

Sunday Readings Reflections of 5/22/2016

Reading 1 Proverbs 8:22-31

In this reading from Proverbs, God's Wisdom is pictured as a separate being who was with God at the creation. Wisdom works with God as a "craftsman" and "plays" with God's people on earth. For the Israelites, Wisdom was first a quality of God. Then they came to see wisdom as God's companion. Centuries later, Christians, looking back at the Old Testament for signs of Jesus, saw him as the Wisdom of God. This is part of the gradual and sometimes mysterious way that God is revealed to us.

Reading 2 Romans 5:1-5

How does our faith in Jesus change us? Our letter today lists several ways. Through Jesus, we grow in harmony with God and receive the grace to live for God's reign. We have the virtue of hope, which is like a candle that is not blown out by the cold wind of hard times. And we have the Spirit living in our hearts, keeping God's love alive in us.

Gospel John 16:12-15

Today's gospel continues with Jesus' advice and instructions to the disciples at the Last Supper. He promises that the Spirit will be there to guide his followers to the truth. The Spirit will speak in Jesus' name, just as Jesus speaks in the Father's name. Each of these three Persons in one God belongs to the other. We call this mystery of God's identity the Blessed Trinity.