

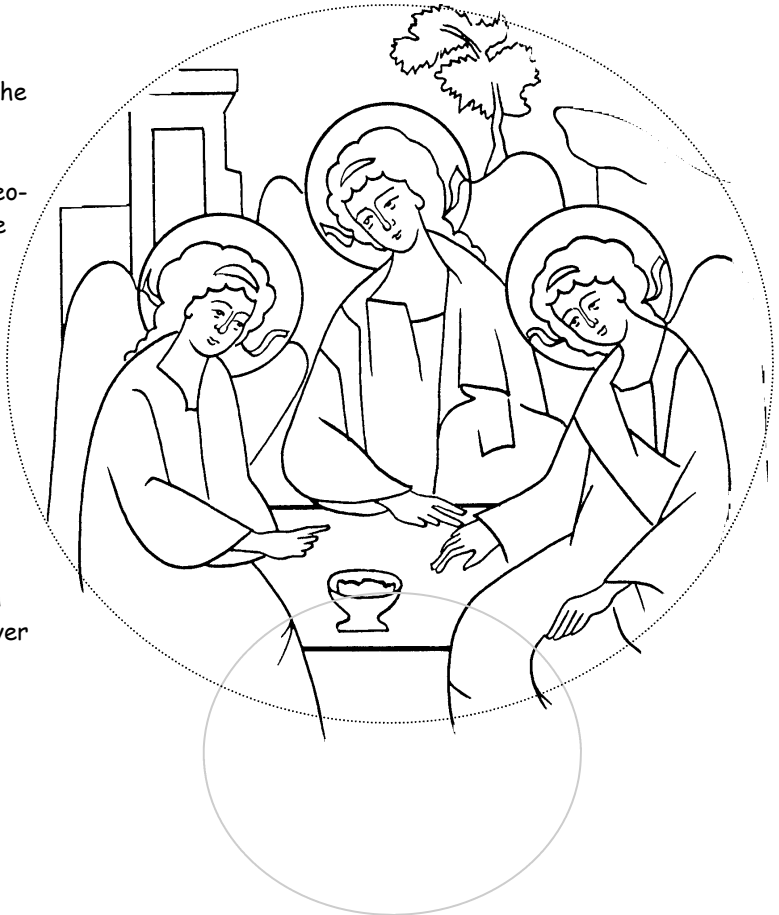
Jesus Wants To Share His Joy With Us

At that time,

Jesus looked up to heaven. He said a prayer to the Father, because soon He would die. He said, "Father, glorify your Son, so that your Son may glorify thee. You have given me power over all people, so that they may live forever with us. I have taught them how to live as you wanted, and my followers have obeyed."

Jesus spoke again. "Now they know that I came from you, Father. They truly believe this, so now they are yours. Soon I will not be with them, because I am coming to you. I pray for them because they will be here without me.

Jesus continued, "I have shared everything with them, so that they know that they can live forever with you. There is great joy in living with you. I pray that they may share my joy."



Thinking About God's Word . . . John 17:1-13

1. Who was Jesus speaking to?
2. Jesus said He taught people how to live. What is one thing Jesus wants us to do?
3. What is one thing Jesus doesn't want us to do?
4. Jesus wants us to share His joy. Where have you heard the word, "joy?" What does joy feel like?
5. Look at the icon. It teaches us about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. When do you say, "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?"
6. They are sitting in a circle. A circle is a sign of love.
7. Trace the circle around the Trinity.
8. There is a place left open around the table. It is there for you and me. God wants to share love and joy with us. You can draw yourself at the bottom of the circle.

LET US ATTEND!



Sunday's Gospel
for Children

You can download audio files of this Gospel at www.antiochian.org/LetUsAttend

Let Us Attend! is published by the Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education (www.antiochian.org). If you would like information on our present programs and future initiatives, contact Mrs. Carole Buleza at aodce@antiochian.org.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Order of St. Ignatius which funds, in part, the work of the Department.

Next week

Jesus Lights Our
Way to Heaven

Coloring page



**For the Parent
and Teacher**

**The Trinity Icon
by St. Andrei
Rublev**

The Trinity icon represents the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the form of the Three Angels who visited Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 18:1-2). They sit side by side as equals, around one table, united peacefully in their purpose, as they are of one mind and one will. They form a circle and allow us to see inside this circle, which teaches that we are invited to participate, by grace, in the life of the Trinity. God created human beings to live in union with Him forever.

Jesus Wants To Share His Joy With Us

One day,

our Lord Jesus Christ looked up towards Heaven and prayed. He said, "Father, glorify Your Son so that He can glorify You. You have given Me power to give eternal life to my followers. I glorified You on earth and did what you sent Me to do. Now, Father, glorify Me with the same glory I had with You before the world was even made.

"I have helped people learn about You. They have obeyed Your Word. They believe that You sent Me. I am praying for those who believe that I came from You.

"They will still be in the world after I come back to You. Keep them in Your Name and let them be close friends, like You and I are. I took care of them while I was with them. Now I am praying for them so that they can have my joy in their lives even after I come back to You."



For the Parent and Teacher

The Trinity Icon by St. Andrei Rublev

The Trinity icon represents the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the form of the Three Angels who visited Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 18:1-2). They sit side by side as equals, around one table, united peacefully in their purpose, as they are of one mind and one will. They form a circle and allow us to see inside this circle, which teaches that we are invited to participate, by grace, in the life of the Trinity. God created human beings to live in union with Him forever.

Thinking About God's Word . . . John 17:1-13

1. Who is Jesus talking to in this story? Who is He talking about?
2. What power did God the Father give to Jesus?
3. Jesus tells the Father that He taught people about Him. What does He say that the people have done?
4. What is something that Jesus prays for those who believe that He came from God?
5. Do you think it was good for Jesus to pray for His followers? Why or why not?
6. "Christians" means "followers of Christ." Since we are Christians, we are following Jesus. That means He was praying for us, too!

LET US ATTEND!



Sunday's Gospel
for Children

You can download audio files of this Gospel at www.antiochian.org/LetUsAttend

Let Us Attend! is published by the Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education (www.antiochian.org). If you would like information on our present programs and future initiatives, contact Mrs. Carole Buleza at aodce@antiochian.org.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Order of St. Ignatius which funds, in part, the work of the Department.

Next week

Jesus Guides Us To
God

When Jesus Prayed For Us

At that time, Jesus lifted

up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that thy Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.



"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have

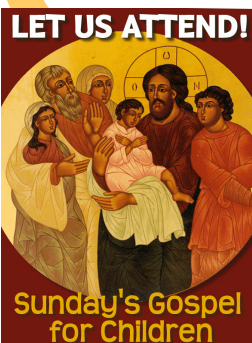
given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.

"And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept

them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

Thinking About God's Word . . . John 17:1-13

1. Why does Jesus ask God to glorify His Son?
2. Why does God's Son have power to give to everyone that God has given to Him?
3. What did Jesus have with God before the world was created?
4. Who does Jesus say knew that He came from God? What does He say He is doing for them?
5. What does Jesus ask God the Father to do for His followers?
6. What about you? As you follow Jesus, is He glorified in you? What do you do to be "one" with others in your family and the Church?



You can download audio files of this Gospel at www.antiochian.org/LetUsAttend

Let Us Attend! is published by the Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education (www.antiochian.org). If you would like information on our present programs and future initiatives, contact Mrs. Carole Buleza at aodce@antiochian.org.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Order of St. Ignatius which funds, in part, the work of the Department.

Next week
The Light That
Leads Us To Heaven

Sunday of the Blind Man
John 17:1-13

Grades: High School

May 31, 2009

“This Is Eternal Life..”

At that time, Jesus lifted

up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that thy Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have given them the words



which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them.

“And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy

name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.”

Focus questions

1. Who has the authority to grant eternal life? How does he grant this?
2. What is eternal life according to this Gospel?
3. What do you think this means, “to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent?” How do we come to “know” God according to this Gospel?
4. If knowing God and Jesus Christ whom he sent is eternal life, what does that suggest about life after we die? What does that suggest about life right now?
5. Given this definition of eternal life, can we have eternal life now? Why or why not?
6. What do you think about this? Why?

The Pantocrator icon shows Jesus glorified in heaven. It is placed in the dome of the church. What do you, or would you feel if you looked straight up at this icon?

LET US ATTEND!

Next week: “If Anyone Thirsts...”



Sunday's Gospel
for Children

You can download audio files of this Gospel at www.antiochian.org/LetUsAttend

Let Us Attend! is published by the Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education (www.antiochian.org). If you would like information on our present programs and future initiatives, contact Mrs. Carole Buleza at aodce@antiochian.org.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Order of St. Ignatius which funds, in part, the work of the Department.