

# Sunday Message

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

THE WORD

Year C • 15 June 2025 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 3



## DO

Each time you make the Sign of the Cross, think about what you are doing and the words that you say.

## PRAY

The Trinity is about relationship. Pray for a deepening of your relationship with those you love.

## SAY

**"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come. Amen."**

## LEARN

"The Most Holy Trinity is not the product of human reasoning; it is the face with which God himself revealed himself, not from the height of a Cathedra, but walking with humanity. It is precisely Jesus who revealed the Father and promised us the Holy Spirit. God walked with his people in the history of the people of Israel and Jesus has always walked with us and has promised us the Holy Spirit, who is fire, who teaches us all the things that we do not know, who guides us from within, he gives us good ideas and good inspirations."

*Pope Francis*

Today we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Trinity. We say that the Trinity is a mystery, but it's a mystery that comes from the depths of our knowing who God is. The great truth about God in the Old Testament was that God communicated with human beings.

God was active in their history through the Spirit that spoke the divine Word through the Law and the Prophets. The great truth about God in the New Testament is that God took on human form in Jesus. The church's doctrine of the Trinity tells us that God is a community of three persons who love one another, who communicate with one another so intimately, so intensely, that they become one.

The relationship between Father, Son and Holy Spirit gives us a glimpse into the inner life of God. It's a relationship of love, a model of how we are to relate to each other. ■

## REFLECT

**T**he church's doctrine of the Trinity tells us that God is a community of three persons who love one another so deeply that the three become one. But when we talk about Trinitarian love, we're not describing an abstract, unfathomable, idealistic kind of love. We're describing the concrete love Jesus showed when he walked among us, that so many people show today. Feed the poor. Care for the sick. Forgive the one who hurts you. Defend the weak. Free the oppressed - to do any or all of these is to show love.

People show love like this every day. Think of parents who care for special needs children. Or grandparents who pick up the pieces when their child's marriage collapses. Or groups like the St Vincent de Paul who help hold a community together. All are putting love into practice, the kind of love at the heart of the Trinity, the love that makes the three one.

There are numerous examples of love in action, but we know all too well how hard it is to love generously, selflessly.

Trinitarian love must shape our community, our society. One where the needs of the most vulnerable are paramount, where the poor are cared for and social divisions crumble, where all have access to affordable housing, and immigrants and refugees are treated with dignity. We know we have a lot to do to build a society where love guides everything.

Trinitarian love must guide our church. In fact, if it's visible anywhere, it should be in the church - founded by Jesus, inspired by the Spirit, protected by the Father. Yet we are well aware of the scandals in our church; of divisions between those on the left and those on the right; of power plays and disunity, of people who feel excluded because of their gender or sexuality or

a mistake made in the past. We know we have a lot to do to build a church where love guides everything.

Trinitarian love must guide our individual and family lives. My relationship with others must reflect the love that makes the Trinity. But I know how hard this is, because there's a big selfish element in me - in most of us. All too often, I end up doing what suits me rather than the loving thing. In an era where so many relationships sunder, where the emphasis is on satisfying individual needs, where there's an aggressive individualism on the loose, we know how difficult it is to live as people where love guides everything.

A beautiful Taizé chant describes it well: *Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est*. Where love exists, there is God. That's the Trinity. Living loving lives is how we celebrate the Trinity. ■



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Blest be God the Father,  
and the Only Begotten Son of God,  
and also the Holy Spirit,  
for he has shown us his merciful love.

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

God our Father, who by sending into the world  
the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification  
made known to the human race your wondrous  
mystery,  
grant us, we pray, that in professing the true  
faith,  
we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory  
and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING**

Pr 8:22-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs  
The Wisdom of God cries aloud:  
The Lord created me when his purpose first  
unfolded,  
before the oldest of his works.  
From everlasting I was firmly set,  
from the beginning, before earth came into  
being.  
The deep was not, when I was born,  
there were no springs to gush with water.  
Before the mountains were settled,  
before the hills, I came to birth;  
before he made the earth, the countryside,  
or the first grains of the world's dust.  
When he fixed the heavens firm, I was there,  
when he drew a ring on the surface of the deep,  
when he thickened the clouds above,  
when he fixed fast the springs of the deep,  
when he assigned the sea its boundaries –  
and the waters will not invade the shore –  
when he laid down the foundations of the earth,  
I was by his side, a master craftsman,  
delighting him day after day,  
ever at play in his presence,  
at play everywhere in his world,  
delighting to be with the sons of men.  
The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Ps 8:4-9

Response:

How great is your name, O Lord our God,  
through all the earth!

1. When I see the heavens, the work of your hands,  
the moon and the stars which you arranged,  
what is man that you should keep him in mind,  
mortal man that you care for him? (R.)
2. Yet you have made him little less than a god;  
with glory and honour you crowned him,  
gave him power over the works of your hand,  
put all things under his feet. (R.)
3. All of them, sheep and cattle,  
yes, even the savage beasts,  
birds of the air, and fish  
that make their way through the waters. (R.)

**SECOND READING**

Romans 5:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are  
judged righteous and at peace with God, since  
it is by faith and through Jesus that we have  
entered this state of grace in which we can  
boast about looking forward to God's glory.  
But that is not all we can boast about; we can  
boast about our sufferings. These sufferings  
bring patience, as we know, and patience brings  
perseverance, and perseverance brings hope,  
and this hope is not deceptive, because the  
love of God has been poured into our hearts by  
the Holy Spirit which has been given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to the Father, and to  
the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
the God who is, who was, and who is to come.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Jn 16:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
John

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'I still have many things to say to you  
but they would be too much for you now.  
But when the Spirit of truth comes  
he will lead you to the complete truth,  
since he will not be speaking as from himself  
but will say only what he has learnt;  
and he will tell you of the things to come.  
He will glorify me  
since all he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.  
Everything the Father has is mine;  
that is why I said:  
All he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;

through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(all bow during the next three lines)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Sanctify by the invocation of your name,  
we pray, O Lord our God,  
this oblation of our service,  
and by it make of us an eternal offering to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Since you are children of God,  
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his  
Son,  
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May receiving this Sacrament, O Lord our God,  
bring us health of body and soul,  
as we confess your eternal holy Trinity and  
undivided Unity.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

In this hour of farewell, or, better, of leave-  
taking, I repeat once more that what matters  
most in this life is: our blessed Jesus Christ,  
his holy Church, his Gospel, and in the Gospel  
above all else the Our Father according to the  
mind and heart of Jesus, and the truth and  
goodness of his Gospel, goodness which must  
be meek and kind, hardworking and patient,  
unconquerable and victorious.

*St John XXIII: Spiritual Testament*