Sunday Reading

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 28:16–20: The Commissioning of the Disciples

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Focus Questions

1. What did the disciples do when they saw Jesus?
2. What did Jesus say had been given to Him?
3. What three things does Jesus command His disciples to do?
4. What reassurance does Jesus give His disciples?
The Trinity

Directions: In this week’s Gospel, Jesus fully reveals the Holy Trinity to His disciples when He commands them to baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. 2,000 years later, we still use these same words as the essential rite of the Sacrament of Baptism.

Take a look at the painting Holy Trinity by Hendrick van Balen and reflect on the Trinity using the discussion questions.
Discussion Questions:

1. What do you first notice about this painting? Why?
2. Who are the figures in this painting?
3. How is the Holy Spirit represented in this painting?
4. What is Jesus holding? What does this represent?
5. What is the Father holding? What does this represent?
6. What are Jesus and the Father standing on? What do you think this represents?
7. What do you notice about Jesus’ hands and feet? Why do you think the artist chose to paint Jesus in this way?
8. Do you think this is a good artistic representation of the Trinity? Why or why not?
9. If you could change one thing about the painting to make it better, what would it be? Why?
10. If you could ask the artist one question about this painting, what would it be?