

# THE NUMBER THREE

Numbers 6:24-26

Numbers have many important meanings in the Word. This activity introduces some of the meanings of the number three.

In the Heavenly Doctrine we are told that the number three has more than one meaning, but the most common significance is full or complete from beginning to end. (See *Arcana Coelestia* 9286, 9825).

The number three has had a spiritual significance in religions and cultures of the world for thousands of years. In general it has stood for “that which is solid, real, substantial, complete and entire” (E.W. Bullinger, *Number in Scripture* ). It is interesting how close in meaning this is to the one given in the Writings for the New Church.



This Celtic picture of a triad or trinity is a symbol of the unity of body, mind and spirit. Similar symbols are found throughout history all over the world. The mind, body and spirit of a person make up the whole of a human being. Can you name other examples of triads or trinities in the spaces below?

Clue	Example
God’s powers – all begin with O	<b>O</b>
God’s primary names	<b>F</b>
Basic kingdoms of creation	<b>M</b>
Primary colors	<b>R</b>
Other?	

After their escape from Egypt, the Lord told Moses how Aaron the priest, was to bless the children of Israel. It is called the triple blessing and is considered very special and powerful. See Numbers 6:24-26 to fill in the blanks below.

"The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ you and \_\_\_\_\_ you;

The Lord make His \_\_\_\_\_ upon you; and be \_\_\_\_\_ to you;

The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ up His \_\_\_\_\_ upon you, and give you  
\_\_\_\_\_."