

Abraham's Visitors

Genesis 18:1-8

Old Testament Story Time

Several times in the Book of Genesis the Lord God speaks to Abraham. In the reading today, however, the Lord God does not simply speak to Abraham but we are told God appeared to him. When Abraham saw the Lord appear to him, the Bible says Abraham saw three men.

When Abraham looked up and saw the three men, he showed them the greatest example of hospitality. Abraham bowed to the ground, showing honor and humility to his guests. He then invited the men to sit and rest while Abraham cared for their needs. He brought them water to drink and to wash their feet, which would be very dusty and dirty from walking. Abraham then went to bring them food to renourish the men on their journey.

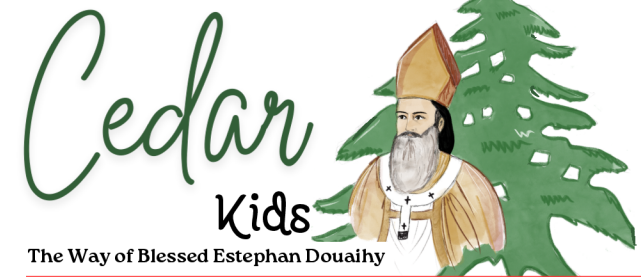


Showing hospitality is a great virtue and Abraham's encounter with the three men shows us what an honorable man Abraham was. But Abraham's interaction with the three men has another significance. When Abraham spoke to the men, he addressed them as if there was only one man before him. Likewise, when they spoke to Abraham they spoke as one.



The Catholic Church sees in this encounter between Abraham and the Lord, appearing in the form of three men, a prefiguration of the Holy Trinity. To prefigure is to express something beforehand, or be an early indication of something to come. In the New Testament, the Lord God is revealed by the voice of the Father, by the Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit on the Jordan River and on Pentecost.

Answers: Father, Son, Holy Spirit Bonus: 8



The Way of Blessed Estephan Douaihy

Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity, Vol 1, No. 40



Praise and glory and honor to the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, one true God, in persons three.

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Gospel Corner

Matthew
28:16-20

Jesus said, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."



Before Jesus ascended into Heaven, He spoke these words to His disciples. It was time for the disciples to go out as missionaries.



The disciples had knowledge and experiences that the world needed to hear. The world needed to know that God loved them, that Jesus died and rose from the dead for them, and that He ascended into Heaven where He would prepare a place for them. This was great Good News that needed to be spread throughout the world and it was up to the disciples to begin delivering this message.

But did you know that you are also called to be a missionary? All baptized Christians have the responsibility of sharing their faith with the world that doesn't know God. Even though Jesus ascended almost 2,000 years ago, there are still people who don't know Him yet!

That doesn't mean you have to move across the world to share the Gospel. (But be attentive, because one day God might ask you to!) You can share the love of Jesus with your neighbor, a classmate, a friend, a family member, or even a stranger. You have Good News that the world needs to hear, so don't be shy about sharing it with them!



Did you know?

HOLY TRINITY



The Holy Trinity refers to our one God who exists as three distinct Persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit.

These three Persons are co-eternal, consubstantial (meaning of the same essence), and equally divine. While distinct, they are not separate entities, but rather one God in three co-existing Persons.

What you can do



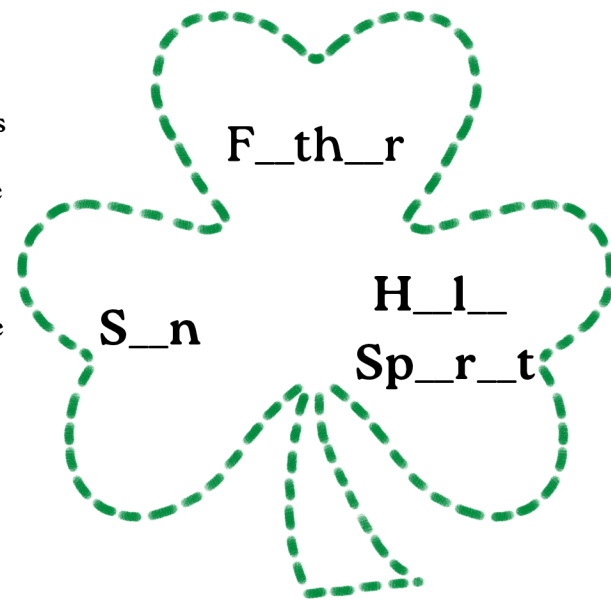
Every time we cross ourselves, it's a reminder of the presence of the triune God (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit) and his hand of blessing, protection, and healing in our lives.

Throughout the day, especially when you wake up and go to bed, remember to cross yourself, to thank God for His gifts, to ask Him for protection and/or to offer a request.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

The Trinity is the name that we use for the three persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Saint Patrick was a missionary to the Irish people and he taught them about the Trinity using the shamrock. It is one plant, but has three leaves just as God is one God, but three persons.

Trace and color the shamrock. Then complete the names of the persons of the Trinity.



Bonus activity: circle and count every time the names of the Trinity are mentioned in this issue and write your answer here! _____