The Baptism of the Lord (A)

Gospel text (*Mt* 3:13-17): Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?” Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

The Baptism of Jesus foretells the mystery of the Triune God

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Today, the image of an opened sky stands out: with Jesus the sky is open. His communion with the Father’s will (fulfilling the righteousness), opens the sky because it is right there where, in essence, God’s will is accomplished.

This is compounded by the proclamation of God, the Father, of Christ’s mission; meaning not a do, but his being: He is the beloved Son on which rests the blessing of God. Finally, here we find, together with the Son, also the Father and the Holy Spirit: it foretells the mystery of the Triune God, which logically will also be revealed in depth during Jesus’ entire path.

-The Baptism of Jesus Christ is linked with His apostolic mandate to go to all people and baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19) The baptism practiced by the disciples is the entry into the Baptism of Jesus: This is how one becomes Christian!