

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2015

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

The perfect trifacta

One simple analogy used to explain the Trinity is the example of H₂O, which we know in its liquid form as water, its frozen form as ice, and its boiled form as steam—same substance, different manifestations. While the biblical authors didn't develop a formal theology of the Trinity, they came to know God manifested as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The fact that Matthew called for believers to be baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" sealed the deal for later theologians. Pour yourself a glass of water and ponder the perfect logic of the Trinity.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20 (165).*
"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."

MONDAY, JUNE 1 FEAST OF JUSTIN, MARTYR
Driving while Catholic

Identifying as a believer in a secular culture has never been easy. Do you wear articles signifying your faith? Do you put the bathtub Madonna on the lawn; display Saint Christopher on the dashboard; hang a cross in the living room? Former philosopher Justin embraced Christianity and taught his new creed with great fervor. Tobit, a devout Jew in an alien land, kept his faith despite great risk. Today we begin a continuous reading of the Book of Tobit. Make time this week for a great story about an angel, a demon, a boy, and his dog. See what God can do when we keep the faith!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 1:3; 2:1a-8; Mark 12:1-12 (353).* "I, Tobit, have walked all the days of my life on the paths of truth and righteousness."

TUESDAY, JUNE 2 FEAST OF MARCELLINUS AND PETER, MARTYRS
Bury the dead

Little is known about the lives of the fourth-century martyrs Marcellinus and Peter. They are remembered for being executed in a hidden place in order to deny them a proper burial, but two Christians found their bodies and gave them that burial. Burying the dead is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. It is done to honor the body and respect the dignity of the deceased. You can help bury the dead by attending funerals and assisting others with the many expenses, large and small, of laying loved ones to rest.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 2:9-14; Mark 12:13-17 (354).* "Where are your charitable deeds now? Where are your virtuous acts?"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

FEAST OF CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS
A faithful life is not always an easy life

In 19th-century Uganda, Charles Lwanga was one of a group of 22 young men aged 13 to 30 who were pages in the service of their Bagandan ruler. Their service included the expectation that they would submit to the ruler's demands for sexual favors. Charles and his companions refused and he defended the others whom he catechized while in prison. All were martyred on June 3, 1886. Eight decades later, all were canonized by Pope Paul VI, who remarked



that "being a Christian is a fine thing but not always an easy one." Charles is a patron of Catholic youth, converts, and the victims of torture.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a; Mark 12:18-27 (355).* "Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him."

THURSDAY, JUNE 4
In the company of angels

In scripture, angels are more than spirit beings that can take human form. They can be symbols of the encounter with God. Think of the stories where angels are with people, walking and talking with them. Often people do not immediately recognize that they are in the company of angels, the messengers of God. As you think about your everyday life, who are your "angels"? Who are the people whose compassion, love, justice, and joy witness to God's presence in your midst?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a; Mark 12:28-34 (356).* "When they had entered Media and were getting close to Ecbatana, Raphael said to the young man, 'Brother Tobiah!'"

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 FEAST OF BONIFACE, BISHOP, MARTYR
The gospel truth: care for creation

Boniface, a Benedictine monk, left his homeland in England to preach the gospel in present-day Germany. Boniface was an effective missionary who faced countless challenges with courage and perseverance. At one point in his ministry he wrote to the English people asking for their help and prayers for "those who are of one blood and bone with you." On this day designated by the United Nations as World Environment Day, we honor the spirit of Saint Boniface as we choose a specific action to care for this earth that we share with all of humanity.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 11:5-17; Mark 12:35-37 (357).* "Before them all, Tobit proclaimed how God had mercifully restored sight to his eyes."

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 FEAST OF NORBERT, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER
About-face to faith

Born an aristocrat, Saint Norbert loved luxury and pleasure. It took getting thrown from a horse in a thunderstorm and being knocked unconscious for Norbert to repent. There was nothing cushy about his life after that. He became a priest, reformer, and founder of a religious order; he fought heresy, endured attacks, and rose to prominence. Taking the easy way is undeniably appealing, but conflict and difficulty reveal what you're really made of. You might not have a transformative experience as dramatic as Norbert's, but you can see challenges as opportunities to become better.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20; Mark 12:38-44 (358).* "Beware of the scribes, who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces, seats of honor in synagogues, and places of honor at banquets."



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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CatholicMom.com Gospel Activities
Matthew 28:16-20

H V F J F K X D Z F F A T H E R N D M R
M Q G S D O U B T E D X Z Z Z B H K H R
G Z A P Q X X Y F Y Z U A H Q A M N R P
Q P L I X R F O Q P W D K D K P D M W M
V O I R W W F R X K N V J M K T G M F C
Z W L I Q Y G D Q D Q L K U X I F R P N
B E E T J Q C E Q M G W V D Y Z W G W Y
Y R E S O N F R C C W G V I M I K P G T
J G Q Q V K M E C M R G X S X N F J M E
C Z K Q W Q M D Z C Z C J C V G W Q M A
Y E A R T H D K X X Q D F I Y Q B K Z C
K O K Q J N A T I O N S K P M N W D Y H
Z J V Q E K Z K K J J J F L K B Z J K I
H W T K S M O U N T A I N E F R F H Y N
Z V Q G U J V Y V Q J Q Q S G W Z E K G
P K K X S K W M F B B H J X Q G M A Z Y
Q W O R S H I P P E D H Q Q K E Y V Q G
E L E V E N J J C F F V O Q G F C E Y O
K Z F I Y K V Q F M Q O K L G W B N Y T
P R K F Q O B S E R V E Q X Y Y Y Y M G

Word Bank

Baptizing, Disciples, Doubted, Earth, Eleven, Father, Galilee, Go, Heaven, Holy, Jesus,
Mountain, Nations, Observe, Ordered, Power, Son, Spirit, Teaching, Worshipped

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