



HOMILY by Father Robbie Low

The Most Holy Trinity – Year C

I AM WHO I AM – *Baptism of Sebastian Francis Robin Low*

Readings: Proverbs 8:22-31, Ps 8, Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

Catholic Christians begin every act of prayer with a declaration of the central mystery of the Faith: 'In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

For believers the Holy Name of God is of supreme importance because it is how God Himself reveals the ineffable mystery of His Being and inexhaustible fount of His mercy to mortal man.

The One who is the origin of all – beyond all galaxies and human comprehension – yet the One who reaches us in the deepest levels of our mortal being tells us WHO HE IS in language that we can understand. The Name of God is so great that Commandments condemn Man when he abuses it or 'takes it in vain'.

The Name is so Holy that, when Moses asked God to know who He was, he was commanded to take off his shoes and walk on holy ground while he was given the secrets of eternity: 'I AM WHO I AM' – declares Himself the fountainhead of all being from before all time and beyond forever.

In the great church of the Gesu in Rome there is a world famous trompe l'oeil ceiling. At its apparent apogee is the Divine Name and towards it, ever upwards, flow the angels and the bambini, the innocenti, followed by a whole cast of humanity whose hearts are attuned to God's love. In contrast, around the fringes, faces twisted in anger and anguish, those who reject Him fall backward towards the abyss, impenitent and lost, tumbling into darkness.

Today is the great feast of the Holy Name of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the power in which and by whom we exist and move forward on this lifelong pilgrimage to Heaven. The Holy Trinity – the relationship of love at the heart of the Godhead.

We know God as FATHER – our creator, our Lord, our cherisher
We know God as SON because he dwelt in our humanity in Jesus and reconciled the world of fallen Man to Himself on the Cross of sacrifice.
We know God as HOLY SPIRIT – the dynamic presencing power in our midst, who infuses every disciple from the Pentecost onward, who transforms the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ at each Mass and who drives the loving mission of the Church.

So in the threefold Name God reveals Himself:

in Eternity,

in History

and NOW.

And He invites us into a relationship of love with Him forever.

It is an irresistible offer and today we are taking up that offer for

Sebastian Francis Robin (another threefold name).

We will baptise him by the way we know him – by his names –
into the life of God by the way we know Him – by His Name.

This little human life – a result of the love between his Ma and Pa –
procreators, on behalf of the ultimate loving Creator - this little human
life – the inspiration of love in those who surround him here today and
pray from afar – will be infused with the Divine Life of God.

We all know how lucky we are to be standing here today. SEB began his
life with a frightening week in hospital battling, that often speedy killer,
meningitis. So we have much to give thanks for, both to God and to
those whose care saved his life.

There is, in a life that has been to the brink and been given back to us,
something doubly precious. So today we gather around the Font, the
fountain of new life to give thanks. We will offer this young but already
battle hardened life to the origin of all life, the God who made him. We
will offer him for blessing and dedication to His Lord as a little soldier of
Jesus Christ.

We will plunge SEB into the waters of life that both cleanse and renew.
We will take him through the waters of the death of Jesus that he may
rise with him in eternity at the end of his earthly pilgrimage. And in all
this we will bear SEB high on a tide of love and prayer that will carry him
all the days of his life - for that is our part in today's sacrament, the
solemn oath we make as Parents, godparents, friends and family. This is

the beginning. This is the launch of this much loved child on the great voyage which will not end until he enters the harbour of the Heavenly City laden with the treasure of a life lived for God, his passport marked with the threefold name of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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