

The Mystery of the Trinity

- Terminology
 - Mystery: *mysterion*
 - God: *o theos, theos*
 - Nature: *ousia*
 - “Person”: *hypostasis*
 - “Of One Essence”: *homoousios*

- Scriptural Roots
 - Genesis 1:26—“Let us make man in our image”
 - Genesis 18:10—Hospitality of Abraham
 - Mark 1:9—Baptism of Christ
 - John 15:26—Last Supper Oration
 - John 19:28—The death of Christ
 - 2Cor 13:14—“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

- Formation Doctrine:
 - John 1:1: “In the beginning was he Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”
 - Origen
 - Teacher of Sts. Basil & Gregory
 - First to use the word “Trinity.”
 - Basil the Great
 - On the Holy Spirit: “The Spirit is one with the Father and the Son.”
 - Gregory the Theologian
 - Basil’s Funeral Oration: “The Spirit is God.”

- St. Gregory of Nyssa: On “Not Three Gods”
 1. There is One God: The Father
 - a. Creed: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty.
 - i. The Father is the Source
 - b. Liturgy: For Thou art God...Thou, and Thine only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit
 - c. 1Corinthians 8:6

 2. There is One Divine Nature & Will
 - a. The Son and Spirit participate in the Father’s divine nature and will.
 - b. You can only count what is limited, imperfect.
 - c. With every divine activity, the Father, Son, and Spirit all involved.
 - i. “Every operation which extends from God to the Creation...has its origin from the Father, and proceeds through the Son, and is perfected in the Holy Spirit.”

 3. There is Divine Communion
 - a. Three persons in perfect communion.
 - b. John 14:8—“He who has seen me has seen the Father.”