

**Section 69: Spirituality of the Heart,
A spirituality of relationships,
rooted in the presence of the Triune God**

Pope Francis confesses that, *“from the heart of the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up ... It is a spring that will never run dry, no matter how many people draw from it”* (Misericordiae Vultus 25). The Pope marvels about the presence of this merciful communion of Father, Son and Spirit in the heart of the Church, but also in the heart of families, and in the heart of the universe as a whole.

Considering the presence of the Holy Trinity in the heart of the Church, he describes the Church as *“a people of pilgrims and evangelizers, rooted in the Trinity”* (Evangelii Gaudium 111). In the Church, *“the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father and the Son, transforms our hearts.... brings forth a rich variety of gifts, while at the same time creating a unity which is never uniformity, but a multifaceted and inviting harmony”* (EG 117).

The triune God is *“a communion of persons”* (Amoris Laetitia 71), not like we are persons, separate from one another, but as the triune, creative source of our being as persons. Hence, in the family, *“the couple’s fruitful relationship becomes an image for understanding and describing the mystery of God himself. The triune God is a communion of love, and the family is its living reflection”* (Amoris Laetitia 11).

Concerning the presence of the Trinity in the universe, the Pope affirms: *“The Father is the ultimate source of everything, the loving and self-communicating foundation of all that exists. The Son, his reflection, through whom all things were created, united himself to this earth when he was formed in the womb of Mary. The Spirit, infinite bond of love, is intimately present at the very heart of the universe, inspiring and bringing new pathways”* (Laudato Si 238).

So, “when we contemplate with wonder the universe in all its grandeur and beauty, we must praise the whole Trinity” (LS 238).

REFLECTION

TOWARDS UNIVERSAL SOLIDARITY

*“The world, created according to the divine model,
is a web of relationships.
Creatures tend towards God,
and in turn it is proper to every living being
to tend towards other things,
so that throughout the universe we can find
any number of constant
and secretly interwoven relationships.*

*This leads us not only
to marvel at the manifold connections
existing among creatures,
but also to discover a key to our own fulfilment.
The human person grows more,
matures more and is sanctified more
to the extent that he or she enters into relationships,
going out from themselves
to live in communion with God,
with others and with all creatures.*

*In this way, they make their own
that trinitarian dynamism
which God imprinted in them,
when they were created.*

*Everything is interconnected,
and this invites us to develop a spirituality
of that global solidarity
which flows from the mystery of the Trinity.”*

(Pope Francis, *Laudato SI* n. 240).