

**Sunday, 7 June 2020**

**Feast of the Trinity**

**Gospel: John 3:16-18**

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;  
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,  
because he has refused to believe  
in the name of God’s only Son.’

**Fr John’s Homily**

**The Way True Life Flows**

God sent his *only* Son into the world not to condemn but so the world might be saved as people come to follow the heart of that God in Jesus.

I came across a story just recently in the media, a story that reminded me of that God who does not condemn but comes to save and will go to extraordinary lengths, endure whatever to bring us to life and bring us home. It’s the story of a fifteen year old girl from New Delhi with a simple mission: bring Papa home. Her name was Johti Kamari. In the midst of the virus that was taking over India a few months ago, a lot of migrant workers were stranded in many parts of India and couldn’t come home. So Johti reached out to her stranded father, a thousand kilometres away. She did not have much money; her father had no transport and their village was half away across India. Her dad, an out of work migrant labourer was injured and could not walk. So Johti told her dad, “Let me take you home?” He thought the idea was crazy but went along with it. She then jumped on a \$30

purple bike, bought with the last of her savings and with her dad perched on the rear, she peddled from the outskirts of New Delhi to their home village, more than 1100 km away and brought Papa home.

In that story we have the Trinity, the God who was willing, alive in that girl's heart, to sacrifice all, as we've heard in the Gospel the only Son, in order to meet the most vulnerable one and bring that one home. In that giving over and all those hours of countless peddling taking her to her injured father and bringing him home to the village. The effort, the struggle, the pain, the uncertainty. They had to borrow mobile phones in order to communicate along the way. The story gathered traction and I think she became the national symbol of the spirit that was needed in order to keep on making the way of care in the midst of the Corona Virus.

The call for each one of us at this time is to image that God. The Trinity is not God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit hovering above us but the Father who poured the fullness of his heart in the Son to save us, releasing the Spirit that has the power to keep moving us on to continually save others, just like that girl. At the moment we have that flow of life emerging through the wounds of our world in so many places. People gathering on marches in solidarity to rescue the dignity of minority people, *Black Lives Matter* in the U.S. Lots of other minorities around the world, their lives matter to gather in that inclusive spirit but it means we have to take the 1100 km cycle of the heart – a long, slow journey to restore the human image to save our world. The pain and the struggle ahead, the pain and the struggle now but the Spirit of God that's willing, not to condemn and wherever that spirit is just condemning people and trying to make simple solutions, it's really not of the Trinity. The Trinity moves to take the hard cost of walking with the ones most excluded and wounded, whose rights have been trampled, to restore them, that's the way that true life flows.

The God we need to invite along on our journey in our world at this time, as our First Reading says – like Moses says - 'well we are a pretty mixed up, head strong people Lord but you are a God slow to anger, abounding in mercy and tenderness, will you walk with us on our pilgrim journey?' Can we invite such a God on our

pilgrim journey? The Father who is poured out in the Son, willing to take the 1100 km journey to bring us home to life. So, some questions to ask ourselves at the moment:

- Are we in that flow of the Trinity or are we just into condemning people and reacting at the moment?

As we gather in our marches, we need to be the ones who are willing to take the real slow journey that protects the rights of others and protects the health of others as people march around our world not just for our own self-righteous causes but for the sake of the love of the world.

- Is our energy flowing just for ourselves or is it flowing out in that spirit of unselfish conscious compassion, as that girl Johti had for her father?
- Are we defending just our own securities or are we opening up to be generous as her heart was?
- Is our energy negative or is it positive for the sake of truly saving the other?

This simple but profound story from New Delhi teaches me a lot about the Trinity. I hope it teaches you too. Let's keep that flow of heart alive near and far at this time.