Some time before Vatican II, a certain prelate in a major U.S. Archdiocese gave the invocation at an interfaith meeting at which Jews were present. He began his prayer thus: “In the name of God, Amen.” The subsequent history of that prelate and his see lend credence to the theory that divine retribution still manifests itself from time to time. While it is said that Unitarians begin their prayers “To whom it may concern,” God expects Catholics to get it right!

The true God is the Blessed Trinity. Whoever loves the Blessed Trinity will be saved. Whoever does not love the Blessed Trinity will be damned. And, to quote St. Augustine’s book on the subject, “I cannot love that which I do not know.”

But do we really know the Trinity as we ought?

We Christians are baptized in the name of the Trinity, confirmed in the name of the Trinity, and have our sins forgiven in the name of the Trinity. We begin and conclude our prayers in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and we receive a multitude of blessings from priests in like manner. Our entire sacramental life, our assistance at Mass, and our popular prayers are full of such references. Yet, most of us can’t make two or three cogent sentences about It; much less are we interiorly stirred up by the thought of eternal life with these Three. How far we are from Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity, who called the Three Persons, “My Three,” and would be frequently distracted during recreations daydreaming about Them!

All this is compounded by the sermons preached on the Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday. Those priests who actually speak of the Mystery (and not their favorite sitcom) often limit themselves to an explanation of how inexpressible the whole matter is, so “let’s move on” to world peace, or some other topic. Father Feeney had a few relevant comments, in his *The Blessed Trinity Explained to Thomas Butler*:

“The statement so often made is that because the Blessed Trinity is a mystery, therefore we can know nothing about it. Being, furthermore, the profoundest mystery in God, it is assumed by many preachers and teachers that it is the one phase of God we must dismiss without discussion. All this I deny. God would not have revealed the mystery to us if this were so. . . . A mystery is not a fact about which we can know nothing. It is a fact about which we cannot know everything. But the deeper we plunge, the more we learn. The ultimate veil will be removed from our minds only in the Beatific Vision. But veil by veil we can go tearing and plunging in the direction of that sunlight which is dimly, but surely, seeping through.”

In the brief space I have left, I will give you a list of five things you can know about the Trinity.

There is one Essence — the divine — in the Trinity. Essence is “that by which a thing is what it is.” It is the *quid-dity*, or *whatness*, of a thing. It answers the question: “What is it?”

There are two Processions in the Trinity. The Son proceeds from the Father by way of Generation and the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father and the Son by way of Spiration (breathing).

There are three Persons in the Trinity.

There are four Relations in the Trinity: Paternity, whereby the First Person is related to the Second as Father; Filiation, by which the Second is related to the First as Son; Active Spiration, which relates the Father and Son (as one principle) to the Holy Ghost as spirating (or breathing) Him; and Passive Spiration, which relates the Holy Ghost to the others as being breathed. (For these last two relations, think of active and passive voice in English grammar: I see. I am seen.)

There are five Notions in the Trinity: innascibility (or unbegottenness), active generation, passive generation, active spiration, and passive spiration. A notion, as the name suggests, is something by which a thing is known. The Father can be known by three properties: Innascibility (not being begotten, He the “Origin without origin”), Active Generation (from...
Jesus is hurt in the Blessed Eucharist when we do not come to visit Him and adore Him as our God and our King. He is not hurt in His hands or His feet, or in His back, once so scourged with ropes, or His head, once so crowned with thorns. He is hurt in His heart. That was precisely what He came to say to Saint Margaret Mary, the great apostle of the Sacred Heart.

Jesus came to tell Saint Margaret Mary that His heart had been hurt, not by neglect during the slow three hours on Calvary on Good Friday afternoon, but by the long, long neglect of centuries in the tabernacles of our churches: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and every day of the week, week of the month, month of the year.

If you sometimes wonder why the Sacred Heart was so daring as to unbare His breast at Paray-le-Monial to Margaret Mary, a little nun who came to visit Him in prayer, and to let her see, through the bones and the flesh, the beat of His heart — and if you sometimes wonder why He asked that a picture of Himself with heart exposed be placed in every Catholic home — know that Jesus wished to show the one part of Him that the ropes had not reached in the scourging, nor the crown of thorns pierced when He was exposed to ridicule and mocked as a King. The one part of Him the nails did not penetrate. The one part of Him they forgot to wound when He was alive, and which the soldier’s spear pierced when the mind and soul of Jesus had gone, and the heart of Jesus was left to the silent entombment of His breast.

Saint Margaret Mary saw the incessant centuries of heart-beat of the Sacred Heart of Jesus — not in Galilee, not in Judea, not even in His glory in Heaven — but in the hiddenness and the lowliness of our tabernacles.

Do you wish to let me tell you, in one final and doctrinal affirmation, what it was that forged the Eucharist? The Blessed Eucharist, which was to be God’s atonement to God in the Mass, God’s Presence in our tabernacles, God’s divinization of our spirits in the Blessed Sacrament, and God’s incorporation into Himself of us in Holy Communion? If you wish to know what it was in Jesus that thought to plunge Himself, in His divine and human majesty, into the semblance of wheat and wine and leave Himself there for us to adore and love until His second coming on the last day, I will tell you; it was the Sacred Heart of Jesus. From the shedding of His blood, came our redemption. From the beating of His heart in love for us, came the Blessed Eucharist.

The Blessed Eucharist was too great a folly for the mind of Jesus to have thought of, all alone. The Blessed Eucharist was the folly of His heart. The folly of Love.

And now you know that it does hurt the heart of Jesus to be ignored and neglected in the Blessed Eucharist.

You can never destroy God. But you can snub Him. God’s loneliness in the tabernacles of the world is enough to break one’s heart. All the display that sometimes goes on in the sacristies, with how little real love of the Faith! The exhibitions of reverence — and the cold, tepid hearts! Think of all the years when people were so little mindful of the great Life-giving powers of the Blessed Eucharist that they received It only once a year! Other things were more important: painting, sculpture, architecture, science, education, culture.

You feel like saying: “This is too much. Why not call off this covenant — this Sacrament?”

The work of our life as Catholics is to be thinking, not of the heights of God only, but of the depths and the lowliness to which He, the ineffable God, has plunged Himself for our love. What a reparation and what a delight is there possible in the love of the Blessed Eucharist!

Why does Jesus endure whole decades of being unloved? Why does He come, morning after morning, in the Mass, with no appreciation in those to whom He comes, of the majesty of What is in their midst? Why?

Jesus would do it through a whole century for the sake of the one boy or the one girl who will appreciate Him. He would rather be snubbed for a century than miss the love that might await Him when the century is finished. He would do it for the one bowed head, for the one adorational heart.

Jesus feels Himself repaid in His saints. They are worth the bounty, the abandon, the Divine recklessness, the absolute folly of giving Himself into our frail substance by way of food and drink.

By way of, the easily spilled cup! The easily broken — bread!
Our Junior and Seniors (with the help of the eighth and ninth graders) worked hard this school year, using their drama performances and bake sales to raise money for a trip to Canada. Two of the Seniors (Christina Jones and Briana de la Torre) and our one Junior (Jennifer Haynes), along with three Sisters (Sister Mary Peter, Sister Maria Perpetua, and myself) spent six days during this Easter vacation making a circuit through Montréal, Trois-Rivières, Québec, and Sainte Anne de Beaupré.

Among the churches and shrine we visited were: St. Francis Xavier Mission (housing the tomb of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha on the Indian reservation of Caughnawaga); St. Joseph’s Oratory (with the tomb of Bl. Brother André and a relic of St. Joseph’s cord); Notre Dame de Bonsecour (with the tomb of Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys); the Basilica of Notre Dame de Montréal (Briana’s favorite); the Holy Name of Jesus (Christina’s favorite); Mary, Queen of the World (a replica of St. Peter’s in miniature); St. Anthony’s (with the tomb of Blessed Père Frédéric Janssoone); Notre Dame du Cap (both the basilica and the shrine with the miraculous image of Our Lady of the Golden Heart); the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Québec (which contains the tomb of Canada’s first bishop, Blessed François de Laval); the Augustinian convent (with the relics of Blessed Marie Catherine of Saint Augustine), the Ursuline Convent chapel (with the tombs of Blessed Marie of the Incarnation and General Montcalm), Notre Dame de Sacré Cœur, Sainte Anne-de-Beaupré (with the tomb of Blessed Alfred Pampelon, and relics of Saint Anne), the Scala Sancta (a replica of the original Holy Stairs at Saint John Lateran in Rome); Saint Gerard’s (the old Redemptoristine convent chapel—now belonging to the Congregation of the Beatitudes), and the convent chapel of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. We also visited many places of cultural, historical, and natural significance like the Plains of Abraham and Montmorency Falls (a cascade taller than Niagara Falls). A suspension bridge crosses the falls, and sightseers are able to actually stand on the bridge overlooking the falls from a height that is quite dizzying.

If you are looking for a Catholic place to go with the family, where you can get a little taste of whatever morsels are left of Catholic culture, ask us about Canada. But, be prepared. These are not Cities of God: the anti-Catholic environment is continued on page 7
As of last month, Our Lady’s beautiful month of May, I have asked Br. André to relieve me of my responsibilities as Prefect of the Third Order of the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I actually broached the subject to him in February, but at that time he would have none of it. Recently he agreed that this was a good time to “pass the torch” so to speak.

I have been Prefect for over ten years now, having first taken up the task when asked to do so by Br. Francis. At that time, Mr. Robert Koenig (Br. Robert Mary, M.I.C.M. Tert. [RIP]) was finding it too onerous a burden due to his deafness and failing health. His example and personal friendship were a great encouragement for me to shoulder the responsibilities of the office. I have tried to do my best, and I hope that I have accomplished something worthwhile for the advancement of the Crusade and the glory of God. At the Day of Judgment I will find out for certain.

I lay down this responsibility now with a hint of sadness, but with no regrets. The reasons for this decision are many (and they do not include ill health, thank God), but the primary one is that I have so many responsibilities and projects that consume my time at such a ferocious rate that I simply cannot do justice to all of them. I have found that, as I pass through the pilgrimage of life in this vale of tears, many of the misconceptions of youth are actually the protection of God lying upon us. Had I known that life does not get easier, but rather harder, as we age, and that responsibilities do not lessen, but rather increase, then perhaps I would not have begun so many projects in the exuberance of my youth. Of course, I still consider myself youthful, being only fifty-three years of age, but I am beginning to feel that I will not accomplish all that I would like to in this life, time being what it is, and I must now decide which of my jobs I would like to see through for the greater good of the Crusade, and for the benefit of those for whom I am most directly responsible before God.

We have a large and growing community here in Richmond. There are more people moving here every year to be a part of the Crusade of Saint Benedict Center and of the Blessed Sacrament Community to which I have many time-consuming responsibilities. As one of the founders and the President of Loreto Publications, there are yet many tasks before me which I have set for Loreto to achieve and these, too, consume a huge amount of my time. In addition, the Saint Augustine Institute of Catholic Studies is still under my charge and growing. SAI will occupy more of my time in the future, as it is so essential a part of the work to which I have dedicated the major portion of my life for over twenty-five years now.

I am not “out of the Crusade” in any sense at all. I am simply “downsizing” my job list and “refocusing” my effort in areas that are every bit as important to the defense of the dogma and the victory of our Crusade. I hope that, before God calls me to Himself, I will see this most foundational dogma proclaimed once again “from the housetops” by the hierarchy of the Church, and that I will see the real organized effort to convert America underway with the blessing of the pope upon it. Until such time as the dogma is believed and defended by the bishops and the popes — as Fr. Feeney, Sr. Catherine, Br. Francis, and all of the loyal Slaves have defended it — the conversion of America will remain an uphill battle, but a glorious one nonetheless, and one that this fighting Irishman would not miss for the world.

My patron, Saint Anthony Mary Claret, was fond of saying that he wished for three conditions when he died: They were that he had no money, no debts, and no sins on his soul. So far I have fulfilled only the first condition. I shall now seek to fulfill the other two. Then I will be ready to go home.

May the blessings of the Holy Ghost descend upon you this Pentecost season.

In cordibus Jesu et Mariae,
Br. Anthony Mary, M.I.C.M. (Tert.)

A Quip to Equip

One of the required books to be read by students in the Saint Augustine Institute is William Thomas Walsh’s biography of King Philip II of Spain. It first appeared in print in 1937 and, ironically, it received a favorable review in the New York Times Sunday edition. That review would be worth looking up by someone with research skills. What used to be done going through microfilm at the library might be accomplished today on the internet. All we have is the year that the review was published (1937), on one of fifty-two Sundays. The author must have been living in New York at that time because Father Feeney came to his home to congratulate him on the book’s good reception while Father was working in that city as literary editor of the Jesuit periodical America. Walsh was being toasted at the time by his friends and they were all delighted to have Father Feeney celebrate with them. After the toast someone asked Father if he would like a refill. Father held out his glass and said: “Fill up two!”
de-coding Da Vinci — $9.95

Amy Welborn addresses the misrepresentation of history, religion, and art in The Da Vinci Code. Did Leonardo actually build these “codes” into his paintings? Is Opus Dei really what The Da Vinci Code says it is? Was Jesus human, divine, or both? Was he married to Mary Magdalene? Do secret writings not in the Bible really contain truths about Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and the “sacred feminine”? 

de-Coding Da Vinci is complete with discussion questions in every chapter. It is a perfect tool to become well-versed in the important issues raised by The Da Vinci Code. Softcover, 124 pages.

$16.95 — Joan of Arc

Very few people know that Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) wrote a major work on Joan of Arc. Still fewer know that he considered it not only his most important but also his best work. He spent twelve years in research and then made several attempts until he felt he finally had the story he wanted to tell. He reached his conclusion about Joan’s unique place in history only after studying in detail accounts written by both sides, the French and the English.

Because of Mark Twain’s antipathy to institutional religion, one might expect an anti-Catholic bias toward Joan or at least toward the bishops and theologians who condemned her. Instead one finds a remarkably accurate (while far from perfect) biography of the life and mission of Joan of Arc told by one of this country’s greatest storytellers. This is a book that will inform and inspire. Softcover, 452 pages.

The Da Vinci Code Mysteries — $5.95

The Da Vinci Code intrigued readers with its blasphemous and ridiculous claims about Jesus, Mary Magdalene, early Christian history, and Leonardo da Vinci. The film, based on the novel, dramatizes these claims and will bring them to an even broader audience. So, what’s the truth?

Has the Catholic Church really hidden the truth about the “real” Jesus and what he taught? Is Dan Brown really a blasphemous profiteer who lies about history, art, and religion? Did Leonardo da Vinci really reveal these secrets through codes in his art?

Discover the truth — the truth The Da Vinci Code movie won’t tell you — through the answers to 100 questions by Amy Welborn. Softcover, 63 pages.

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de-coding Mary Magdalene — $9.95

Recent best-sellers have popularized a historically and spiritually false view of Saint Mary Magdalene. A saint who has been revered by the Church for centuries, the Magdalene’s life and actions have been exploited and distorted, her historical significance marginalized by lies such as:

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This classic historical & chronological approach to a study of Our Lord’s sojourn in this vale of tears was the result of diligent study in the four Gospels, Catholic historical works, and several famous biographies of Our Lord. Particular attention was paid to the geography of the Holy Land, background history, the fulfillment of the messianic prophecies, the effect of the Roman occupation of Palestine, and the life and character of the various intimates and enemies of Our Lord. The political and religious parties of the Sadducees and Pharisees are described, and Our Lord’s journeys are sketched in detail. This is a detailed life of Christ and it is not a theological study of the God-man per se.

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The Blessed Trinity Explained (a little bit)

from page 1

all eternity He generates, or begets, the Son), and Active Spiration (from all eternity He and the Son, as One, breathe forth the Holy Ghost). The Son can be known by two properties: Passive Generation (He is begotten by the Father) and Active Spiration (He breathes forth the Holy Ghost with the Father). The Holy Ghost is known by the property of Passive Spiration, (being breathed by the Father and Son from all eternity).

I invite you — no, I challenge you — to chew on this more. The Catholic Encyclopedia article on the Trinity and The Divine Trinity in the Pohle-Preuss dogmatic series recommend themselves for further study. St. Thomas’ Summa is always in season, as is St. Augustine’s On the Trinity.

The Catholic’s vocation to grace and glory is a call to live through, with, and in Jesus as members of His Mystical Body, the Church, giving all glory to the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost. Thus does the ancient Roman Canon summarize our life in the Trinity, whom we can and must know, love, and serve.

Now you know!

Canada Pilgrimage

from page 3

Boardwalk in Old Québec, Castle Fontenac in background

a sad reality. Yet, there is so much history! And so many reminders of the Faith! To see churches in every block; spires with crosses all over the cities; streets and towns named after saints — and then to see the loss of faith — it is very sad. However, St. Jean de Brébeuf promised Blessed Marie Catherine of St. Augustine that “he would take care of Canada.” So, with the help of St. Joseph, St. John the Baptist, and St. Jean de Brébeuf (not to mention all the Canadian saints, blessed, and venerables), we trust that with the Triumph of Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart, Canada will return to her roots and be once again Catholic.

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Or, contact us at: Saint Benedict Center, P.O. Box 627, Richmond, NH 03470; by e-mail at info@fromthehousetops.com; or by phone at 603-239-6485.

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Mary, Mother of mercy and Refuge of sinners, we beseech thee, be pleased to look with pitiful eyes upon poor heretics and schismatics. Thou who art the Seat of Wisdom, enlighten the minds that are miserably enfolded in the darkness of ignorance and sin, that they may clearly know that the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Roman Church is the one true Church of Jesus Christ, outside of which neither holiness nor salvation can be found. Finish the work of their conversion by obtaining for them the grace to accept all the truths of our Holy Faith, and to submit themselves to the supreme Roman Pontiff, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth; that so, being united with us in the sweet chains of divine charity, there may soon be only one fold under the same one shepherd; and may we all, O glorious Virgin, sing forever with exultation: Rejoice, O Virgin Mary, thou only hast destroyed all heresies in the whole world. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times. (Pius IX, Raccolta No. 579.)

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Calendar Notes:

- **Immaculate Heart of Mary Novena**, Monday, August 14 to Tuesday, August 22. (Novenas are found in the Third Order Manual.)
- **Saint Benedict Center Conference**, Friday, August 18 to Sunday, August 20. Please call toll-free 877.773.1773 for more information or to register.
- **Auriesville Pilgrimage**, Wednesday, September 27 to Saturday, September 30. Please visit www.national-coalition.org/pilgrim for more details. If you are interested in joining one of our brigades, please call us at 603.239.6485 (men and boys) or 603.239.6495 (women and girls).

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**Mancipia June 2006**

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**The Report of the Crusade of Saint Benedict Center**

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**Prayers for the Holy Father**

V. Let us pray for our Pontiff, Pope Benedict.
R. The Lord preserve him, and give him life, and make him to be blessed upon the earth, and deliver him not up to the will of his enemies (Roman Breviary).

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Our Father. Hail Mary.
V. Let us pray.
R. Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Benedict, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving-kindness, in the way of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen (Roman Ritual).