCC 71]
- God chose **Abraham** and made a covenant with him **and his descendants**. By the covenant, God formed His people and revealed His law to them **through Moses**. Through the prophets, He prepared them to accept the salvation destined for all humanity. [CCC72]

GOD'S NEW COVENANT

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt - a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and **I will be their God, and they shall be my people**. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for **I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.** (Jeremiah 31:31-34)



GOD'S NEW COVENANT of LOVE

A New COVENANT of LOVE

- "I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (verse 33)
- "I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more." (verse 34)
- **Established by Jesus**
 - He is God
 - He is sinless
 - He suffered and died on the cross
 - Why?



GOD'S Everlasting COVENANT of LOVE

- God has revealed Himself fully by sending **His own Son**, in whom He has established His covenant forever. The Son is His Father's definitive Word; so there will be no further Revelation after him. [CCC73]



The Nicene Creed

- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation, he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.

Question



- In which book of the Bible does it say that Jesus is fully man and fully God?
 - Not explicitly mentioned in the Bible.
 - Council of Ephesus (431 AD) declared Jesus is fully God and fully Man



Who Wants To Be
The Kingdom's Heir?



1. God's innermost life in which three persons remaining completely unique and in total union of love is called:

- a. Incarnation
- b. Covenant
- c. Trinity
- d. Grace



2. The teaching that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit was first given to us by the Apostles.

- a. True
- b. False



3. The mystery of the Holy Trinity is best expressed as:

- a. Three divine natures in one person
- b. Three persons in three divine natures
- c. Three persons in one divine nature
- d. Three natures in three persons



4. The principal way God communicates himself to us is through his presence in Jesus. This communication is called:

- a. Faith
- b. Belief
- c. Revelation
- d. Infallibility



5. In Catholic teaching, the Son of God becoming a man is called:

- a. Presentation
- b. Incarnation
- c. Redemption
- d. Visitation



6. Which of the following Biblical quotations best describe the human nature of Jesus Christ?

- a. The Father and I are one
- b. He was like us in all things but sin
- c. I have not called you servants but friends
- d. He went away once more and prayed



7. According the Catholic teaching on Jesus, He is:

- a. Two natures, two persons
- b. Two natures, one person
- c. Two persons, one nature
- d. One person, one nature



8. Jesus himself was tempted to be a false messiah. The tempter is depicted as trying to make Jesus manifest his power prematurely by:

- a. Changing water into wine
- b. Curing the centurion's son
- c. Multiplying the loaves and fishes
- d. Turning stones into bread



9. In Catholic teaching, Jesus dying, rising and sending the Holy Spirit to be forever with his people is called:

- a. Paschal Mystery
- b. Pentecost
- c. Ascension
- d. Theism



10. The freeing of people from sin through Christ is called:

- a. Salvation
- b. Glorification
- c. Inspiration
- d. Transfiguration



11. Which of these refer to Jesus as the redeemer of the human conditions?

- a. New Adam
- b. New Moses
- c. New Caesar
- d. Messiah



12. In the Gospel, on the third day after his death, his tomb was first found to be empty by the women.

- a. True
- b. False



13. Even though Jesus was to ascend into Heaven, He told the Apostles that He would remain with them. The reality of His presence is shown in:

- a. A cloud
- b. Christ's ascension
- c. The expression "At God's right hand"
- d. The doubting Thomas



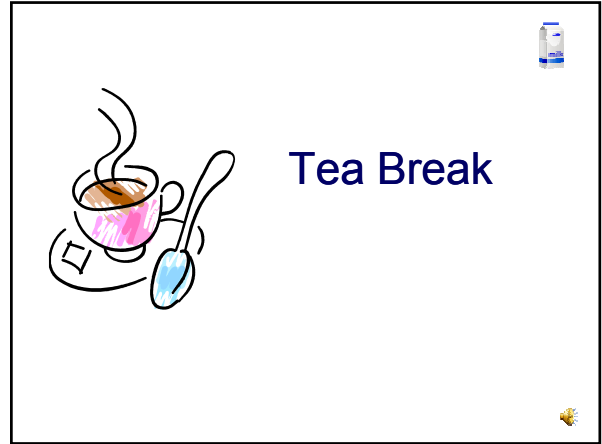
14. All the following are post-resurrection except:

- a. The road to Emmaus
- b. The shore to Tiberius
- c. The calming of the waters
- d. The doubting Thomas



15. Besides the Lord's Day, Christmas, and the Easter Triduum, the Church celebrates other special moments in Jesus' life as Holy Days or Feast Days. The Good Shepherd is one of them.

- a. True
- b. False



Discussion

- Are we created for LOVE and to LOVE. Why?
- Can you think of some forms of human union that is analogous to the Trinitarian concept?
- Jesus sacrifices himself out of his love for us.
 - Have you experienced or exercise such sacrifice?
 - How do you respond when someone who loves you make a sacrifice for you?
 - How do you respond to Jesus?



Recap

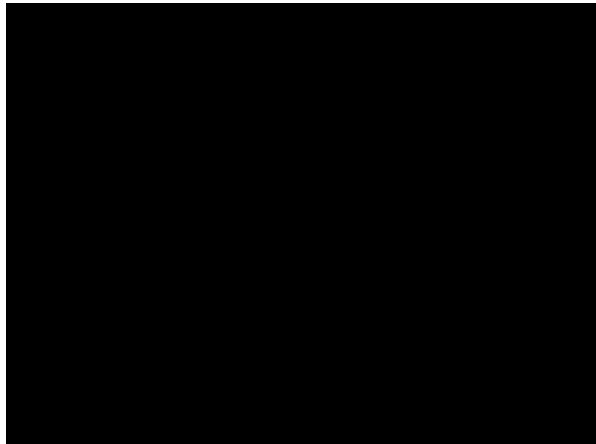
- The Incarnation Principle
- Second Person of the Holy Trinity
- Work of Redemption
- 2 Nature in One Person
- Establishes a New Covenant



Q&A



Special Presentation



Reflection – One Solitary Life

by James Allan Francis



He is a man who was born of Jewish parents in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman.

He grew up in another obscure little village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book.

He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city.

He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of those things that usually accompany greatness.

Reflection – One Solitary Life



He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world except the naked power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying--and that was his coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Reflection – One Solitary Life



Twenty centuries have come and gone and today He is the centrepiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

Everyone knows his name. Even those who despise him or shun his cause. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as that, One Solitary Life.



RCIA Commitment

- Attendance at all evening sessions
 - Evening sessions on every Tuesday, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. Please be punctual.
- Attendance at all weekend masses (from Week 7)
- Inform RCIA Coordinator (Howard) if you are unable to attend any session.
- Support and pray for each other



Contacts

- Name list will be prepared at the end of this Pre-Catechumenate (Finding Out) period
- In the meantime, any questions/problems/issues, contact:

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Alternatively, you may also contact the Parish Priest.



Further Readings

- *Path Through Catholicism*
(ISBN 0-7829-0971-X)
Chapter 6

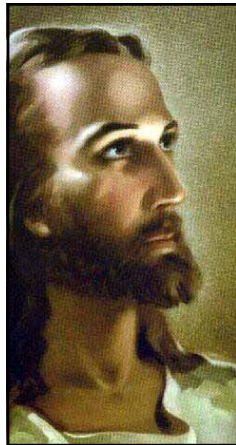


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Jesus name above all names

Jesus, name above all names

Beautiful Saviour

Glorious Lord

Emmanuel, God is with us

Blessed Redeemer

Living Word