

MAY 31, 2026 FATHER PETER TURRONE

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,” writes Paul to the Corinthian community.

So, one of the joys of being a priest is being able to accompany people to, in their faith journey. And in RCIA, we had many people this year receive baptism in our parish and throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto and not only, but also throughout Canada and in many other places so you can see that there's this strong desire for God, for peace, and the question always is who is God?

So, for the Christians that are not yet Catholic and they're received in the Church, there's already this understanding. But for those that are Jewish or Muslim or Hindu or of no faith, so when they're coming and they're asking, there's this desire, so who is God? Who is this God? And many people, the idea that they have is that God is solitary.

We say that God is one. God is one, there's one God, absolutely. But God is not solitary. God, for us as Christians, will have a full understanding. God is a communion of persons. God is Father. God is Son. God is Holy Spirit.

And the remarkable thing is that when we look at this beautiful mystery that is revealed to us, when the Church calls it a mystery, she doesn't mean to say that there's absolutely nothing we can know about God because that would contradict scripture.

The Lord Himself says He comes from the Father. He's been sent by the Father to reveal, to reveal the truth of the Godhead and the mystery of God in our lives and His plans for us. So, we can understand certain things about God. We can know that God exists.

There are many people, as I said, there are many people, even the ancients understood that there was a God, but that God is a Trinity, that God is a communion of persons, is revealed to us explicitly by Jesus Christ, who is the second person of the Trinity.

When we look back and we look at the Old Testament, we can look and we can see signs, right? We can see signs that God is Father, that God is Son, that God is Holy Spirit. It's all there and as St. Augustine said, he said that the new is hidden in the old and the old is made manifest in the new.

So, when Jesus gives us this great revelation. Again, there's this communion, so God isn't solitary, but God exists as a communion of persons. Father, Son, Holy Spirit. And there's this relationship of love, right? This great relationship of love.

As we know, as Christians, God did not have to create the world. Because God is perfectly contents within Himself. As Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But out of this love that God has. This outpouring of God's love, He creates the world and us as well.

So, this outpouring of love and then we see the consequences of this rejection of love by Adam and Eve. But then, God's desire, the Father's desire, to save us. To bring us back into communion with Himself, and He does this by sending Jesus and He sends us, He sends the Lord to us so that we, again, can enter once more in the family and He does this through the power of the Holy Spirit.

So, God is one, but God is distinct in personhood, so the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And the action of God is always trinitarian.

Just think about what's going to happen in a few minutes at the altar. What are you gonna hear? So, when the bread and the wine are presented, so myself, the priest that celebrates says, "Father, send the Holy Spirit so that this becomes this bread, this wine becomes, right? The Body and Blood of Jesus." So, there's this continuous trinitarian action.

When we pray, when you're praying at home, wherever you are, when we're praying, who allows us to enter into this communion with the Father and the Son. It's the Holy Spirit. So, the Holy Spirit draws us into the mystical life of God.

So, He reveals, He reveals to us. Jesus says He reminds us of everything that Jesus Himself taught and He gives us the grace and the capacity to be able to experience this, so I can know things intellectually about the Trinity. I can know that God exists.

To know that God is a Trinity, it must be revealed to me and when I accept this in faith, then so many things make sense about life, about the Old Testament, about how we're meant to live, how we can communicate with God, what's happening at the mass, at the altar, all of these different actions, but we can understand ultimately why, again, John refers to God as love.

If God were solitary, who is He loving if He's only Father? And then, how could He be only Father because a Father has a Son, has a child. And the love between the Father and the Son is the generation of the Holy Spirit. And it's the Holy Spirit that's the one that the Father and the Son send, says, "I promise to send you." And He draws us back into the life of God.

It's this remarkable gift that the Lord has given us and we can experience that by loving God, but also loving each other. Because the Holy Spirit is the one that draws us all together in Christ, offering us to the Father, and we can see as Paul tells us in Corinthians, he says, "Live in peace. Agree with one another. God is love and the peace of Christ will be with you. Greet one another with the holy kiss." He says, "All the saints greet you."

So, we can experience the presence of the Trinity, this communion, to the extent that we learn to love God and we learn to love each other. Are we persons of communion? Are we men and women, children of God that seek peace and unity?

The Holy Father, Pope Leo, keeps talking about this over and over again, but very few people are listening, especially in the world, especially in a lot of the media because people want to create division, because that's what sells. So, there's all sorts of things. People putting spins on, a different spin on what he's saying rather than listening to what the Holy Father speaks of and he's reminding us, he's calling us back to the essentials and calling us back to recognize this great mystery of God's love that's being offered to us and for the grace to be able to receive it.

You know, as a good Augustinian pope, he reminds us that our hearts will be restless until they rest in God. God is a Trinity of persons and we ask the Lord for a deeper understanding of this, so we can live this reality not only between our relationship with God, but also with those around us in the mystical body of Christ.