

# Trinity - another name for Love Gives Everything

By Sister Mary Kerber, Province of Africa and Sister Patricia Murphy, Atlantic-Midwest Province



*“Ultimately, it is entirely possible that those who live in relation in the image of the Triune God become a symbol that transforms human and cosmic existence through the values of compassion justice and right relation. Should these symbols reach critical mass, the very cosmos may become a symbol of the Triune God, evolving inexorably toward the coming of the reign of God through ongoing creation, incarnation and grace.”* (Schaab, Gloria, “Trinity In Relation: Creation, Incarnation and Cosmos in an Evolving Cosmos,” Anselm Academic, 2012, p. 330)

*“If the Trinity is another name for “love gives everything,” then those who are caught up in Trinitarian love give everything to the Triune God, to one another, and to the universe in which they live... If everyone gives everything, then a world of equality, love, and justice will be the result. This is what the church, the sacrament of the Trinity, is called to do in the world—to call people to the love that gives everything, and to be caught up in that love and give everything themselves.”* (unpublished paper, Steve Bevans, SVD)

“Christian conversion requires new thinking and new living, a continual change of mind and heart as individuals and as community.”  
*(You Are Sent, GD51)*

“We deepen our consciousness of who we are in relationship with the Triune God, one another, and God’s amazing universe, particularly through theological reflection on the Trinity.” *Love Gives Everything*

**T**he Directional Statements of our General Chapters evolve from a process of deep listening and discerning of where the Triune God is calling us to grow, to change and to be transformed. The invitation to deepen who we are as beings in relationship, which has been brewing in our hearts and souls, is perceived as a special summons to us at this time in our history. In response, the Collaborative Leadership called forth nine Sisters from the Province of Africa, the Atlantic-Midwest and the Central Pacific provinces to form a core planning committee that would explore options and create plans for a Theological Symposium.

An initial survey to surface desires from members of our provinces, followed by reflections of spiritual directors, led to the emergence of 12 themes of Trinity: Art, Basic insights/concepts, Consciousness, Church, Community, Creation/Cosmos, Cultural perspectives, Gender perspectives, Justice perspectives, Relationship perspectives, SSND perspective. These themes enabled the committee to choose speakers and to propose a concrete format for the symposium.

**The Symposium on the Triune God will be July 27-30, 2021,** and will offer some Sisters an opportunity to be physically present (location still to be determined) while others may participate through livestreaming and DVDs.

There will be various ways to participate before, during and after the symposium. A webpage ([www.ssnd.org/trinity2021](http://www.ssnd.org/trinity2021)) is now available that includes general information and resources for reflection, which will be continually updated in preparation for the symposium. After the symposium, the webpage will provide opportunities for further sharing and reflection.

Two excellent speakers will offer inspirational talks on the Trinity, addressing the themes above. You can learn more about them on the symposium webpage. These speakers will have an opportunity to dialogue with us and with a panel of SSND respondents representing a variety of cultural backgrounds.

The symposium process will challenge us to a focused transition and evolution of our thoughts as well as greater consciousness of the expansiveness and interconnectedness of all of life, providing concrete contexts in which our love can give everything.