

Living the Word: Proverbs 8.1-4 & 22-31

The idea of characteristics and virtues as personification in writing is very ancient; certainly, Greek mythology is full of this type of writing. Here, Wisdom takes on a role as a woman and gives a public speech for the second time in Proverbs. Inviting all of those who are able, or crucially who have the desire, to listen to her, she pours herself forth. This passage might remind us all of that other great portion of Proverbs, chapter 4 verse 7: 'The beginning of Wisdom is this: get wisdom.' In essence, a realisation that something which has been with God since the beginning of time is worth searching out. And that being so, taking that first step is the first wise thing one can do. The search for Wisdom is a step on our road to become closer to God.

From the Fathers:

A letter of St Athanasius (296-373)

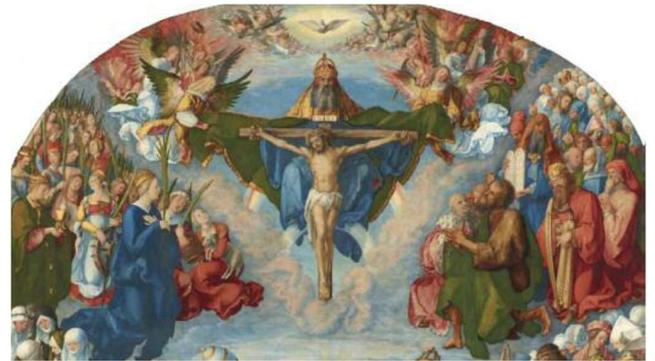
We acknowledge the Trinity, holy and perfect, to consist of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In this Trinity there is no intrusion of any alien element or of anything from outside, nor is the Trinity a blend of creative and created being. It is a wholly creative and energising reality, self-consistent and undivided in its active power, for the Father makes all things through the Word and in the Holy Spirit, and in this way the unity of the holy Trinity is preserved. Accordingly, in the Church, one God is preached, one God who is *above all things and through all things and in all things*. God is *above all things* as Father, for he is principle and source; he is *through all things* through the Word; and he is *in all things* in the Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day:

Almighty and everlasting God, who has given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: we beseech thee; that this holy faith may evermore be our defence against all adversities; who livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

12th June 2022 :

The Most Holy Trinity



On the Feast of the Holy Trinity we praise God who 'lives in the perfect unity of love.' Love is the key that opens up the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Love must be given *and* received. It is not real until it is active. The Trinitarian God is at the heart of creation and God's purpose is to reveal himself and invite the whole created order into a relationship of love with Him, its source and sustainer. Love flows in an eternal movement among and between the Persons of the Eternal Trinity: God the Father in love creates the world *ex nihilo* ('out of nothing'); God the Son is the Father's perfect image and self-expression; and God the Holy Spirit guides us to God and enables us to call him Father through the Son. In our Baptism in the name of the Holy Trinity we are drawn into this Trinitarian exchange of divine love and life. Each Person of the Holy Trinity makes themselves known to us in their own way: the Father in creation, the Son in the word and sacrament of the Church, and the Holy Spirit in our interior being where he brings light, understanding, and lifts our heart in prayer and praise. Yet where we encounter one Person the others are always present; this is because the Love that they are can never be separated or divided.