



### Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

One of the many touching things I've learned through the years of writing this weekly column is how seriously Catholics take the gift of their faith. It's different these days, I think. Catholics who have withstood the many horrible sexual abuse scandals, and financial scandals, that have staggered faith and hardened hearts through the past decades are not just holding on because their parents baptized them as babies.

They hold on because they read, and pray, and are constantly learning about the faith they love. When we arrive at the Solemnity of the Trinity, for example, I'm always inspired by the deep and intuitive reflection in which today's Catholics have invested in order to come to their own understanding of what it all means.

For example, if you asked an adult practicing Catholic today what the first part of that closing blessing St. Paul offers in today's second reading---"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ"---means to them, you'll get a rich reflection on the ways grace has directed their lives.

The second half of the blessing---"the love of God"---is probably the easiest, because all Catholics can tell you how the love of God is living and active in their lives.

The third part of the Trinitarian formula—"and the fellowship of the Spirit"---will be easy too, especially since we are smack in the post-Pentecost octave. I can't imagine active Catholics who can't relate the ways in which the Holy Spirit lives in their hearts and spirits.

We don't need theological explanations for what we've experienced through lifetimes of prayer and attentiveness to the liturgy and scripture. Grace, and love, and intimacy. That's the meaning of the Trinity. Happy Feast Day!

*Why do you think one of the Persons of the Trinity might attract you more than the Others?*