

Anatole France was born in 1844 and died in 1924. He was a poet, journalist, and novelist. He won the 1921 Nobel Prize for Literature. He was considered in his day the ideal French man of letters.

He is credited with saying:

*There are perhaps some good translations, [but] there aren't many faithful ones.*

A similar sentiment is reflected in the saying:

*All translators are traitors.*

Which reflects a Latin play on words ... in that both translator and traitor sound similar in Latin - *traduttore, traditore* – only one vowel stands between them.

Today is the Third Sunday in Easter. In the first two weeks of Easter, and even going back into Holy Week, we have been hearing quite a bit from the Gospel of St. John.

Today, we take a break from John, and hear from the Gospel of St. Luke. Today's Gospel reading joins the story of the *Journey to Emmaus*, after the two disciples who didn't recognize Jesus during their long walk ... and only recognized Him in the breaking of the bread ... and then He disappeared.

Yet, as they are telling their story to the other disciples, Jesus appears "*in their midst and said to them: 'Peace be with you.'*"

They think they're seeing things, or seeing a ghost, but the disciples are incredulous.

Jesus offers them many opportunities to realize who He is and what He is – that is, risen from the dead.

But again, we hear this greeting from Jesus: "*Peace be with you.*"

The word translated here as “peace” is the Greek word *eirene* ... which is where we get the name Irene. And it is translated from the Hebrew word *shalom*.

But, translation is a tricky thing.

In Hebrew, “peace” means prosperity, good health, wholeness.

In Greek, “peace” means harmony, tranquility, unity.

In Latin, “peace” means an end to hostility, or a military truce.

And in English, “peace” can mean all of those things.

Yet, what Jesus is offering to His disciples ... and what we are being given in this divine gift of “peace” is the actual life of the Holy Trinity. Not a military peace. Not a dreamy sort of peace.

But rather the wholeness ... the holiness ... that is found in the presence of Almighty God ... a life filled with Faith, Hope, and Love – the supernatural ... the theological Virtues – which are infused in us in Baptism, strengthened in us Confirmation, and nourished in us in the Most Holy Eucharist.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity ... may the graces of this Eucharist deepen our personal holiness ... drawing us deeper into the mystery of the Holy Trinity ... and filling us with the graces we need to live in the life God is calling each one of us to live.