the people in his sermons and in the books of instruction which he wrote.

Suddenly he saw before him on the shore a child playing. He had made a little hole in the sand, and was taking water out of the sea with a small shell, and pouring it into the hole.

The Saint stood for a few moments watching the child. At length, going up to him, he said, "My child, what are you doing here?"

"I am going to empty the sea into that hole which I have made in the sand."

"That is quite impossible," said the Saint. "Do you not see that the ocean is so great, and the hole you have made is so small?"

"So you think I cannot do it? But it would be easier for me to do this than for you to understand the mystery of the Holy Trinity."

Saying these words, the child disappeared. It was an angel whom God sent to his servant to teach him how impossible it is for anyone in this world to understand the greatness of God. Life of St. Augustine

St. Patrick: On The Holy Trinity

When St. Patrick was teaching the Irish people the truths of our holy Faith, he saw that they were unwilling to believe the mystery of the Holy Trinity, because they could not understand how there could be three Persons in one God, that each Person is God, and that there are not three Gods, but only one God.

Bowing down towards the ground, he plucked a leaf of shamrock which grew at his feet, and holding it in his hand that they might all be able to see it, said: "Behold this little plant which bears on one stalk three small leaves; they are distinct from each other, but are exactly alike, and form but one leaf, and rest on one stalk. So it is, my brethren, with the great God I preach to you. He is one in nature, and three in Person."

The people immediately believed, and on

that day many thousands received the Faith. My child, thank God from your inmost soul that He has brought you to know Him here, and ask Him for the grace of being His faithful child on earth, that you may see Him face to face in Heaven.

The Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm



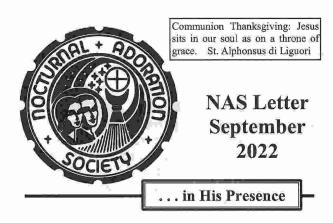
Each month, a Mass is offered for deceased members listed in the monthly letter as above; and another Mass is offered for all past deceased members.

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My Dear Friend in Christ, Could you please help with the printing and mailing of these letters with a donation? Thank you. God bless you and Mary keep you.

Paul H. Monette ( 605 ) 342-2294

(Please send donations to: NAS, 414 Westberry Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702)



# Love is a Bond which Binds

### United to God

As the Holy Spirit, who is uncreated love, is the indissoluble bond which binds the Father to the Eternal Word, so He also unites the soul to God. "Charity is a virtue," says St. Augustine, "uniting us to God." Hence, full of joy, St. Laurence Justinian exclaims: O love, Thy bond has such strength, that it is able to bind even God, and unite Him to our souls: "O love, how strong is Thy bond, which could bind God!"

### Our True and Only Life:

The bonds of the world are bonds of death; but the bonds of God are bonds of life and salvation: *Her bonds are a healthful binding*. (Ecclus. vi. 31) Yes, because the bonds of God by means of love unite us to God, Who is **our true and only life**.

### Bonds of Love:

Effect: attraction

Before the coming of Jesus Christ men fled away from God, and being attached to the earth, refused to unite themselves to their Creator; but the loving God has drawn them to Himself by the bonds of love, as He

Please take and keep this letter and reflect on its contents during the month in your visits to the Blessed Sacrament and see that your heart and mind will open to His grace into knowledge and love of God, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

promised by the prophet Osee: *I will draw* them with the cords of Adam, with the bands of love. (Os. xi. 4)

#### List of bands:

These bands are the benefits, the lights, the calls to his love, the promises of paradise, which he makes to us; but above all, the gift which he has bestowed upon us of Jesus Christ in the Sacrifice of the Cross and in the Sacrament of the Altar, and finally, the gift of his Holy Spirit.

#### Charity:

Therefore the prophet exclaims: Loose the bonds from off thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion. (Is. Hi. 2) O my soul, thou who art created for heaven, loose thyself from the bonds of earth, and unite thyself to God by the bonds of holy love: **Have charity**, which is the bond of perfection. (CoL iii. 14)

#### Path to Perfection :

Love is a bond which unites to herself all other virtues, and makes the soul perfect. "Love, and do what you will," said St. Augustine. Love God, and do what thou wilt; because he who loves God tries to avoid causing any displeasure to His beloved, and seeks in all things to please Him.

#### **Reflections and Affections:**

My dearest Jesus, how much hast Thou not done to oblige me to love Thee, and how much hath it cost Thee to gain to Thyself my love!

Ah, I should be too ungrateful if I loved Thee little, or divided my heart between Thy creatures and Thyself, after Thou hast given me Thy blood and Thy life.

#### Resolve:

I will detach myself from everything, and in Thee alone will I place all my affections.

#### Pleading Prayer:

But I am weak in carrying out this my desire; O Thou Who hast inspired me with it, do Thou give me strength to execute it.

#### Holy Desire:

Pierce my poor soul, O dearest Jesus, with the sweet dart of Thy love, so that I may ever languish with desire of Thee, and be dissolved with the love of Thee; that I may seek Thee alone, desire only Thee, and find none but Thee.

#### Aspiration:

My Jesus, I desire Thee, and Thee alone. Make me repeat continually in this life, and especially at the hour of my death, "Thee alone do I desire, and nothing else."

Invoke Our Mother, Mary:

O Mary, my Mother, obtain for me that henceforth I may desire nothing but God.

Novena to the Holy Spirit by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

## Sacrament of the Altar

"Draw me: we will run after Thee to the odor of Thy ointments." (Cant. 1. 3.)

Since, then, O my dear Jesus, I cannot, while in this life, ascend to Thee, Thou hast willed to descend to me, to unite Thyself to me in this sacrament of love.

Draw me, my Lord, all to Thee. I do not wish to draw Thee to me that Thou shouldst do my pleasure; but I desire that Thou shouldst draw me so entirely to Thee by Thy sweet attractions, that I may not be able to desire or do anything else but Thy most holy will.

It is just that my inclinations should yield to Thy disposition. Take me up wholly to Thyself; and so united, I shall be free from earthly affections, and shall run with Thee in the path of virtue, and be able to repose peacefully in Thy divine will both in this life and in the next: In peace, in the self -same I will sleep, and I will rest. (Ps. iv. 9)

Loving Aspiration After Communion by St Alphonsus

## Eucharist to The Trinity

Jesus came to us from the bosom of the Father to bring us to the Trinity; this was the purpose of the Incarnation and it is also that of the Eucharist, which prolongs the mystery of the Incarnation in time. The Blessed Trinity is never as fully present to our souls as in the few moments when we have the sacramental presence of Jesus within us.

The three divine Persons are not only present there but are pleased to remain there.

The Father takes pleasure in His beloved Son who dwells within us and whom He has given to us in the Eucharist;

the **Word takes delight** in the sacred humanity of Jesus which is wholly and forever His;

the Holy Spirit rejoices in Christ, His chosen temple and, because of Him, is pleased to dwell within us.

The entire Trinity, finding Jesus in us, abides in our soul with joy, looks on us with special love, and each Person diffuses Himself into us more fully. Thus each Communion nourishes our life of union not only with Jesus, but also with the entire Trinity; each Communion, increases our capacity to welcome the three divine Persons and to live in company with Them in an increasingly intimate and profound relationship.

Divine Intimacy by Rev. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen

## The Blessed Trinity

My dear friend in Christ, there is only one God, but in this one God there are three Persons the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Each of these three Persons is God, yet there are not three Gods, but only one. This is what is meant by the Mystery of the Most Holy Trinity.

## The Child on The Seashore

One day the great St. Augustine was walking on the seashore. He was thinking of the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, and trying to find out how he could explain it to