



# WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE ?

WHAT DO WE DO IN HEAVEN?

# What we will do in Heaven?

- **Heaven artists** always fall short at in depicting Heaven in their paintings.
- **Musicians will never be able** to express heaven in their music
- **Writers will never be able** to describe the love, beauty and love of heaven.
- After all this experts try, how are we going to figure
  - a) How beautiful heave is?
  - b) and everything to look forward into the next life?



# Each Person Will Eventually Die



- **Each person is created by God, and will eventually die.**
  - Face judgment,
  - See God
  - and be judge according to God justice and mercy
  
- **But what await to soul after judgment?**
  - After judgment a person is rewarded for the greatness of their love:
    - By the entrance into Heaven for all the eternity
  - Or if God's justice demanded is cast into hell for all the eternity



# What Heaven is Like?

- Today we going to talk about what heaven is like?
- **Entrance into Heaven** involves a door which every person has to step through
  - This door is Death
  - **Death** is an exit from this life:
  - It is an exit from this life to Eternity!
- **But as Christians, we do not live in fear** of what is beyond death
  - We do not look at death as a large black hole
  - Or as if everyone disappear



# God's Promise of Life Everlasting



- In ancient time people did not know what came after this life,
- For evidence of this, we can look the pyramids of ancient Egypt
  - In the pyramids, the great pharaohs will have their bodies carefully preserved
  - They would have gold and their favorites pets mummified with them
  - So they will be prepared for the next life.
- But unlike the greats Pharaohs of Egypt, We Christians know God's promise of Life Everlasting



# God's Promise of Life Everlasting



- **God's promise** is Life Everlasting
- And we know, this life is to prepares us to be in union with Him forever in heaven
- **To show you how the church leads the way in the hope for next life**, we'll read part of a pray of a dying Christian;
- This prayer shows our faith & hope in God's heavenly promise to us

*Go forth, Christian soul from this world... May you return to your Creator, who formed you from the dust of the earth.*

*May Mary, angles & all the saints come to meet you as you go forth from this life... May you see your Redeemer face to face.*



- **We can celebrate because Jesus by His death on the Cross and His resurrection into heaven**, has conquered death.

# Eternity

- **Even now during this life,**
- we can live a life full of hope and faith in the next life,
  - *that promised to us by God, in union with the Holy Trinity in Heaven*
- **DEATH** is a door from time, into the Eternity
- **ETERNITY:** how long is Eternity?
  - **Eternity** is exactly how long we are going to be in heaven
  - **To understand heaven** we need to first try to understand time in eternity



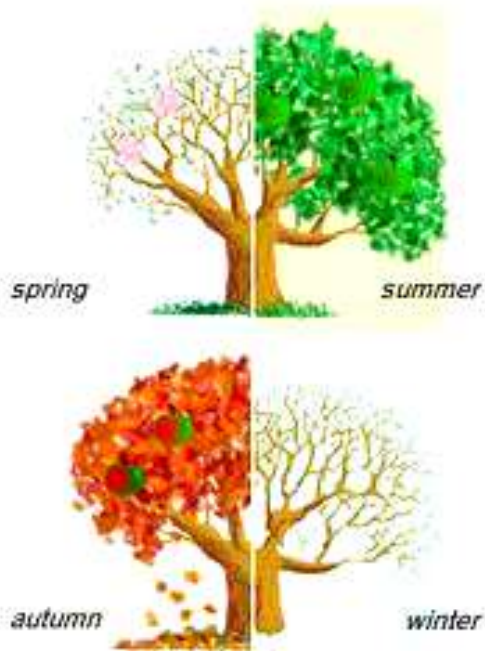
# Heaven and Eternity

- **To understand heaven** we need to first try to understand time in eternity
- **First, let's start with a clock & time.** These will help us understand Eternity
- **A clock** measures time:
  - **If your mom said** to be at dinner in 5 minutes, you can look your watch and know exactly how long it is, from now until then.
  - **Other example:** Right now, you are learning and the time is passing, and the most important this time can be measure
- **TIME** can be measure
  - in seconds, minutes, hours,
  - days, moths, years, centuries,
  - and so on, until the end of time





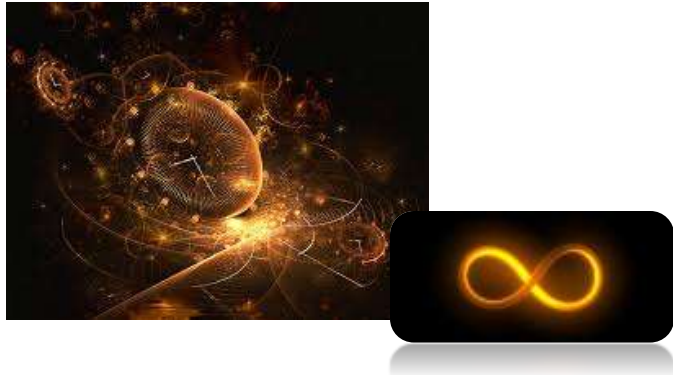
# Time a Measurement of Change



- TIME is a Measurement of change,
- **It is easy to see this change in Spring**, we can see how quickly things changes
  - the flower that was just a little seed is bury in the snow,
  - Then it is a flower
  - And tomorrow it will be wilted over in the ground.
  - Then it will be fertilizer for the next round of flowers
- Time has passed and the flower has changed.



# Eternity isn't Measurement of Time



- **Maybe you think of Eternity** as a measurement of a really long, long time,
  - But that's not like Eternity at all
- **ETERNITY** is not measurement of time because it is not a measurement of Change
- **Eternity is outside of time**, because God cannot ever, ever be change
- Now this is very hard for us to get used to on earth,
  - because here on earth, we can never escape time
  - Things are always changing

# God Never Changes

## He Is Always A Single Act

- **Here on earth** you can measure moment after moment,
- but in Heaven we will participate in God's Eternal Life.
- **God never changes:** He is always a single act
  - In God there is no past, no present, no future
  - There is only the Eternal Now
- **In Heaven our eternal soul** will always be participating in the Now of Heaven
  - We don't need a watch in Heaven.
  - There is not measurement of time in Eternity
- So now, we know that Eternity Is Not
  - the everlasting long long way
  - Or really, really long time or even time at all.



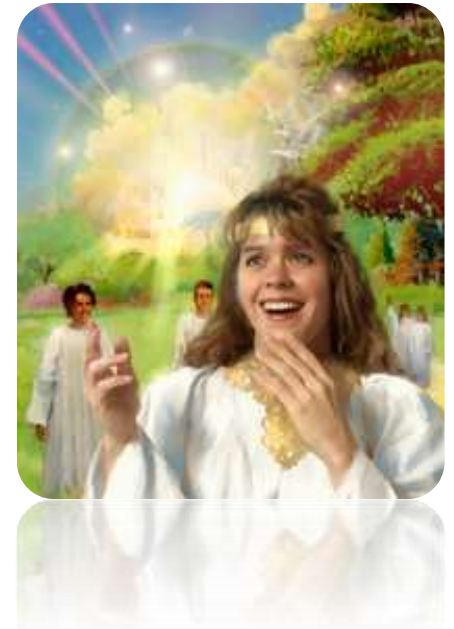
# What to Expect once We Arrive in our Heaven Destination

- **How will we participate in the now of God?** Let's see the Scripture, *to get some ideas into what to expect once we arrive in our heaven destination*
- **St John tells us:** We shall see Him as He is!  
*We are sons of God even now, and what we shall be hereafter has not been made known as yet.  
But we know that when He comes, we shall be like Him  
We shall see Him, then as He is (1Jh 3:2)*
- **St Paul says:**  
*Our knowledge, our prophecy, are only a glimpses of the Truth, and these glimpses will be swept away when the time for fulfillment comes...  
At present, we are looking at a confused reflection in a mirror, then we shall see Him face to face (1 Cor. 13)*
- **We will see God face to face!** This is called the **Beatific Vision.**



# Contemplation of God in Heavenly Glory

- **The Catechism of the Catholic Church** says that:
  - Beatific Vision is the Contemplation of God in Heavenly Glory
  
- **Now, this vision is not like seeing** a sunset over the mountains
  
- **These vision of God will give us:**
  - every happiness,
  - every delight and joy that the soul could ever want
  
- **Still this happiness, is far more than we could ever hold for**
  - Jesus thought us in the beatitudes: Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God (Matt 5:8)



# We shall see God ever better

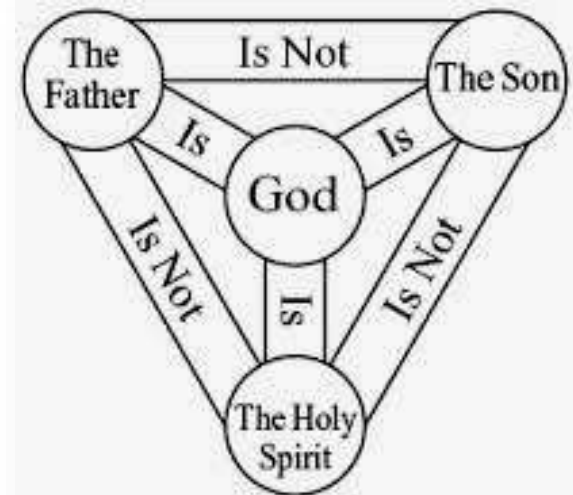


- **So what seeing God means?**
  - We shall see God ever better than we see the television screen
  
- **God will act directly into our intellect** or our understanding to give us the light and power to understand Him.
  
- **Here on earth we need our senses** for information,
  - a) we need sight to see
  - b) We need feelings to know it is hot outside
  - c) We need smell to know that something is burning
  
- **But in Heaven** we will see God face to face
  
- **We will Not need our senses** to get the information to our brain

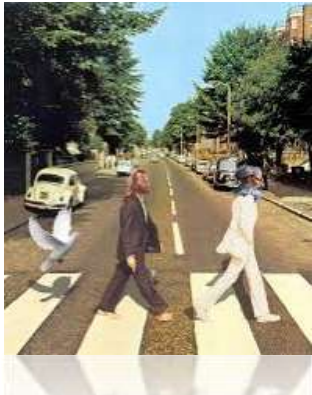


# We Will Not Need our Senses to Get the Information

- **Instead God will direct directly** in our intellect to know Him
  - To know the depth of His Mysteries, and these mysteries are so deep
  - We will always be drawn deeper and deeper into the Divine life of the Holy Trinity
  
- **Saint Anselm**, the holy doctor of the Church says:
  - Every just man will process in heaven such knowledge
  - that nothing that he wishes to know will remain unknown to Him, neither the past, nor the future.
  - We will understand all the mysteries of God:
    - *The Holy Trinity,*
    - *the Incarnation,*
    - *the Redemption, etc.*



# God wants Us to be united to His Divine Life



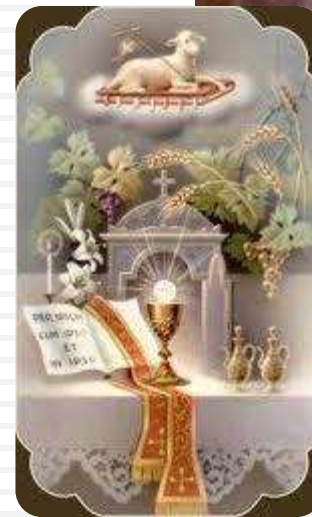
- **Everything in life will be reveal to US,**
  - and how it was for our greatest good, in the Glory of God.
  
- **We would be marvel of God's hand**
  - guiding and shaping every part of our life, *out of His surprising love for us.*
  
- **God has given us preparation on earth for the Mysteries in Heaven**
  - He wants us to be so united to His Divine for ever in Heaven



# The Holy Eucharist

Here on Earth:

We can have a taste of Heaven!



# God wants us to be so united to His Divine Life

- **God the Father gave us**
  - the body and blood of His Son: Jesus,
  - present in the tabernacles around the world
  
- **The Holy Eucharist is**
  - the body and blood, soul and divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
  
- **Even here on earth, we can have a taste of heaven,**
  - when we receive the Blessed Sacrament



# The Blessed Sacrament

- **In the Blessed Sacrament**, we have the vision of God
  - But is a veil presence,
  - which can be touch and detected through our senses
- **When we gaze and adore the Blessed Sacrament**,
- under the form of Bread & Wine on the Monstrance,

  - *we prepare ourselves for heaven,*
  - *because as you gaze upon the hidden or veil Jesus, He also gazes upon you.*
  - *He is present by the Power of the Holy Spirit!*



# Everyone wants Happiness



# God Our Ultimate Happiness Himself

- **Everyone wants happiness**
- God put into your heart:
  - a) the desire for Happiness,
  - b) a longing for Happiness,
- and that ultimate happiness is God Himself



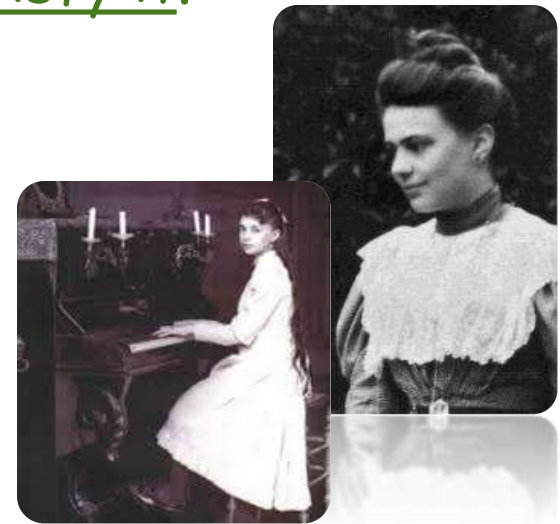
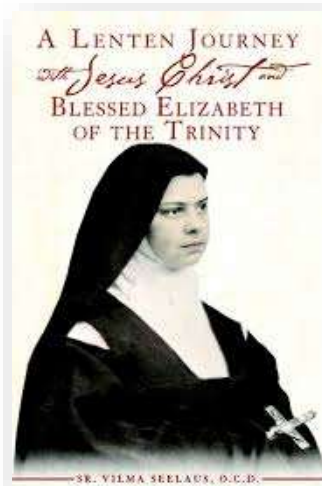
# God gathers you into His Love



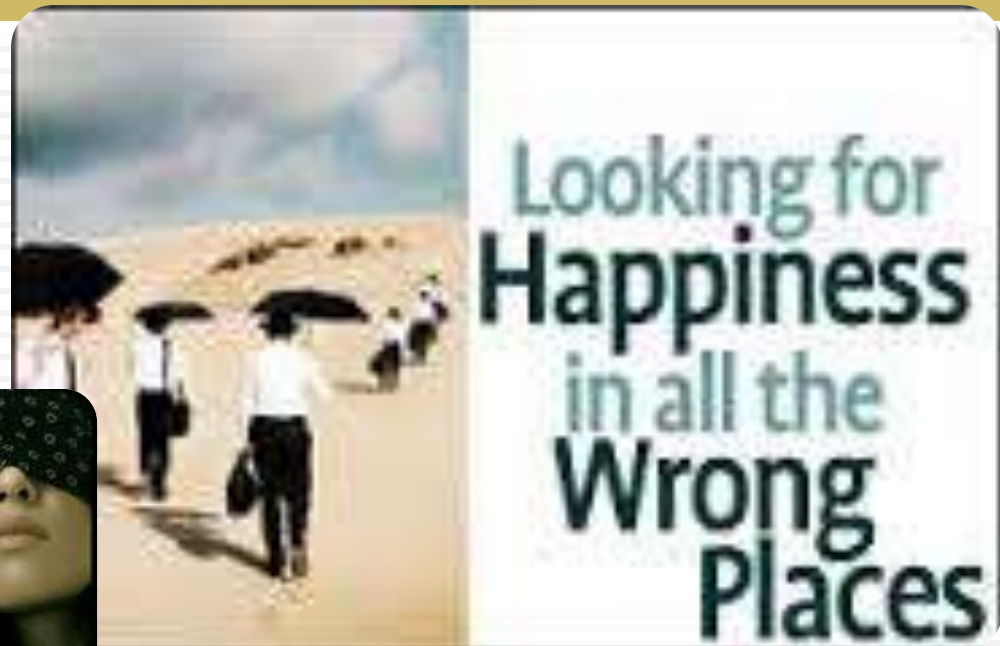
- **Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity**, a Carmelite, says:

*He has placed in my heart a thirst for the infinity*

*and such a great need for Love, that only He can satisfy it.*



# Happiness in the “Wrong Things”



Looking for  
**Happiness**  
in all the  
**Wrong**  
Places

# Happiness filled by God Only

- **Ultimately the happiness, we seek,** can **only fill by God in Heaven**
- **But because of sin,** sometimes we are little confuse and miss up
- **We think that** *“things”, “affections”, “vanity”, “fame”, “power” or “social status”*, down here on earth would make us Happy
- **But Nothing!** down here on earth, would ever completely fill our heart, **the way God intends to, in Heaven.**





# Will something make you Happy Forever?



- **For example:** Let's say there is a CD play by your favorite singer, you can wait to get it,
  - So you save and do extra job to get it, and you talk about it all the time.
  - You just know that when you finally listen to that CD, you will be happy.
  - When you finally save enough money and buy the CD you listen & listen to it
- **But what you think would happen in 1 month, 2 months, or a year later?**

# Always Longing for More

- **Eventually that CD that you thought will make you happy,**
  - **Now,** you don't even know where it is
  - **You may have thought** that the CD was great for a while
  
- **But Now** you are saving for the latest computer game
  - *Or maybe longing for another things, affections, or situations that make you happy*
  
- **But you really think so???**
  - Do you think this *CD, Computer game, book, car, boat, or even a "particular person"* will make you happy forever?



# Only God Can make you Happy Forever!



- **Do you really think something will make you happy forever?**
  - NO! Nothing will make us happy or ever,
  - Only God!!!



- **God put within your You**, this desire for happiness
  - because He wants you to seek the ultimate happiness with Him in Heaven.



- **God loves you** even in those places inside that you think He cannot see.
- **God is all love, all pardon, all mercy, and only He could satisfy our longing or eternal happiness.**

# Our Will Bond to God through Charity

*“Not My will,  
but Your will  
be done!”*



# Our Will Bond to God through Charity

- **We have learned that in Heaven our intellect will see and know God, through the Beatific Vision,**
- **But our Will also be bond to God through Charity**
- **CHARITY is LOVE**
  - And we know from Scriptures that **God is Love**
  - **Our Will** will be completely united to God's Will
  - And we will finally be completely fulfill peaceful and happy
- **This is what we always pray when we pray the Our Father**  
*Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven*
- **It is in Heave** that our Will it is completely united with the bonds of love, with the Will of God.



# But what is Love?

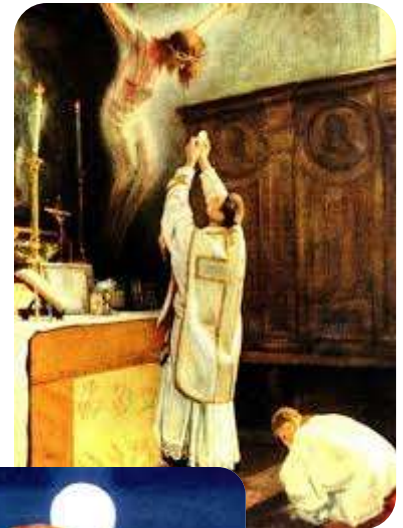


- **What is this Charity that bonds our wills to God**, *fulfilling every desire to be happy?*
- Well, you can love many people and things,
  - For example: you may love *ice cream, your pets, your parents, and God*
  - But Loving each of this is a different kinds of Love
- **GOD Himself is the TRUE LOVE**
  - *higher than any these others loves* of material good or even people
- **God shows us what Love is** by being 3 Persons
  - The Father loves the Son
  - The Son receives the love of the Father & love Him in return.
  - And the Holy Spirit is the Love between the Father & the Son.
  - In Heaven Christ sits in the right hand of the Father, He is equal to the Father because He is & the Father One.



# Love is a Gift of Self to Another

- **Jesus also shows His love for us** when He died for us on the Cross.
- He thought by His words & Actions  
"Greater Love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13)
- A. **Jesus shows us that the Love** is a gift of self to another.
- B. **In Heaven** we will always be united to **One True Love:** God Himself.
- C. **The life of Heaven is participating** in the giving & receiving of Love of the Holy Trinity.
- D. **And this fulfill ever desire of Love** of the Human heart.



# Beatific Joy

- **From the Beatific Vision and Love,** *uniting the soul in heaven with God,* comes **Beatific Joy.**
- **Again is a Joy** that is beyond our understanding,
- and everyone in heaven will be fill with this joy.
- **Sharing His joy** with others does not diminish it, or splits it up,
- everyone is fill with joy!





# Beatific Joy Vs. Unsatisfied Joy

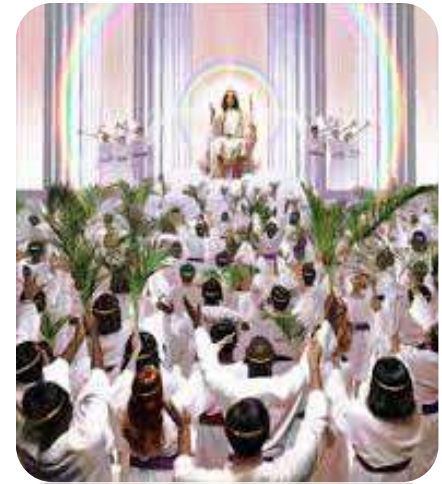


- **Some times on earth we have too much of many things, like**
  - a) *Having too many jelly eggs at Easter will give you stomach ache*
  - b) *Having too much food will make you sick*
  - c) *Or having too many late nights in a row will make you very grumpy & very tire.*
- **Having too much of everything may affect, harm or give us an unsatisfied joy.**
- **But in Heaven happiness is unending**
  - There is not suffering
  - Not sickness, no death, not despair.
  - No disappointments, not hardship
  - **THERE IS ONLY HAPPINESS & JOY!!!**



# In Heaven Happiness is Unending

- **These Happiness & Joy** come from
  - our Vision of God
  - and being fill with His Love.
- Whenever people are happy, they want to share what make them happy with everyone around them.
- **In Heaven** we are not happy alone;
  - there would be multitude of angels
  - & saints sharing this eternal happiness

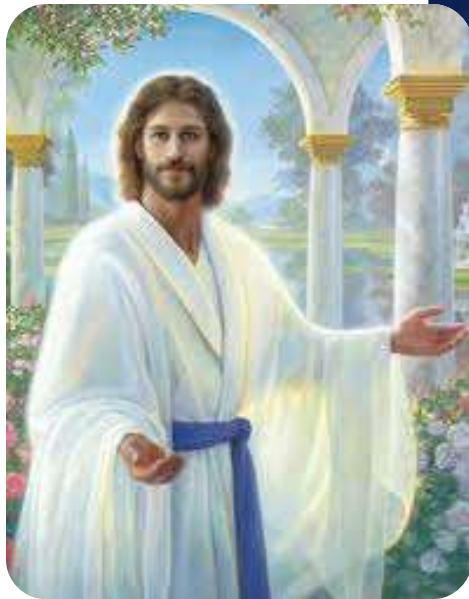


# In Heaven Happiness is Unending

- **St. Anselm** compares our souls in Heaven with **the vision of a fish.**
  - As the fish is entirely surrounded by water on the sea,
  - so they (*their souls, of the just*) will be immerse in the joy of God.
    - Joy eternally
    - Joy internally
    - Joy externally
    - Deep joy
    - Sublime joy
    - omnipresence joy



# QUICK REVIEW



# Review



## 1) How did Jesus conquered sin & death?

- Every life com to an end down here on earth
- But Jesus cam to earth, and He conquered sin and death through His death on the cross & resurrection.

## 2) Does time exist here on earth or in Heaven?

- Here on earth we can never escape time
- Time exists here on earth.
- Eternity is not measurement of time (it isn't measure by time)
- In heaven we will participate in the Eternal Life of God, which is the Eternal Now!

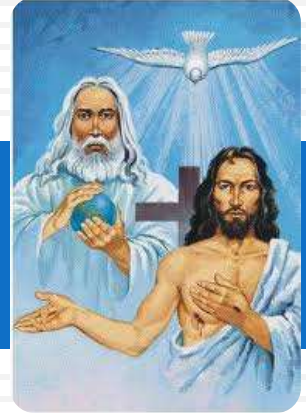
## 3) What is the Beatific Vision?

The Holy Eucharist is a glimpse into Heaven

The Holy Eucharist is Jesus presence in all the tabernacles of the world.

The Beatific Vision is seeing God face to face.

# Review



- 4) Whose love will we participate in, when we arrive in Heaven?
- God shows us how to love in the Holy Trinity, his inner life.
    - The Father love the Son,
    - The Son loves the Father
    - And the Holy Spirit is the bond of Love between The Father & the Son.
  - In Heaven we will participate in the love of the Most Holy Trinity.

# Joy and Love that Await Each Soul

- Who can even begin to imagine the Joy & love that await each soul after death!!!?
  - a) Heaven is the Ultimate End fulfillment of the deepest human search for happiness & Love.
  - b) The Search for TRUE will be satisfied in the Beatific Vision, where we shall see God face to face.
- Every desire for happiness would be fulfilled when we live in the midst of the Trinity, so we can exclaim like Saint Agustin:

*Oh wonderful home, Oh wonderful enchanting  
palace with sparkling heavenly life,  
How rapture I am by your beauty which fears no  
comparison, blessed above of the Glory of my  
God  
Who made us to dwell in it.*



Any Questions?

