

# Feast of Theophany

January 8, 2023

Why the Feast of Theophany?

Happy New Year...sorry to disappoint!

For much of Christian history, the second most celebrated holiday was?

Theophany: a visible manifestation to humanity of God

Matthew 3v13-17

The Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' 15 But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Modalism: excessive interest in God's diversity

Tritheism: excessive interest in God's unity

Why does it matter?

*The Trinity* by Andrei Rublev (1425)

"In the East, pluralism is the departure point and unity is the goal."  
\_ Raniero Cantalamessa

1. Unity & Diversity

2. Relationality

3. Honoring the Others

"There is only one 'place' in the world where the rule 'love your neighbor as yourself' is perfectly put into practice, and that is in the Trinity."  
\_ Raniero Cantalamessa

What does the Trinity tell us about God?

What does the Trinity tell us about what it means to be human?

How does the Trinity speak to our struggles with the tension between unity and diversity?

How does the Trinity speak to the human need for healthy relationships?

What does the Trinity say about finding our meaning in serving God and others?



**Book:** *Contemplating the Trinity* by Raniero Cantalamessa

**Songs:** Starlight, King of My Heart, The Blessing, Holy Holy Holy, Doxology

**Looking to Connect?:** One of the staff would love to meet for a walk, on the phone, or for a beverage. To schedule a time please visit our website and click on the "Meet with Staff" button on the home page.