



**June 11, 2017 The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Lectionary: 164 Gospel JN 3:16-18**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

**Spiritual Reflection:** From Scott Hahn: “Of course, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not “gender” terms, but relational terms. The language of the divine family is theological, not biological. The terms, rather, describe the eternal relations of the divine Persons who dwell in communion.

Those terms are not arbitrary. God Himself has revealed them, and they most perfectly express Who God eternally is. The Trinity is God’s personal identity, which does not depend upon creation. Other titles—such as Architect, Shepherd, and Physician—are metaphorical terms that describe His relationship to creature in creaturely terms. God is “architect” only after fashioning the universe. He is “Physician” only when He has imperfect creatures who need healing. He is “Shepherd” only when He has creatures to guide and protect. Yet, before creation, from all eternity, He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is His proper name. Only “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,” the divine name, reveals God’s essential identity in terms that do not depend upon creation.”

**Spiritual Questions:**

1. How would you explain the Blessed Trinity to someone?
2. Which person of the Blessed Trinity do you feel closest too?
3. Can you think of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in relational terms and not gender?
4. Why do you think God chose to reveal himself in this manner?
5. What are other terms that you might use to describe God?