

Sermon Summary
Trinity
26th May 2013

- If, as has been suggested before (Trinity 2012), God is viewed as a community in love, there still remains the danger that this will be an abstract idea of a remote God.
- However, John's handling of God's identity reveals a different scenario in which this idea of a community of love becomes highly relevant for the way in which Christians live.
- The Father creates and gives purpose to the shape and meaning of life. Our values and priorities are to be found in glorifying Him, and being obedient to His will.
- But this is difficult to do. We need guidance.
- The Son gives that guidance through the Incarnation revealing to us how we are meant to respond to God, to be obedient to His will. Jesus shows us, by example, how we are to live the life that we are made for by God.
- But this is hard to do, our selfishness and weakness, both conspire against us. We are our own worst enemies.
- So, the Holy Spirit, the Advocate or Helper, gives us the power to live in the way which God wishes.
- Notice how this principle is enshrined at every key moment of the sacramental cycle.
- In Baptism, at confirmation, at ordination and at weddings, when we take on the responsibilities which are signified as important in these rites, we are asked questions. All include the demand to live in a certain way. to which we answer, "I will, with God's help"
- Our sacramental life acknowledges the difficulty of living the life that God wishes for us, but also reveal His readiness to assist us to live in exactly that way.
- The three persons of the Trinity work together in this way to enable us to live the Christian life, and the trinity becomes not just a dogma or belief, but a revelation of how God enables his creatures to live according to His will.

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