



THIS WEEK AT THE MADELEINE

Furthering the Reign of God, Where All Are Welcome • May 29-30, 2021



MADELEINE PROVISIONS IS BACK!

Gourmet beef, pork, seafood, and wine • www.themadeleine.edu/provisions

Just in time for Summer BBQ season, we're back with another gourmet pop-up for The Madeleine community. A joint fundraiser for our parish and our school we will be offering the same Wagyu Beef, Kurobuta Pork, Gourmet Sausages, Sushi grade Tuna, and New Zealand Ora-King Salmon. Just like before, everything is at wholesale prices, far below what you could pay locally.



WINE option so you can order some gorgeous bottles from local winery, Helioterra, that will be available at pickup. Lastly, we'll be grilling gourmet hot dogs that day, so bring your appetite!



Important Dates:

- ▶ Orders due no later than Tuesday, June 8 @ noon
 - ▶ Pickup will be Friday, June 11 from 3 pm to 5 pm at the school
- Email or text Darryl Fowler, dcfowler@mac.com / 323-854-3333, with questions.

It's all being done at cost plus a small donation going back to the school and parish. This time, we're adding a

FATHER & CHILD PHOTOS FOR JUNE

Upload photos to www.themadeleine.edu/fathers by June 10

We are gathering photos for our annual Father & Child video to run at Masses in June, beginning June 13.



father and child(ren) photos to www.themadeleine.edu/fathers

Please, only one photo of a specific father/child grouping, and please upload only your own photos, not those of friends and classmates.

We are starting over—all new photos!

This year, we're making a fresh start. So even if you've sent us a photo before, please send a new one this year. Upload your best

We need your photos no later than Tuesday, June 10. Help us honor all the fathers in our community in this very special way.

SEND US YOUR 2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADS!

www.themadeleine.edu/graduates • Submit by June 2, please.

We want to recognize all Class of 2021 high school graduates from The Madeleine in our bulletin this June. Whether she or he went to our parish school or not...we want to



recognize each and every one!

Visit www.themadeleine.edu/graduates If your grad's school is not listed in the menu, enter it in the "other" field.

We need to receive your Graduate's name by June 2 so we can list her or him in our June 6 bulletin. Thank you.

The Most Holy Trinity

TODAY WE CELEBRATE the relationships at the heart of our faith. As God eternally participates in the relationship of Father, Son and Spirit, we too participate in this sacred community and in the great historic sweep of God's people past, present, future. Through baptism, we are called by God to become part of this deeply connected family. Let us commit to loving and serving not only members of this family, but all people.

PRAY FOR OUR FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Dirk Fournier | Donna Gene White |
| Lori Taylor | Mary Mackin |
| Russ Clark | Larry Mason |
| John DeBenedetti | Barbel Durrett |

PRAYER REQUESTS

For those who are ill, or in need of our prayers

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Peggy Barnett | Pam Wiggin |
| Matthew Eusterman | Tom Johnston |
| Lisa Nice | Hilda Glasgow |
| Penny Hanselman | Sylvia Manzo |
| Quenton Czuba | Gloria O'Brien |
| Kathy Gaitan | |

WORSHIP & PRAYER

- 06/01, Tues. Peggy Barnett
- 06/02, Weds. Paul Cammarata
- 06/03, Thurs. Theresa Maurer †
- 06/04, Fri. Joe Bencich †
- 06/05, Sat. Louie Vendrell †
- 06/06, Sun. 8:00 am . . . The Madeleine Community
- 10:00 am Milton & Korene Hill †

Calendar This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 30

8:00 am: Mass—Church

 **IN-PERSON ONLY**

10:00 am: Mass—Church

 **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**

MONDAY, MAY 31

▶ Memorial Day

▶ No School, Parish Office Closed

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

8:00 am: Mass—Church

9:00 am: Adoration—Church

7:30 pm: Knights of Columbus—Zoom

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

8:00 am: Mass—Church

3:00 pm: Music Enrichment (Virtual)

7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal—Zoom & In-person

7:00 pm: Safety & Security Meeting—Zoom

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

2:00 pm: Mass—Church

 **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

8:00 am: Mass—Church

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

5:00 pm: Mass—Church

 **IN-PERSON ONLY**

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

8:00 am: Mass—Church

 **IN-PERSON ONLY**


10:00 am: Mass—Church


 **IN-PERSON**  **LIVESTREAM**

CORPUS CHRISTI ADORATION

June 6 is the beautiful feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (also known as Corpus Christi). Please join us immediately following the 10:00 am. Mass in procession with the Holy Eucharist into the Courtyard for 30 minutes of adoration.

ACCESSING THE MADELEINE IN TIME OF COVID-19

▶  **IN-PERSON**—Pre-registration is no longer required; max attendance 150 people, COVID safety procedures in place.

▶  **LIVESTREAM**—on our YouTube channel every Sunday at 10:00 am, School Masses, and special events:

www.youtube.com/themadeleineparish

▶ **Parish Emails:** To sign up, visit www.themadeleine.edu/email

PARISH LIFE

NOTE FROM FR. MIKE

Last year, Carol Glasgow accepted an unbelievably difficult task: to lead our school through the uncharted waters of the pandemic. First, addressing and working through all the uncertainty surrounding the beginning of school...whether we would have in-person learning, how to support our faculty and families in distance learning, working to get the buildings ready for potential in-person learning...and of course all the other “normal” duties of a school principal. Then adeptly navigating the changing landscape of the pandemic throughout the year...the frequently updated state health guidance, the evolving needs of our students and families....finally culminating

in nearly every Madeleine School student returning to full-time, in-person learning.

And for all of this, she has done the job with the official title of “Interim” Principal.

“Interim” no more! I am pleased to announce that in consultation with Archbishop Sample, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, The Madeleine School Advisory Council and The Madeleine School Faculty, Carol has been offered and has accepted the title of Principal of The Madeleine School.

Let us humbly and enthusiastically congratulate and welcome Principal Carol Glasgow.

—Fr. Mike

FATHER’S DAY REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES

Father’s Day Spiritual remembrance envelopes and cards are available in the vestibule. This is a wonderful way to honor a living or deceased father.

Simply fill out the envelope and drop it in the collection plate anytime between now and Father’s Day.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE— BUILD BEDS FOR KIDS

Help build beds for kids who need them • June 12, 10:00 am–2:00 pm

The most profound way to end the national crisis of child bedlessness is to unite the country in one common goal of building the most amount of beds possible and getting thousands of children off the floor. And that is the story behind SHP’s National Build Day.

SHP-OR, Portland Metro invites you to join us for Bunks Across America on Saturday, June 12, at the Portland Shed. SHP’s goal is to build over 7,500 beds with up to 15,000 volunteers, and we need your help to make it happen. So save the date and join us for a memorable day of joy and community service

Sleep In Heavenly Peace is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children of families in need. Our builds are held at Portland Shed. Portland Shed is a non-profit volunteer organization providing resources to several charities for various construction projects including sleeping pods, tiny homes, furniture and handicap ramps.

Lunch and water bottles are provided as are gloves and all protective gear. We look forward to seeing you!

When & Where:

- ▶ Saturday June 12 • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- ▶ The Portland Shed, 10609 NE Simpson St., Portland.

COVID-19 Protocol

We’ll be adhering to state and local mandates and will be implementing social distancing, masks, and other PPE to protect you and your loved ones while you serve your community.

Volunteering Requirements

- ▶ Each volunteer is required to fill out an Indemnification Release Form.
- ▶ No child under the age of 12 is allowed to participate in a Build Day.
- ▶ Over-age minors are required to be accompanied by a legal guardian.

To Volunteer:

- ▶ Visit www.shpbeds.org/chapter/or-portland-metro and click “Register”

To Donate:

- ▶ Online—weblink.donorperfect.com/or-portlandmetro
- ▶ Portland Shed—portlandshed.org
- ▶ Sleep In Heavenly Peace—SHPBeds.org



As we celebrate the mystery of the Trinity we also realize the mystery of how much God loves and cares for us each day. Believing in this, our lives can then overflow in thanksgiving and praise. Your gifts to St. Vincent DePaul will help the poor believe in the mystery of God’s love for them.

—Mary Clare O’Brien, 503-309-7639

JOIN OUR NEW CHIME CHOIR

Do you love music? Consider joining our new “Chime Choir” at The Madeleine.

Hand chimes are...

- ▶ Accessible to play. Chimes are set up like a musical keyboard. A basic knowledge in musical rhythm or note reading is helpful, but not required.
- ▶ A safe alternative to singing during COVID. “Chimers” are assigned one or two individual chimes, which are not

shared with one another. Because of this, it is easy to be socially distanced. Masks are mandatory.

- ▶ A great family music ministry – which will bring much joy and beauty to our liturgies!

For more information on rehearsals and liturgies, please contact Maria Manzo, Director of Music at mmanzo@themadeleine.edu

THE TRINITY

This week marks the celebration of The Most Holy Trinity—the transition from the end of the Easter Season back to Ordinary Time. Although most are familiar with the concept of the Triune God, I often look to that which is most familiar to truly understand how God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit can actually be ONE God but THREE persons.

Recently we pulled up the old carpet in our living room and replaced it with tile. My job was to lay out the tile in a cohesive design pattern. While they shared certain characteristics, when I looked at the tiles individually some looked like they didn’t even belong. I was completely overwhelmed! Sensing my anxiety, our contractor explained to me to look at the back of the tile and organize all of the “T1” and “T2” tiles first. They weren’t meant to match up exactly, but there should be a suggestion of a pattern or flow from one tile to the other. Although I busily followed the directions, I must admit I still did not have a complete picture of how the tile would look in the end. Stepping back, the natural ebb and flow of the design suddenly became very clear to me, and it was even more beautiful than I imagined.

Similarly, 19th century Impressionism in art did not seek to show a detailed picture-perfect image in the classical sense. Painters such as Monet and Renoir were fascinated in the way the human mind processes what it sees. They perceived that looking at a landscape, or a crowd of people, we do not instantly see every detail, but a mass of color and light. Therefore, they used a technique characterized by rapid and broken brush strokes, and obscured edges to

give an overall “impression” of their subjects. Close up, the seemingly random brushstrokes on a canvas make no sense—stepping back, the paintings are awash with color and detail. Similarly, Impressionists composers seek to “paint” a musical picture based on mood and atmosphere—“color”

that is achieved through ambiguous harmonies, musical textures and modal scales. One of the most famous examples is Debussy’s, “Clair de lune” (Moonlight) in which Debussy played with the elements of time and space to evoke

a mood that was often tranquil, with bursts of harmonic energy that seemed to dissipate as quickly as they are heard. Like an impressionist painting, it is only when you hear the piece in its entirety, that you can truly visualize the beauty of Debussy.

Much like my experience with tile, art and music, each part of the Trinity has a unique design, shape and “color”—but it is not always apparent how they fit together. Do I call upon God the Father, with his strong and mighty hand; or God the Son, to comfort and teach me how to live a just and compassionate life; or God the Holy Spirit to give me wisdom and send his peace? To me, the answer lies in the ebb and flow of the tiles, the transient effect of light illuminated on a canvas, or the seeming ambiguity of musical notes that envelope the listener. For it is only when we take a step back and look at the totality of our Triune God that the picture becomes perfectly clear—at least for the moment.

It is, after all, a mystery.

—Maria Manzo



Music Notes

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Masses:

Tuesday	8:00 am
Wednesday	8:00 am
Thursday (School Mass)	2:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am
Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am & 10:00 am

Notes:

- ▶ Pre-registration for in-person Mass attendance no longer required
- ▶ Livestream 10:00 am Sunday and 2:00 pm Thursday at [youtube.com/themadeleineparish](https://www.youtube.com/themadeleineparish)

Penance . . . By appointment; call Parish Office

PARISH OFFICE

Hours Monday–Friday, 10:00 am–3:00 pm

Phone: 503-281-5777 **Fax:** 503-281-0673

School Office 503-288-9197

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Mike Biewend—Pastor
fathermike@themadeleine.edu ext. 111

Deacon Mike O’Mahoney—Permanent Deacon
deaconmike@themadeleine.edu

Carol Glasgow—School Principal
cglasgow@themadeleine.edu . . . 503-288-9197

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jwurzer@themadeleine.edu ext. 118

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dmaurer@themadeleine.edu ext. 125

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Mary Prusso—Registration/Special Events
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Janeen Reilly—Parish Administrator
jreilly@themadeleine.edu ext. 110

Terry Silva—Facilities Support
tsilva@themadeleine.edu ext. 117

Rich Hammons—Director of Communications
rhammons@themadeleine.edu ext. 129

SACRAMENTS

Marriages, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick—Fr. Mike ext. 111

Infant Baptism—Darlene Maurer ext. 125

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist—Trisha Mumm ext. 127

RCIA—Christi Bohmbach, rcia@themadeleine.edu

Confirmation—Fr. Mike ext. 111

COUNCILS & CONTACTS

Pastoral Council—Ron Oliver 503-281-9070

Finance Council—Jim Jones 503-284-3301

Buildings & Grounds—Erin Couch . . . 503-281-9575

School Advisory—Catherine Glavan, 503-875-4679

Facility Requests—[themadeleine.edu/facilities](https://www.themadeleine.edu/facilities)

Maintenance Requests—James Wurzer
jwurzer@themadeleine.edu ext. 118

Bulletin submissions due 5:00 pm Tuesday
 Email to bulletin@themadeleine.edu

**HELP BEAUTIFY OUR CITY
...ONE BLOCK AT A TIME**

Now open to the entire state of Oregon

Adopt One Block is a local nonprofit encouraging residents to adopt and care for our environment one block at a time. Participants choose a location and commit to weekly walking the public portion of the block, picking up litter and debris, and properly recycling or disposing of the trash. Anyone, any age, can participate (when and how you do this is your choice). Here's how to become a Block Ambassador:

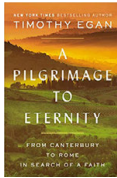
- ▶ Select a block anywhere state you would like to adopt.
- ▶ Submit the block to the organizer at www.adoptoneblock.org
- ▶ Request collection supplies you may need trash grabber, gloves, trash bag.
- ▶ Begin weekly walks of your adopted block.
- ▶ **Let us know what block you have adopted**, and share your stories and photos with us at bulletin@themadeleine.edu with subject line "Adopt One Block."

Questions: Darlene Maurer, dmaurer@themadeleine.edu

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Are you a bookworm?

Would you enjoy opportunities to meet with other parishioners and friends to share your thoughts about the contents of some very excellent books? If so, we invite you to join us at future discussion sessions. The book Fr. Mike has selected for June is *A Pilgrimage to Eternity*, by Timothy Egan. For details and/or to be added to our email list, please contact our MBC Ministry Coordinator: Gretchen Stevenson, gypsy-frau47@yahoo.com or 503-312-6834.



**TAKE ACTION PROJECT—
GIRL SCOUTS**

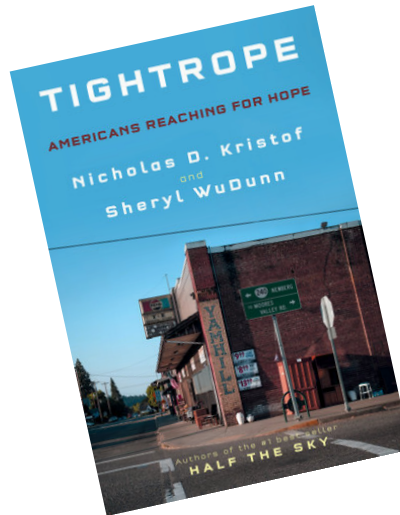
Dog Toys • Ends June 7

Girl Scout Troop #10164 is collecting dog toys for their Take Action Project, which is a project Brownie troops complete to meet a need or solve a problem in their community. The toys are for Dove Lewis' Super Heroes, dogs who donate blood used in surgeries for injured dogs. Every Super Hero dog is given a toy each time they donate blood as a reward.

A bin will be available at the church to collect new, sturdy toys for dogs over 50 lbs. until June 7. Please consider donating to help our 2nd grade Brownie troop complete their project



*Congratulations
Father Mike on the
41st Anniversary
of your ordination.
Thank you for
shepherding our
flock!*



**A VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENT!
Register Now!**

**An Evening with
NY Times Columnist
Nicholas D. Kristof**

JUNE 7th, 7:00 pm

**A Discussion on the book
*Tightrope: Americans
Reaching for Hope***

Join us for a transformative opportunity as we listen and probe deeply with Kristof into issues on poverty, our local, state and national priorities, understanding better the fraying of our social fabric, deaths of despair and stories of heartbreak and hope.

**As people of faith, what are we called to do?
What are our moral imperatives?**

PLEASE REGISTER BY JUNE 3RD BY COPYING THE FOLLOWING ZOOM LINK INTO YOUR BROWSER. (Your computer, tablet or smartphone will need a Zoom application which can be obtained through Google.)

<https://tinyurl.com/kez9fkac>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you need help before or on June 7th, contact Dave Albertine at 503-282-7848.



PARISH STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT LETTERS ARE IN THE MAIL

Our Parish Stewardship Letters for the 2021-22 fiscal year are in the mail. If you have not yet received your letter, you will receive it soon.

Since we did not run a Stewardship Campaign last year due to the pandemic, we thought a review of what you might expect would be a good idea.

The feature most folks are drawn to

is the graph in the middle of the page that shows your past 5-years' giving in comparison to parish averages.

This letter, and the graph, show giving for our Parish Offertory, Second Collections and our Capital Repair Fund (used for maintenance and repairs on campus).

This graph does NOT include Old Church Capital Campaign gifts.

Once you have received your letter, if you have questions about the Stewardship Campaign, your past donations, or your upcoming donation, contact James Wurzer at the Parish Office, 503-281-5777 or jwurzer@themadeleine.edu, or Father Mike at fathermike@themadeleine.edu

By The Numbers

1 Giving History. We heard from some people that they didn't always remember how much they had been giving—so when it came time to pledge for the new year, they would have to dig through bank records. These green bars show how much you've given each year, averaged by month for simplicity—in Parish Offertory, Second Collections and Capital Repair gifts—for each of the past 5 years. **These bars do NOT include Old Church Capital Campaign giving or pledges.**

2 Parishioner Average Giving. We also thought it would be helpful to know, for context, the average monthly contribution per contributing parish family over each of the past 5 years.

3 Contact information. We have included what we hope is your current contact information. See an error or a phone or email missing? Just make the correction when you send in your commitment card!

4 Suggested 2021-22 monthly amount. This is an amount for you to consider for your 2021-22 giving. It reflects the greater of your prior year monthly average plus our requested 6% increase, or the parish average. It's just a suggestion...we are grateful for any amount.

5 Your Commitment. Here, we list the commitments for the coming year.

▶ **Combined Monthly Commitment.** The amount here is intended to cover not only your Parish Offertory, the main fund that our parish runs on, but Second Collections and Capital Repair Fund also. **This does NOT include any gifts to our Old Church Project Capital Campaign.**

▶ **Additional Gifts:** If you did not include Capital Repair Fund and Second Collections in the past, please consider including a monthly amount here.

▶ **Total Per Month:** If you included Additional Amounts, please total all the lines above for your total monthly commitment.

6 Method of payment: We are really hoping people will experience the convenience of automatic electronic payments this year. Complete instructions are on the back of your commitment card.



Dear John & Jane,

Thank you for your support of The Madeleine! Every family, every person in the parish benefits from your generosity. Your ongoing support is critical to the ministries and mission of The Madeleine.

As you know, the pandemic has been difficult to navigate. Most of our supporters have been steadfast, but not everyone has been able to support the parish at their previous levels. And, due to the physical, emotional and economic hardships imposed by the pandemic, we did not pursue a Parish Stewardship Campaign last year. Which leads me to ask for your help this year.

With increased costs for 2021—including a planned cost-of-living pay increase for your parish staff who received none last year—I am asking all parishioners to consider a 6% or greater increase over their prior giving amounts. Or, if possible, to increase giving up to our parish average amount, as noted on the Stewardship Commitment Form below. I know I can count on your generosity, and I remain very grateful for your support of our journey.

If you have any questions, please contact me or James Wurzer, our Business Manager, at the Parish Office, 503-281-5777.

Fr. Mike

Fr. Mike Biewend, Pastor



“As our recent Mass attendance shows, people are eager to again congregate in person...to celebrate Mass as a community. It's been joyous to see families at church again!”

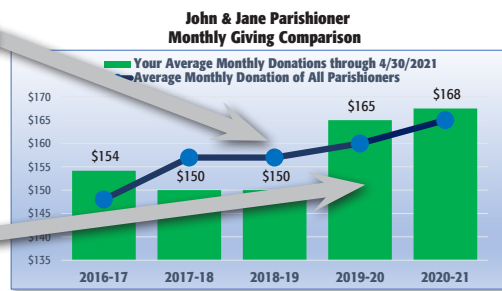


“Our Care for Creation ministry held their annual Earth Day E-Waste Recycling event, which brought people from the parish and neighborhood to responsibly discard their old electronics.”

2

1

3



Your combined monthly giving by fiscal year for Offertory, Second Collections and Capital Repair

2021-2022 PARISH STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

- Please make any corrections below
- For electronic donations, please complete the information on back
- When completed, please return this form in the envelope provided or drop in our weekly collection basket

Email: j&j-parishioner@mail.com
Phone: (503) 123-4567

John & Jane Parishioner
1234 NE Neighborhood St
Portland

Please consider increasing your total combined monthly commitment to our Parish average of: **\$175**

YOUR COMMITMENT	
Please enter your combined monthly commitment, to include Offertory, Capital Repair and Second Collections	\$
OPTIONAL, ADDITIONAL GIFTS:	
Additional Capital Repair Fund—Monthly	\$
Additional Second Collections—Monthly	\$
Total per month (Add together all 3 lines above)	\$

METHOD OF PAYMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto Debit (EFT)—Preferred	<input type="checkbox"/> Online Bill Pay
<input type="checkbox"/> Debit/Credit Card—Preferred	<input type="checkbox"/> Envelopes

4

5

6



The Mystery of the DIVINE TRINITY

Although we Christians share the belief with Jews and Muslims that there is only one God, our belief is not exactly the same as theirs. Theologians call our Christian belief that there is one God who exists as a trinity of persons a mystery. The word *mystery* points to a reality that is beyond our full explanation, but not beyond our experience. We know God's hidden threefold personal mystery only because God freely reveals it to us through God's words, gathered together in the Bible, and God's loving actions in relationship to us in creation, salvation history and God's divine life of grace within us.

God's Mystery Revealed: One God/Three Experiences

Our belief that our one God is a trinity of persons comes from our Christian experience. The one and only God of the Israelite people, who was revealed in creation and in their sacred scriptures, was more fully revealed in the person of Jesus of Nazareth and in the powerful experience of God's life-giving and sanctifying Spirit—as the early Christian baptismal formula shows (Mt 28:19). But the problem was how these two new divine revelations could be explained and reconciled with the fundamental belief that there was only one God and not three.

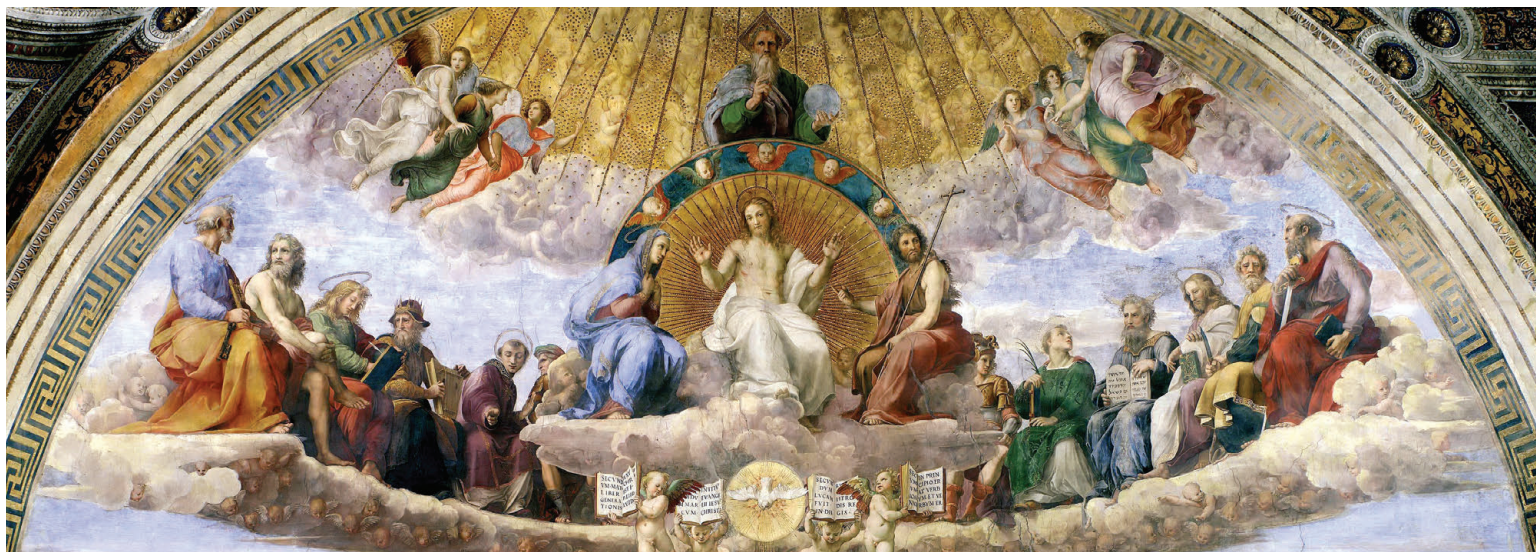


Our Trinitarian Explanation: One Divine Nature/Three Persons

But by the fourth century, several unsuccessful attempts had been made to explain how our God could be one God and not three. Finally at the ecumenical Councils of Nicaea (AD 325) and Constantinople (AD 381), a more precise explanation was made that went beyond the biblical language. Using terms based on our human experience of how several different *persons* all share one and the same human *nature*, the Council declared that likewise God was one divine nature that was shared by 3 individual beings. Nature pointed to *what* there was one of in God—divinity—and *person* identified *who* there were three of in God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us: “In doing this, the Church did not submit the faith to human wisdom, but gave a new and unprecedented meaning to these terms, which from then on would be used to signify an ineffable mystery, infinitely beyond all that we can humanly understand” (#251).

THE TRINITY IN THE LITURGY

The feast day of the Holy Trinity developed in the early medieval period beginning in the 10th century. It was popularized in England by St. Thomas Becket, who was consecrated Bishop on Trinity Sunday in 1162. The feast was made universal in the Western Church in the 14th century and is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. But the practice of praying to the Trinity is revealed even more clearly in the structure of our liturgical prayer.



THE TRINITARIAN PRAYER FORMULA

The opening prayer at Mass is called the *Collect* (Latin *collecta* meaning a gathering or summing up). Its function is to “collect” all of the individual, private prayers of the community into one single formal prayer that is spoken aloud to God in their name by the priest. The structure of our Collect prayers consists of a direct address to God, a petition or request, and a concluding formula (one longer, one shorter) directing our prayer through Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Although not formally called Collects, the Prayer over the Offerings that concludes the Preparation of the Gifts and the Prayer after Communion that concludes the Communion Rite at Mass also perform this same summing up function.

To God the Almighty Father

Collects usually begin with a direct address to God, which refers to God the Father and Creator rather than the other persons of the Trinity, and then mention the divine attribute, quality, action or characteristic (creates, governs, reveals, teaches, sees how we act, saves, makes holy, forgives, redeems, etc.) that inspires us to ask for what we need or want in the prayer because we are totally dependent on God our loving Creator and Sustainer for our lives and sustenance. And so it is right for us to ask God in our prayer for help with what we need or want.

Through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son

The concluding formula in our Mass prayers reminds us of the mediating place of Jesus, who is at once both human and divine and who brings our prayers and offerings to God. As human like us, he is nevertheless our Lord, to whom we give honor and praise, glory and worship just as we do to God. At the same time, he is God’s Son, and thus fully and completely what God is—divine. Thus each time we conclude our prayers this way, we are reminded of the fundamental belief that distinguishes us as Christians—God is fully incarnate in Jesus, who is always and inseparably both divine and human.

In the Unity of the Holy Spirit

God’s Spirit or breath is the animating principle of all life and the outward manifestation of God’s energy at work. Since this Spirit has also been given to us, by sharing the one divine Spirit we also share the one divine life. This is why in our Mass prayers we pray to God the Father through Christ the Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Just as speaking words aloud requires breath, so voicing our prayers requires God’s Holy Breath or Spirit. During the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass, we also formally call upon God to send the Holy Spirit to sanctify our gifts (called the *epiclesis*, Greek, to call down from above). *Sanctify* means to make holy, that is, suitable for offering to God.



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Mark McGinnis

Parishioner, Parent
Mortgage Advisor

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mark.mcginis@spmc.com
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