

THE LORD IS GOD  
IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE  
AND ON EARTH BELOW;  
THERE IS NO OTHER.

DEUTERONOMY 4:39

# THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

MAY 30, 2021

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## ASTONISHING MYSTERY

Astonishing is the term that Clement of Alexandria used in referring to the Holy Trinity. Today's scriptures tell the astonishing stories, from Moses in the Old Testament to the end of Matthew's Gospel, of how we mere humans are intended to be intimately associated with our loving God. We see in Deuteronomy that Moses reminds the new generation of Israelites of the "astonishing" fact that, even though the ancient world teemed with gods, their God was the only God, that "there is no other." Saint Paul in the letter to the Romans writes about those who follow the Spirit as being "sons" of God, which of course would make us brothers and sisters of Christ, and, as he says, "joint heirs with Christ." Another astonishing statement! Finally, Christ bestows the Holy Spirit on the world as his continuing presence and force of divine revelation. How can we not be astonished?

## THE MYSTERY IS THE MASTERPIECE

The Most Holy Trinity is the central truth and, indeed, mystery of our lives as believers in God. Even so, few seem to be able to talk about it. (Or is it "them"?) Must we be satisfied to take this truth as an inscrutable object of faith that we can easily ignore? Not at all! We are immersed in Trinitarian reality in many ways.

Please consider these clues to God as more than just Person of the Father. Remember the words of God in scripture when the world and all its wonders were coming to be. The formulas for each stage in creation begin with "Let us . . ." (Genesis 1:26). This is not merely the "Royal We." This is God as a plurality of Being. In Isaiah, the seraphim cry out "Holy, holy, holy . . ." (Isaiah 6:3). Ancient Middle Eastern superlatives come in threes, but why not consider it a sign of God's three-ness? And these Old Testament foreshadowings are nothing compared to our well-known baptismal formula, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Notice that "name" is singular, and yet refers to three persons. Finally, as Christ tells the Apostles in today's Gospel, they are to go out and teach in that same singular triple name.

## SHALL WE DANCE?

The famous icon by the equally famous fourteenth-century iconographer Andrej Rublev is a depiction of the Trinity densely packed with symbolic content. The three "angels" sitting at a table are actually meant to be the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They relate to each other in loving gesture, each one to the other, often described as "dance-like." And yet this triangular circle seems incomplete. Indeed it is, because we must become one with this circle of life-giving love. As in a dance, we are drawn into the divine life in the Trinitarian embrace of abundant glory and harmony. Then we complete the movement by taking that love incarnated out to the world, revealing the mystery to our sisters and brothers through our own lives.

### *SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES*

Mon: Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary;  
9<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time  
Tues: St. Justin  
Wed: Ss. Marcellinus and Peter  
Thurs: St. Charles Lwanga & Companions  
Friday: First Friday  
Saturday: St. Boniface

# Immaculate Conception Parish

## Immaculate Conception Church & St. Joseph Church

*Pastor: Rev. James J. Ward • Deacon: Mr. Jack Mroz*

Immaculate Conception Rectory: 570-325-2791 • [iccjt@ptd.net](mailto:iccjt@ptd.net) • [www.iccjimthorpe.org](http://www.iccjimthorpe.org)

St. Joseph Rectory: 570-325-3731 • [stjosjt@ptd.net](mailto:stjosjt@ptd.net) • [www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org](http://www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org)

*St. Joseph Church side entrance is open daily for private prayer*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Tues. & Thurs. after 8 a.m. Mass @ SJC; Wednesdays, 6:30pm @ ICC

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC Direct Phone: 800-791-9209; Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS Phone: 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204; If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service [ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

## The Most Holy Trinity

### **Sat. May 29**

4:30 pm (ICC)

**Millie & Augie Gulla** (DePuy Family) /  
**Bruce E. Steigerwalt** (M/M Richard Kuhn)

### **Sun. May 30**

9:00 am (SJC)

**Thomas J. Bechtel** (sister, Kay) / **Kenneth Huber** (Patricia Huber)

### **Mon. May 31**

*private*

**Memorial Day - No Public Mass**

**Margaret Bennett & Anne Forment** (Family) / **Dennis Gallagher** (Matt & Marsha King)

### **Tues. June 1**

8:00 am (SJC)

**Elizabeth O'Donnell** (Ann Fauzio & Family) / **Jim Maiura** (Kitty & Bill Malatak)

### **Wed. June 2**

*private*

**Wildoner Family** (Charlie) / **All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased**

### **Thurs. June 3**

8:00 am (SJC)

**Stephen Maliniak** (Stephanie Maliniak) / **Emily Kattner** (Louise Goldman)

### **Fri. June 4**

8:00 am (ICC)

**Stella Nederostek** (ICC Rectory Staff) / **Rose Zurn** (Lisa Figura)

## *The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ*

### **Sat. June 5**

9:00 am (SJC)

*Rosary for Life*

4:30 pm (ICC)

**Vincent Teichert** (Family) / **Mary Knorr** (Mary & Frank Ewerth)

### **Sun. June 6**

9:00 am (SJC)

**Kevin Doll** (Anthony DeLaurentis) / **Elizabeth Lennon** (Kay & Dan Boyle)



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM ~ BLESSED THE PEOPLE THE LORD HAS CHOSEN TO BE HIS OWN.**

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

SANCTUARY CANDLE burns in Honor & Memory of *All Deceased Veterans*

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE burns in Honor of all *Doctors, Nurses, EMT, & All Frontline Healthcare Workers*

### ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

SANCTUARY: In Loving Memory of *George Bimler, 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary* (Requested by Maryanne & Ronnie)

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP:** 5/9/21: \$ 5,632.00

*Thank you for your continued support & generosity.*

**THE RECTORY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED** this Monday, May 31 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will not be a public Mass held this Monday, Memorial Day, May 31<sup>st</sup>.



### **FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 20.**

Spiritual Bouquet envelopes are included in your mailed packet. Please fill out the envelope and place in the collection basket at any Mass.

The envelopes will be placed on the altar & those intentions will be remembered at all Masses the month of June.

*O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country.*

*Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of your Son they may share in the joy of your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you with your saints forever. Amen*



**BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC ANNUAL APPEAL.**

As of today, our parishioners have raised \$13,578.00 from 63 parishioners, representing 9.06% of our total number of registered families in our parish. We need the support of all of our parish families to reach 100% participation. If you have not made your pledge of support, you may return your pledge form to the parish office or make your gift online. Remember, every gift counts, no gift is too small. Every dollar helps those in need. If you have any questions or would like to make a gift, please call the parish office or visit the Appeal website at [BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](http://BecauseWeAreCatholic.org).

**MEMORIAL FUND:** We would like to acknowledge a donation made in memory of **Emma Marzen** from Jean & Mike Fauzio.

**MEN'S GROUP:** Our collection for the children in Tanzania amounted to \$617.28. Thank you to all who support this mission each month. Our next collection will be June 19.

**DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD MIGHT BE CALLING YOU**

to discern the Ordained Ministry of Christ the Servant, as a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Allentown? If so, you & your family are invited to attend a **COME AND SEE EVENT** at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Church, Orefield, on **Fri., June 25<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm, at which a reflection on the Ministry of the Order of Deacon, relevant application information, & an overview of the formation process will be given. Registration is required. Please register by emailing [jstewart@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:jstewart@allentowndiocese.org) or call the Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation at 610-332-0442, ext 2031. Attendance by Zoom is also optional and the session will be recorded & made available to those who cannot attend.

**WEEK AT A GLANCE EVENTS**

Mon., May 31: Church Rectory offices closed  
 Fri., June 4: Flame of Love, 1pm  
 Sat, June 5: Wedding Convalidation @ SJC, 2pm

**GARAGE SALE ITEMS:**

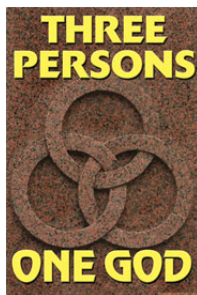
*New furniture arrivals!*

- **Matching Sofa:** \$75 & **Love Seat:** \$50 (pink & green flower print);
- **Sofa:** \$75 (dark salmon color with blue design, includes a slip cover);
- **Recliner Chair:** \$60 (beige, green, brown square design);
- **Sofa with recliners on both ends:** \$80 (solid burgundy);
- **Patio Set** with 6 Chairs: \$90;
- **Round Oak Kitchen table** with 2 chairs: \$95;
- **Oval Walnut Kitchen Table with Leaf:** \$50;
- **Walnut Chest of Drawers with mirror:** \$70;
- **Walnut Dresser with Mirror and Night Stand:** \$60;
- **Walnut Chest of Drawers with Mirror, Tall Chest of Drawers, Night Stand, Double Bed or Queen Headboard** with metal frame - **4 pieces:** \$250;
- **Chest of Drawers:** \$70;
- **2-drawer Wood Desk:** \$25;
- **Football Game Table:** \$75;
- **Sofa/Console Table:** \$50;
- **Bow Flex Tread Climber:** \$100;
- **OrbiTrek Stepper:** \$40.



**THREE-IN-ONE LOVE:** When I was much younger, I used to think that God was totally invisible, not to be experienced as the people in the bible did. After all, they heard God's voice in the fiery cloud; they saw the waters parted so they could pass through--all the things that Moses talks about in the first reading. But then I ask myself, do I want my faith to be based on special effects? Or do I want to trust Jesus, who told Thomas, "Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed." (Jn 20:29)

Jesus was referring to his resurrection appearances, but it also applies to the Holy Trinity. When we see a newborn child, she can remind us of God the Father creating the earth and all living things. When we see the cross, we recall Jesus saving death and resurrection. When we share our faith with someone, we know that it is the Holy Spirit who gives us the words to speak and the courage to speak them. Seeing God's work around us, we can still experience God in Three Persons.



The three are not just equal parts of God, one-third of God each. Three infinite Persons are united in one substance or being, so the love they have for each other is infinite. Everything God does is done by all three Persons. So you could say that everything the Trinity does, is done out of love.

*Tom Schmidt, © J. S. Paluch Co.*