

Today we are celebrating the feast of the Holy Trinity. The mystery of the most Holy Trinity is a basic doctrine of Christian Faith, understandable not with our heads but with our hearts. It teaches us that there are three distinct Persons in one God, sharing the same Divine Nature, co-equal and co-eternal. Our mind cannot grasp this doctrine.

This mystery teaches us that there are Three Persons in the Trinity, the Father the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Together they represent the fullness of love. The Father loves the Son, the Son loves the Father. The Holy Spirit is their love for each other. They are united in love.

We are made in the image of a triune God. God the Father, who created us, his Son who saved us, and the Holy Spirit who continues to guide us. Our lives should reflect the unity and love of Triune God – Three in One.

But what we are seeing these days in this country is just the opposite of what this feast teaches us. Because the Racism is an attack on the very image of the Triune God. We are all created in the image of Trinitarian God. Hence, we are all united together with the God and with each other. And racism rejects what God has done by refusing to acknowledge the image of God in others, who are different in color, ethnicity, or racial background.

Sadly, We Christians are celebrating the feast of Holy Trinity, but the country is celebrating the feast of what you can call “Unholy Trinity: Union of Racism, Death and Violence,”

Of course, many of us may not be aware, that United States is not the only country struggling with racism. Here racism is based on skin color. In country like India, the largest democracy in the world, with over 1.2 billion people, all having the same skin color, the

racism is based on caste systems and religions. Indian population is divided in four classes based on caste. Those in the lowest class are treated like in-humans without rights so to say. I come from this group. Similarly, there is racism based on religions – Muslims and Christians face discrimination by majority Hindus. Indian Constitution has abolished the caste system it still exists especially in remote rural areas. I think even in USA, racism is abolished in the eyes of the law, but it still exists like sleeping cobra ready to bite when chance comes.

In this Thursday's Gospel reading we heard when asked which the first of all the commandments was, Jesus replied the first is this: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' And the second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mk 12: 28-31). Obviously, racism goes against the commandment of love. We are all called, therefore, to oppose racism in our communities. Loving neighbors who are different from us through kind and generous actions can be as simple as forming friendships, supporting minority-owned businesses, or participating in community activities with those of other faiths or other races.

Loving our God obligates us to love our neighbors as well.

But we cannot confront racial strife if we do not acknowledge that it exists. The challenge is that racism does not just have *a* deep root, but has *many* deep roots in our lives, communities, and country.

So, it is time to do some soul-searching to seek understanding about my own actions, beliefs, and behaviors, whether they reflect some sort of racism?