

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Greetings my dear brothers and sisters, I hope you and your families are well.



WHEN I LOVE, SERVE.... then I show the world something about the loving triune God!!!

What does trinity look like? Some painters or Artists often portray the mystery by using images of white-bearded old man, Jesus and a dove Many don't like those portrayals. The Old Testament very strongly forbids making images of God, a prohibition that Islam also takes seriously. The prohibition makes good sense.

The problem is that what we imagine can become or at least shape what we believe. By turning God the father into a sort of Father Christmas figure, we are in danger of forgetting the absolute holiness and different ways of recognising God. God the father can become more like an indulgent uncle or a stern grandfather. In other words, we are in danger of making God in our image instead of recalling that it is the other way around. God has made us in the divine image.

For us Christians, there is one exception to the rule, an exception that God has made. If we wish to portray God, we must portray Jesus, God's self-presentation in material form. In the incarnation, God has said, "if you want to know what I am like, look at me in Jesus, look at me in your wife, husband and children"

Of course, the New Testament does not tell us what Jesus looked like, and so we use our imagination to visualise him. Many artistic representations of Jesus from the Western world portrayed him as an European, though he was not one. Increasingly, artists now show him with Asian, African or other features.

But more important than his looks is what Jesus did and does. We must look to his words and deeds if we want to know about God.

Scripture tells us that we are created in the image of God, in that case, there must be something about the mystery of the trinity that tells us about the mystery of ourselves. Who am I really? Why do I exist? What is my destiny?

Because the unlimited and overflowing love in the trinity holds firmly or undergirds all of creation, all that exists, including you and I, exists because the triune God loves us. That absolute love within the trinity is the basis of our existence, that means that our own lives find their fullest meaning in self-giving, even to death, now think about the sacrifices of our mothers, fathers, and grandparents.

Again, if we are created in the image of triune God, there must be something about us, something about me, that tells something about the mystery of God. I must remember that when I am at my best, then I do show something God to the world. When I love, when I forgive, when I can share through alms giving, when I serve, when I abandon self-centredness or selfishness, then I show the world something about the loving Triune God.

Jesus no longer walks among us to show the world what the trinity is like. Instead, he has selected me and you to carry on his vocation of Showing God to the world. Today, the most real representation of the Trinity is we Christians ourselves, we are the body of Christ. To know God or Jesus as he is, we must look to one another, especially to those who suffer on the cross in various ways today.

That is our glory and our shame. Our glory as Christians is that God has chosen us to carry on the mission of the son, to be the love of God incarnate in creation. Our shame is that we so often fail as a church or as individual to live that Mission.

As I wish you God's blessings and favours, may I end this message with the words of wisdom from my grandfather, "Do your little bit of good where you are, it is those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world"

With love and prayers,  
Father Nicholas Nwanzi.