

Three and One

Intro. The Catechism says this about the Trinity: “The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life. God alone can make known to us revealing himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” [P. 261] Okay, no explanation of such a mystery is ever adequate.

I. We **do** know God revealed himself in the Old Testament through encounters with *people*. Some were prophets but there were other men and women too. Moses met God speaking to him from the burning bush [Ex. 3:4] and on the mountain [Ex. 19:19]. God told Jeremiah He knew him even before he was formed in the womb [Jer. 1:5]. But that revelation wasn't enough [M. McGlone, *NCR*, 6/2/17]. In the New Testament, God was revealed in

the Son, Jesus, he sent to become flesh, live among us and show us the way to the Father. That *still* wasn't enough. After the Lord rose and ascended to heaven, God continues to reveal himself in the gift of the Holy Spirit who inspires and speaks quietly in our hearts today.

Mystery is an integral part of each of us. Through the relationships with our friends and families, *they* come to know many things about *us* and *we* about *them*. New things are revealed every day. For example, parents are often amazed when their daughter or son can untangle a smart phone, computer or set up the DVR. In our relationships we continue to learn there is more about each other than we first thought. My nieces and nephew amaze me with their abilities. One is a lawyer, one a restaurant manager, another is in retail management, another

acts in Community Theater and another is about to graduate from college and it's a mystery what's next for him. But that is not **all** they are. While being a priest is an important part of who I am, it is *not* all I am. A few weeks ago someone saw me at a concert and was surprised to see me there. I also like music. Each of us is a continually unfolding mystery to our family and friends. Maybe the best we can say about the Trinity is the same.

Concl. Throughout scripture and history, God reveals himself in different ways to his people, always seeking to save, not to condemn. God sometimes appears to prophets and saints and sometimes to ordinary people like us trying to follow his way. The Father and the Son's revelation in scripture is finished, but the Holy Spirit continues to animate and inspire today. We don't have to fully

understand. We can look for the ways God reveals himself to us each day. The purpose is the same as it was for Moses: God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit call us to reveal the kingdom through our actions.