

Glory be to the Father,
 Glory be to the Son,
 Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
 Glory be to the Three
 adorable Persons of the
 Holy Trinity,
 now and forever.
 Amen

BASILICA BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of Our Lady of Penafrancia Basilica and National Shrine, Naga City, 4400 Philippines



June 3, 2012

www.penafrancia.net

Holy Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday Msgr. Rodel M. Cajot

The gospel on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity is the conclusion of Matthew's gospel which records Jesus' last words to his disciples before his ascension into heaven. Here Jesus did three things:

First, he reminded his disciples that through his death and resurrection he received from the Father dominion over heaven and earth. His death and resurrection ushered in a new time and order. So the Church relishes today the glory that belongs to the Lord in his second coming.

Second, he commissioned his disciples. When Jesus



was still on earth, he sent the Twelve to proclaim the good news of salvation to Israel and Judah. Today, the Eleven is sent to bring the Good News to all nations. The rite of admission is no longer circumcision but baptism. The law of holiness is no longer the Law of Moses, but his law of love. Discipleship, therefore, is following his teachings, internalizing Jesus' death and resurrection, and confessing him as Lord of all creation. Anyone who does this fulfills the Father's will, and he will be called a brother of Jesus, a true

disciple, a member of God's Family. For Matthew, for one to be a disciple must be baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, a baptism that is sharing in the life and love that binds the Three Persons, and all the members of the Church, God's family.

Third, he promised them of his enduring presence. Jesus' followers were ordinary people and the mission they received from him was daunting. But they have nothing to fear because Jesus will be with them. His presence is the source of life and strength for the Church to spread throughout the world.

Because of his death and resurrection, Christ has dominion over all creation. Anyone who wishes to be his disciple must follow all his teachings and spread the victory of the Messiah.

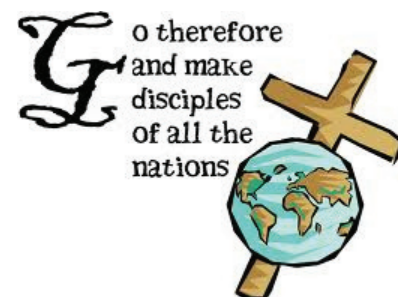
Daily Readings of the Week

Jun 3 Sun: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/
 Rom 8:14-17/
 Mt 28:16-20
 Jun 4 Mon: 2 Pt 1:2-7/
 Mk 12:1-12
 Jun 5 Tues: 2 Pt 3:12-15a /
 Mk 12:13-17
 Jun 6 Wed: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/
 Mk 12:18-27
 Jun 7 Thurs: 2 Tm 2:8-15/
 Mk 12:28-34
 Jun 8 Fri: 2 Tm 3:10-17/
 Mk 12:35-37
 Jun 9 Sat: 2 Tm 4:1-8/
 Mk 12:38-44



Sunday Gospel Mt. 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "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."



"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me"

St. Boniface, a monk of Exeter in England, is one of the great figures of the Benedictine Order and of the monastic apostolate in the Middle Ages. He was chosen by divine Providence to become Germany's great apostle and patron. Boniface's first missionary endeavor proved unsuccessful (716). Before attempting a second he went to Rome and received papal authorization (718). Under the holy bishop Willibrord he converted Frisia within a period of three years. On November 30, 722, Boniface was consecrated bishop by Pope Gregory II.

In 724 he turned his attention to the Hessian people, among whom he continued his missionary activity with renewed zeal. On an eminence near the village of Geismar on the Eder, he felled a giant oak that the people honored as the national sanctuary of the god Thor. Boniface used the wood to

build a chapel in honor of St. Peter. This courageous act assured the eventual triumph of the Gospel in Germany.

The resident clergy and the priests dwelling at the court, whose unworthy lives needed censure, were constantly creating difficulties. Nevertheless Boniface continued to labor quietly, discreetly. He prayed unceasingly, put his trust in God alone, recommended his work to the prayers of his spiritual brothers and sisters in England. And



God did not abandon him. Conversions were amazingly numerous. In 732 Gregory III sent him the pallium, the insignia of the archiepiscopal dignity. Boniface now devoted his time and talent

to the ecclesiastical organization of the Church in Germany. He installed worthy bishops, set diocesan boundaries, promoted the spiritual life of the clergy and laity, held national synods (between 742 and 747), and in

744 founded the monastery of Fulda, which became a center of religious life in central Germany. In 745 he chose Mayence for his archiepiscopal see, and affiliated to it thirteen suffragan dioceses. This completed the ecclesiastical organization of Germany.

The final years of his busy life were spent, as were his earlier ones, in missionary activity. Word came to him in 754 that a part of Frisia had lapsed from the faith. He took leave of his priests and, sensing the approach of death, carried along a shroud. He was 74 years of age when with youthful enthusiasm he began the work of restoration, a mission he was not to complete. A band of semi-barbarous pagans overpowered and put him to death when he was about to administer confirmation to a group of neophytes at Dockum.

Trinity Sunday Catechesis

When we enter the church, we dip the fingers of our right hand into the holy water font and bless ourselves "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" as we make the Sign of the Cross. We end by saying "Amen," a word which expresses hearty approval: "I believe." What we are doing then and every time we make the Sign of the Cross is affirming our belief in the Trinity.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that "The mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and of the Christian life." God reveals Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This doctrine teaches that God exists in the co-equal persons of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who share a fully divine essence or being.

Where did this concept come from? The doctrine of the Trinity was described by great theologians, like Augustine and Athanasius who lived in the 4th and 5th centuries. These Church fathers explained the concept, but they did not create or invent it. Even though the word Trinity cannot be found anywhere in the Bible, Church theologians discovered the doctrine of the Trinity in their reading of the New Testament. There are several passages which illustrate this. One example is found in the Gospel of Matthew.

At the baptism of Jesus, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were present as soon as Jesus emerged from the water: "...he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" Peter begins his first epistle by saying that the people of God have been chosen according to "the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification by the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ." It is clear from this verse that each person of the Trinity has a role in the world: the Father chooses, the Spirit sanctifies, and Jesus redeems people with His blood shed on the cross.

Understanding of and believing in the doctrine of the Trinity may be difficult but it is a truth of our Faith. Our response, as followers of Christ, is to look at this revealed truth through the eyes of faith, and say "Amen."

The Three Theological Virtues

The three theological virtues (faith, hope, and charity) allow man to share in God's nature. These virtues relate directly to God who directly infuses these three virtues into the soul where they make the believers capable of living as God's children and meriting eternal life.

Faith

By faith, we believe in God, in all that he has revealed, and in all that the Church proposes for our belief. Faith leads to a total committal. "The righteous shall live by faith" (Rom 1:17).

When faith is deprived of hope and love, it does not unite the believer to Christ nor make him a living member of the body. "Faith apart from works is dead" (Jas 2:26).

Hope

By hope, we seek heaven, place our trust in Christ's promises, and rely on the Holy Spirit. We must "hold fast to our confession of hope" (Heb 10:23). Through the Spirit, we have "become heirs in hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:6-7).

Into everyone's heart, God has placed a search for happiness. Hope responds to this desire. It sustains man, frees him from discouragement, preserves him from selfishness, and leads to happiness on earth and in heaven.

Love

By charity, we love God for his own sake and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.

Jesus loved us "to the end" (Jn 13:1). He told his disciples to "love one another as I have loved you" (Jn 15:9, 12). Charity keeps the commandments of God and of Christ, "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love" (Jn 15:9-10).

Pope deplores 'VatiLeaks' scandal

Pope Benedict XVI voiced regret for the turmoil surrounding the recent publication of leaked Vatican documents, but thanked the vast majority of people who work at the Vatican for their dedication and fidelity.

The pope said much of the media coverage of the leak of private letters and of the arrest May 23 of his personal assistant has been exaggerated and "completely gratuitous, and has gone far beyond the facts, offering an image of the Holy See that does not correspond to reality."

Pope Benedict said that while the scandal has saddened him, "it has never weakened my firm certainty



that, despite human weakness, difficulties and trials, the church is guided by the Holy Spirit and will never be without the Lord's help to support it in its journey." He offered "encouragement to my closest collaborators and all those who, each day with fidelity and a spirit of sacrifice and in silence, help me fulfill my ministry."

Benedict to attend Family Gathering

Benedict XVI will take part in a festival of families next weekend during his trip to Milan for the 7th World Meeting of Families.

The Saturday evening event, called "One World, Family, Love," will include the "Celebration of Testimonies," in which Benedict XVI will participate.

It will be broadcast live from Milan and include the participation of families from five continents.

The Holy Father will arrive at Bresso at 8:35 pm, he will lead moments of prayer and reflection and will stay with the young people and families for about an hour, answering the questions of families from the various continents.

Archdiocesan News

Clergy Assembly of May in Old Moriones

The Monthly Clergy Assembly was held last May 28 at Old Moriones, Ocampo of the Parish of St Peter Baptist. Presided by the Archbishop Leonardo Legaspi, the priests of the archdiocese discussed about the New English Translation of the Roman Missal as presented by Fr. Glenn Ruiz, head of the Commission on Liturgy and the initial plans for the Penafrancia Fiesta. Fr. Noel Alforte also presented the St. Clare of Assisi, Tigaon Parish report.

Moreover, two deacons who will be ordained in June made an Oath of Fidelity and Profession of Faith before the blessed sacrament as well as before the clergy. The two candidates of the ordination are Rev. Ken Zeus Azur, of Iriga City and Rev. Christian Eduardo of Camaligan.



The deacons of Caceres who will be ordained come June 2012



BASILICA NEWS

Santacruzian 2012: a Success

The traditional Santacruzian and Reyna Elena was successfully held last May 26 at the Basilica. After the coronation and mass that was presided over by Bishop Jose Rojas, Bishop of Libmanan, Ms. Nikki Del-loro, the Reyna Elena 2012, led the 12 other sagalas as they held the procession from the Basilica to the Plaza Quezon where the consecration to Our Lady was recited by all the reynas.

The Reyna Elena was held to honor the finding of the Holy Cross by St. Helena. It was also a fund raising of the Basilica for the construction of the Museo de Ntra Sra. de Penafrancia of which the cornerstone was laid also last May 26.



The Reyna Elena 2012 and her court

Basilica Sportsfest Set

The 2nd Basilica Sportfest will be held on June 2 at the Gualandi Covered court, Balatas St. This will be participated by all the ministries, organizations and groups who are connected with the basilica community.

There will be 4 team-colors which will compete in various sporting events. All the priests of the basilica will also act as coaches and managers while the reyna elenas will be the muses.

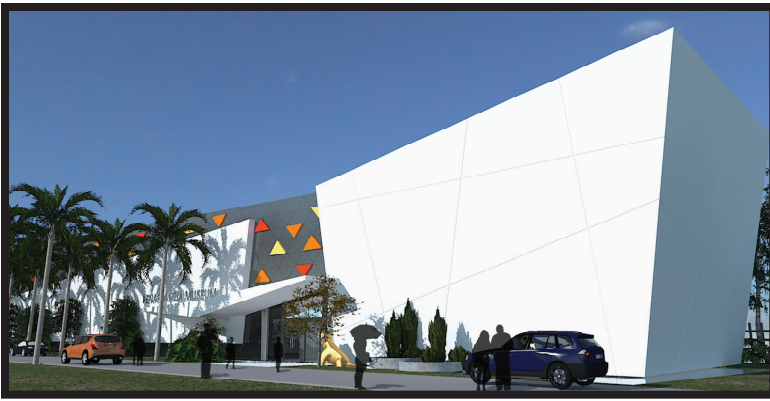
The Proposed Museo de Penafrancia

LET US PRAY FOR AND SUPPORT OUR PROJECT

Estimated budget: P20million

For inquiries: Call 4733644

Email: info@penafrancia.net



The Facade of the Museo de Ntra Sra. de Penafrancia



The Multimedia Room



Lobby and Spiral Staircase



The courtyard with al fresco dining

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