

Trinity Sunday

On the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, we come face to face with the inner mystery of God as a family of persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, where there is complete harmony, love and total peace. In case anyone is wondering what bearing the mystery of the Trinity has on our lives, it is worth remembering that scripture tells us that we are children of God the Father who cares for us, that in Jesus Christ we have a brother who died for us and that in the Holy Spirit we possess a friend and comforter who strengthens and protects us when we are in danger. The Trinity is an invitation to discover and deepen the relationship between God and ourselves in the light of what the gospel tells us about his inner life. If we are made in the image and likeness of God, then surely, we must strive to become like him as much as is humanly possible — because when life is over the fulfilment of our dreams is to be in God's company and to see him as he really is.

However, to come to an awareness of our true dignity as children of God demands a great deal of change and conversion on our part. It requires a basic readiness to let go of everything which binds us to this world. The oneness of God and the unique place he should hold in our lives brings home how easily we can be lured into worshipping false gods. It's frightening the ease with which the trappings of money, power and prestige can take his place. The generosity of the Father in sending his son into the world as a Saviour contrast greatly with all forms of human selfishness to which we are prone. Christians should not tolerate such behaviour.

God is the deepest mystery of our lives and is infinitely more expansive than our tiny minds can imagine. If we had been left struggling on our own to understand God, we could never have established that he is a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger and rich in kindness and faithfulness. Without the help of Jesus, how would we ever have known that as a community we are linked like a family of people to him? Because God loves us and wants us to return that love, he offers us a share in his own life. That demands that we allow the risen Christ to make his home within our hearts. If our behaviour is to mirror the life of the Trinity, then the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit should govern our every word and action.

From the moment we were baptised in the name of the three persons of the Trinity, we pledged to live our lives under their protection and do everything in their name so that, when life is over, we shall go to meet them and live in their company forever. For all this to happen we need to listen to the Spirit inspiring us and drawing us forward in search of the truth.

Prayer of the Faithful

PRIEST. As a community united in faith, hope and charity, we turn to the Father and place before him our needs and cares.

READER

We pray for our Holy Father and the bishops of the church, that they may proclaim the one true God by being faithful to the will of the Father, obedient to the teachings of Jesus Christ and sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. **Lord, hear us.**

That the unifying love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit may draw together in mutual harmony the people of our neighbourhood. **Lord, hear us.**

That by deepening our love for the mystery of the Trinity we may grow in appreciation of the great destiny to which we have been called.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for the old, the lonely and the sick of our community. May those who care for them be a source of comfort and strength and support. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for our friends who have died. May they enjoy the fulness of life in God's heavenly kingdom. **Lord, hear us.**

Let us now join our prayers with those of Mary, our Mother, as we say...**HAIL MARY...**

In a few moments of silence, let us offer our personal prayers to God, through Jesus Christ, by the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

PRIEST. Almighty God, in you we live and move and have our being. Help us to grow daily in wisdom, truth and love. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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