

Sunday, June 9, 2019. Morning. Pentecost. According to the Biblical timeline, some two-thousand years after the Tower of Babel, God reversed the confusion imposed on the people. Immediately after the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles at Pentecost, the Apostles preached to a crowd of Parthians, Medes, Elamites, Mesopotamians, Asians, Egyptians, Libyans, Romans and Arabs who were all in Jerusalem. And each person heard them speaking in their own language.

Afternoon. Pentecost. In the Tower of Babel, the people sought to challenge God and not rely on God and they were thrown into confusion and could no longer understand one another. At Pentecost the Spirit becomes the glue that unites the listeners to the speakers and enables the listeners to fully understand the Word of God that the Apostles are preaching.

Evening. Pentecost. When we look to exult ourselves over God, we will fail miserably. When we look to the Spirit to unite us, we will find miracles working within and among us! Let us look to the Spirit to unite us!

Monday, June 10, 2019. Morning. Yes, our Church enjoys a wonderful two-thousand years of tradition built upon thousands of years before that going all the way back to Adam and Eve. Let us sit with the wonderful Tradition that we inherit.

Noon. We are still adding to the Church's tradition. A year ago, our Holy Father Pope Francis designated the day after Pentecost Sunday to be the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. Let us today, renew our devotion to Our Lady.

Evening. Let us reflect on the intentions of our Holy Father Pope Francis. "This celebration will help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed... joyous veneration cannot ignore the figure of a woman, the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church."

Tuesday, June 11, 2019. Morning. Today on the Church's calendar: Saint Barnabas. He was cousin to St Mark the Evangelist. He assisted St Paul in establishing the early church. Let us appreciate the hard work of the Spirit-filled holy persons of the early church — one of them being Barnabas, "so dedicated to the faith and filled with the Holy Spirit that he brought large numbers into the faith."

Afternoon. Barnabas was such a true and thorough representative of Christ that when he was preaching in Greek territory, they thought him to be divine, and in their mindset they mistook him for Zeus and sought to offer sacrifices to him. We, as well, come to our faith with preconceived notions about God, and about those who are further along on the spiritual journey than we are ourselves.

Evening. Part of our spiritual growth is realizing that God is far greater than any preconceived notions we originally had about God... and realizing that the Holy Persons who are ahead of us on the spiritual journey are still just human persons — card carrying members of the human race, not divine, as certain people thought Barnabas to be.

Wednesday, June 12, 2019. Morning. In anticipation of Trinity Sunday, let us attempt to consider the greatest of all mysteries — that of our Triune God. Let us first realize that our mere mortal minds cannot comprehend the Trinity. But our hearts can love our Triune God. Let us allow our hearts to take us beyond where our minds can go.

Afternoon. We begin the Mass by invoking our Triune God — In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Then, during the Gloria, we sing, "Almighty God and Father... Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father... You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of the Father..." The Mass is all about our Triune God.

Evening. In addition to the other references and direct invocations to the Trinity at mass, every time we sit down to dinner at home, let us make the sign of the cross, as a family, invoking the Trinity before we say grace and offer Thanksgiving to God.

Thursday, June 13, 2019. Morning. Today on the Church's calendar: St Anthony of Padua. He is often invoked when we lose something. Let us consider some specific details of his life which can take our devotion beyond merely invoking him with, "St Anthony, perfect imitator of Jesus, who received from God the special power of restoring lost things, grant that I may find..."

Afternoon. Anthony can teach us how to accept and adjust when plans change. Anthony set out to preach to the Moors. Owing to an illness, he instead wound up spending time reading scripture and praying during his recuperation. This turned out to be wonderful preparation for when he would actually preach later in life.

Evening. He would later preach against the Albigensian heresy, relying on what he had learned and experienced during his years of convalescence. In addition, he was called on to teach Theology. We might not understand now why God delays or changes our plans. But in the end, God might be giving us the preparation that we need to be able to do something great, as God did for St Anthony.

Friday, June 14, 2019. Morning. Our faith journey begins with an invocation to the Trinity at baptism with the words spoken by the priest or deacon, "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Afternoon. Our culture places so much emphasis on rational thought and learning that we may only venture as far as we can comprehend. Again, we need to make the leap of faith to go beyond where our mere brains and rational thought can take us. Our progress in the spiritual life will be stalled shortly after it begins if we only allow ourselves to journey as far as we can see and comprehend.

Evening. Let us lead with our hearts and leap into the communion of love that makes up the relationship of the Trinity: Father and Son and Holy Spirit all loving one another.

Saturday, June 15, 2019. Morning. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), "The Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith... known to us by revealing himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit... In the Father and with the Father, the Son is one and the same God... and with them, the Spirit is one and the same God." Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three in one.

Afternoon. "We are called to share in the life of the Blessed Trinity, here on earth in the obscurity of faith, and after death in eternal light." Sharing in the life of the Trinity is what heaven is all about.

Evening. But how can the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be three and one at the same time? The God at the center of our faith is a mystery.

Sunday, June 16, 2019. Morning. To assist us in our understanding that the very God whom we love is a mystery beyond our comprehension, let us spend the day considering a children's story that tradition passes down to us about our faith. One day while walking along the seashore, the Bishop and great Saint Augustine came upon a child dipping water from the sea and pouring it into a hole in the sand.

Afternoon. Curious, the Bishop inquired, "What are you doing?" The child replied, "I'm going to pour the ocean into this hole I dug." Augustine smiled: "You're wasting your time. That's impossible!"

Evening. The child said, "I will accomplish this before your finite mind can comprehend the infinite Godhead," and then vanished. Augustine lived some 1,600 years ago, so we have no way of verifying whether the story actually took place. However, it does remind us that our finite minds cannot possibly comprehend the infinite Godhead or Trinity. But that does not stop us from loving our God!