

**The Trinity**  
Preview Sheet  
*Rev. Jared Twenty*

1. Summary: In this class, we will explore the “central mystery of Christian faith and life.”<sup>1</sup> By examining the revelation of the Trinity as it is transmitted in Scripture and Tradition, defended and clarified by the Magisterium, and experienced in the life of the Church, we will be better equipped to know, love, and serve the Most Holy Trinity in our lives and in our world today, so desperately in need of the God who is love itself.<sup>2</sup>
  
2. Suggested reading before class: Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 232-267
  
3. Questions to reflect on before Mass:
  - a. What does the word “mystery” mean to me, when considering the Trinity?
  - b. Do I primarily think of God as “one” or “three”?
  - c. How do I relate to the three Persons of the Trinity?
  - d. How would I explain the Trinity to a non-Christian?
  
4. Class Outline
  - a. The Central “Mystery”
  - b. The Mystery Concealed- Old Testament
    - i. Pentateuch
    - ii. Prophetic Literature
    - iii. Wisdom Literature
  - c. The Mystery Revealed - New Testament
    - i. The Gospels & Acts of the Apostles
    - ii. Pauline Literature
    - iii. Johannine Literature
  - d. Early Trinitarian Theology
    - i. Sub-Apostolic Era & early heresies
    - ii. Fathers of the Church
    - iii. Early Ecumenical Councils & Creeds
  - e. Medieval Trinitarian Theology
    - i. St. Augustine

---

<sup>1</sup> Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 234

<sup>2</sup> Cf. 1 John 4:8

- ii. St. Thomas Aquinas
- iii. The *filioque*
- f. Modern Trinitarian Theology
  - i. Modern Philosophical Influences
  - ii. 20th Century Theologians
  - iii. The Trinity in the Second Vatican Council
- g. The Trinity in the Life of the Church
  - i. Liturgy & Prayer
  - ii. Evangelization
  - iii. Social Action