

How do you explain a mystery?

By: George Weigel

Richard of St. Victor, a 12th century Scottish theologian, is not exactly a household name in 21st century Christian circles. Truth to tell, I only know of him because of a curious conversation I once had with my friend, the late Richard John Neuhaus, who, as only he could, told me of a friendly discussion he'd had with Rabbi David Novak one summer about the Scotsman's Trinitarian theology, which tried to establish by reason that God must be triune. (We talked about a lot of strange and wondrous things, up there on the cottage deck in the Ottawa Valley.)

To greatly simplify a complex argument, Richard of St. Victor proposed that perfect love ("God") cannot remain in and by itself; it must direct itself to an equally perfect person ("God the Son"); and the mutual love between those two must have a third person as that to which their common love is directed ("God the Holy Spirit"). Or so the old New Catholic Encyclopedia sums up. Richard of St. Victor's Trinitarian theology didn't attract many followers, and in any case, it somewhat misses the point about the Holy Trinity—which most preachers also tend to do on Trinity Sunday. And that is that we "know" the Triune God, not through abstract argument, but through history.

The first Christians, pious Jews, were strict monotheists. That Christianity came to embrace the doctrine of the Holy Trinity—indeed, that it put that doctrine at the center of its creed, along with its other key doctrine, the Incarnation—is one of the great surprises of religious history. The two are linked. And that link is found, not in the abstract speculations of theologians, but in the historical experience of the Christian community.

As biblical scholar Gianfranco Ravasi puts it, the mystery of God's triune inner life is inextricably linked to the love that communicates itself to the world "in a precise historical event, the saving mission of the only begotten Son." And this, Ravasi continues, is the theme of the nighttime conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus in the third chapter of John's Gospel: Jesus does not offer this pious Israelite, who may also stand for all those who seek the truth about God with a sincere heart, a theological treatise; he offers him a description of what is happening, in history, in himself. A new dialogue between God and humanity has begun, for "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). So the next time you see some vaguely scruffy brother holding up a "John 3:16" sign at the Super Bowl or World Series, remember that he's offering the world the answer to the speculations of Richard of St. Victor.

We know the Trinity, not because we have reasoned our way to it, but because we have been touched by the Trinity's entry into history. The gift spoken of in John 3:16, Ravasi writes, encompasses not only that which the Father gives (his Son), but also that which the Son, the suffering servant, freely offers in giving himself up to death for the world's salvation. And from that "giving" of the Father and Son comes the outpouring of the Spirit, by whose sevenfold gifts we can come to know, and we are empowered to proclaim, that Jesus, risen from the dead, is indeed Lord, and that through him we have what only God can give—the forgiveness of sins.

In strictest theological definition, the Trinity is a "mystery": a truth that can never be fully comprehended by reason, but that can be known to be true in love. That is how the early Christian community came to know the triune nature of the Holy One, the God of Israel: the truth of God in himself was discerned in the Christian experience of the Trinitarian love that was poured into the world in the paschal mystery. That is how we can know, however dimly, the truth about God in himself today: through the love of God poured into our hearts sacramentally.

Schedule of Events:**Tuesday, June 18**

7:30 a.m. Confessions

8 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, June 19

7:30 a.m. Confessions

8 a.m. Mass

6:30 Triple F's Fellowship

Thursday, June 20

7:30 a.m. Confessions

8 a.m. Mass

Friday, June 21

8 a.m. Mass

Saturday, June 22

4 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, June 23

7:30 a.m. Confessions

8 a.m. mass

9:30 a.m. Confessions

10 a.m. Mass



MASS INTENTIONS



For the Week of June 18, 2019 – June 23, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Tuesday June 18

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Rai & Thaddeus Pellegrin, Jerry Bascle

8:00 A.M. – Wednesday June 19

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann,

8:00 A.M. Thursday June 20

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Jim Doll (B)

8:00 A.M.-Friday, June 21

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, James Ward (B)

4:00 P.M. Saturday, June 22

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Loyd Savin, Eldred & MayBelle Ellender, Wilbert & Elsie Hebert,

Linda Ann Hebert, Salome H. Matherne, Matthew S. Matherne, Peter W. Hebert,

Samuel Dominic Hebert, Michael Lee McGee, Wayne G. Cancienne, Wilbert Dupre Sr.,

Jerry & Matthew Arceneaux, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Clinton & Wilma Picou ,

Cynthia Charpentier Dolores Viteaux

8:00 A.M. - Sunday, June 23

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Lawrence & Eula Mazerac, Sue Bueche, Mary Eve & Vayne Bascle,

Lionel Bascle family, Arthe' Breaux family, Arthur Lee Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fabre,

Mr. & Mrs. Irby Petit, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Cindy R. Broussard, Herbert Danos,

Vin & Joyce LeBlanc family, Gilbert & Rita Bergeron family

Sterling & Mary Ellen Authement, Sterling Authement Jr., Mark & Randy Naquin,

Marion & Irma Bascle, Norman & Eunice Falgout, Eugene & Leona Theriot,

Israel & Mae Authement, Tel Meeker, Larry Falgout, Dean & Dot Bascle, David & Iris Bascle,

Tessa Dupre, Allen Theriot, Craig Dupre, Butch, Eugene Theriot Jr.,

Earline Theriot, David Percle, Francis & Iris Theriot, Patricia Grabert, Becky Gautreaux,

Phillip Theriot, David Massey, Jenna Theriot, Norman Falgout Jr., Chris Boudreaux,

James Bergeron, Margie & Elton Thibodaux, Paul Jackson, Angela Authement, Meva Blanchard,

Clyde Pitre, Clyde, Elizabeth & Curtis Lirette, Matthew & David Naquin Sr, Ernestine Pitre,

Andrew Sr., Edna, Elie, Morris, Bruce Pitre, Special intention, Marie Gaston,

Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Veronica Trahan, Terry Lirette,

Amelie Thibodaux, Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr. Ann Hebert, A.J. Theriot

10:00A.M. - Sunday, June 23

All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of:

Parishioners of St. Ann, Geraldine Dupre, Keri Lynn Niette, Dayonna Denning

*Herbert, Celina, Joyce, Deborah & Ronald Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont
Living & Deceased Members of the Naquin, LaJaunie, LeBoeuf & Lapeyrouse Families
Ruth Pinell, Maxine Christoffersen, Daniel Toups, Barbara Prosperie, Barry Aucoin Sr.*

MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF June 16, 2019

The Sanctuary Light burns this week in memory of *Michael, Ruby & Merlin Bascle* requested by Dickie & Sharon Bascle.

The Altar Wine is in memory of *L.E & Gussie Fletcher* requested by Dickie & Sharon Bascle.

The Altar Candles are in memory of *Loyd Savin* requested by Joyce & family.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

June 1 & 2: Envelopes: \$2524.00 + Loose: \$997.10 + \$862.39 (Online)

Thank you for your generosity!

Vacation Bible Camp 2019:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

St. Ann's VBS this year will be June 25-28 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The Theme will be "Come to the Table"

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

Registration forms are available in the back of church.

Volunteer meeting-June 17th 6:30-8p.m.

Summer Kids' Nights:

K-5th graders are welcomed to attend!

Fun, food, and games!

Monday July 8th 6:30-8p.m.

Junior High Nights:

6th- 8th graders! Bring a friend!

Saturday July 20th

6:30-8p.m.

NEW MINISTER SCHEDULE:

If there are any changes or requests for the July-September ministers schedule,

Please contact Wendy at the church office as soon as possible.

985-594-3548

Thank you for your patience and cooperation!

Diocesan Outreach Line:

In response to the Charter for the protection of Children and young people from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of Houma- Thibodaux is offering an Outreach Line. The Outreach Line is an effort to continue the diocesan commitment to support healing for people who have been hurt or sexually abused by clergy, religious or employees of the Diocese of Houma –Thibodaux.

The Diocese of Houma – Thibodaux Outreach line operates 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. Monday-Friday.

A trained mental health professional responds to the line and offers additional assistance if requested.

The Outreach Line numbers are (985) 873-0026 or (985) 850-3172.

For more information visit www.htdiocese.org/safe-environment

CHURCH CLEANING: Week of June 23- Charlene, Lyndell, Shirley, Janet, Una, Jeannie

| MASSES | MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST | COMMENTATOR/ LECTOR | ALTAR SERVERS | USHERS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>June 22 & 23</u> | | | | |
| SATURDAY 4:00P.M. | Adrian, Debra Sue, Steve | Elia, Connie | Mason, Grace | Steve B., Dave, Ollie |
| SUNDAY 8:00A.M. | Tim, Mona Doug, Bert | Hayes, David | Lee | Dickie, Bob, Carol |
| 10:00A.M. | Leroy, Cindy, Leslie, Mindy | Anna, Lisa | Zack, Bailey, Destiny, Madison | Lanny |

