

Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND



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Paradoxical Godhead

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [06/12/2014](#)
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The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity—Cycle A June 15, 2014

*“God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life.”
(John 3:16)*

Paradoxical Godhead

(This poem is created from a reflection on the Trinity by Gregory Nazianzen (329-389) found in the book edited by Edith Barnecut, O.S.B. *Journey with the Fathers Year A*)

Trinity of Unity, you are a mystery unsolved by mere humans.
Scripture depicts you as a paradoxical Godhead.
One in Three persons boggles our minds.

You are an anomaly to humankind,
...and Divine yet human,
...only Son of God, another person, but not a new Godhead,

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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...a Spirit, who took flesh from a virgin, Mary Mother of God.
“How can this be, I know not man,” is our question too.

You are a God of no boundaries, who took upon yourself the limits of humanity,
...a victim and high priest, but a God, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies,
...crucified, died, buried, but was raised from the dead by his Father,
...though you lived in poverty, you lived the riches of your divinity in service to
the poor.
Hard to fathom it is for us, and with his disciples we, too, question, “To whom shall
we go,

You have the words of eternal life?”

Sing praise to the Holy Spirit, third person of the Trinity,
...not separate by nature but shares equal glory of the Godhead,
...teaches about the Godhead, then transforms us into images of God,
...we, originally sinful, now baptized children of God.

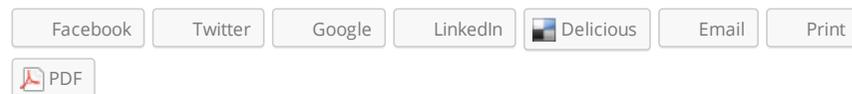
Difficult—our minds still question the awesomeness of the three in one,

“How can we keep from singing?!!!”

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. Why do people still ponder and question the three and one person of God?
2. How would you explain to anyone who does not know about the Trinity?
3. What do you think is most awesome about our God?
4. Do you have any devotion to the most Holy Trinity? If not, why not?
5. How appropriate is the term “hound of heaven” as a title for the Holy Spirit?
6. What new insight did you gain from today’s Gospel readings?

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Sister Mary Helen Chasar June 21, 2014 at 11:10 am

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Dear Sister Juliemarie,
Congratulations on your retreat! Thank you so much for your Prayer Poem on the profound mystery of the Trinity.
With Love and gratitude, we believe in God whose Love is eternal and His faithfulness lasts forever.
The prayer to the Blessed Trinity is truly most powerful.
Thank you for your profound thoughts on the Blessed Trinity.
Love and prayers,
Sister Mary Helen



REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald June 26, 2014 at 7:31 pm

The retreat was so relaxing away from the computer and reading, writing, dead lines etc. I am glad you liked the poem on the Trinity. A wonderful, unsolved mystery. Sr. Juliemarie



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