#### GOSPEL

P. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jn 3:16-18

#### R. Glory to you, O Lord.

God sent his Son to save the world through him. Jesus said to Nicodemus,

- 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may
- not be lost but may have eternal life.
- For God sent his Son into the world
- not to condemn the world,
- but so that through him the world might be saved

No one who believes in him will be condemned

but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

# HOMILY

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** APOSTLES' CREED Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

# **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

## R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

# PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. 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 vou Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord. P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

# PREFACE OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

After the Preface, we sing or say: All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

# THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith. All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

# COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ... P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...

# R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always. R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace. All exchange a sign of peace

### LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb. R. Lord, I am not worthy

that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word

and my soul shall be healed. **COMMUNION ANTIPHON** Gal 4:6

# 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**

P. 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. R. Amen.

# THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spirit. P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, 🖈 and the Holy Spirit. R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

# BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

# **GRACIOUS AND** FORGIVING LOVE

The blessing 'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you' is one familiar to us all. It may come as a surprise to know that it was originally the conclusion of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. The community was bitterly divided, and Paul wrote the letter to reconcile himself with a community that had become estranged from him and one another. He saw that they were all called to model their lives on the living God's gracious, loving, and unifying nature.

The graciousness and life-giving character of God's love have been seen throughout all of salvation history but seldom clearer than in the episode of the golden calf. Face to face with the living God on the holy mountain Moses feels it necessary to plead for the people of Israel and their idolatry. He knows their desperate plight but before he even pleads for the people God reveals that Israel's God is one of compassion, tenderness, faithfulness, and mercy.

For people of faith there is always the danger that people hide from the living God because of fear in the face of failure and sin. Nicodemus is invited to understand that the power of God is most clearly seen in a love that will risk everything to bring us back, even the most precious gift of all, Jesus Christ. On this feast of the Trinity, these readings lead us to reflect on the nature of God that we celebrate - creative, saving and forgiving love.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

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# **OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION**

# THE MOST HOLY TRINITY / A

A GOD OF TENDERNESS. God did not wreak vengeance on the Israelites in the wilderness when they began to worship a golden calf. Rather, God came among them in tenderness and compassion, forgave their sin and restored the covenant. This God became incarnate in Jesus and dwells among us in the Spirit. As we marvel at the unconditional love of God we exclaim: Glory and praise forever!

# INTRODUCTORY RITES

#### **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.

#### GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

#### R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

# R. And with your spirit.

### PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (striking the *breast*) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

# R. Amen.

- V. Lord, have mercy.
- R. Lord, have mercy.
- V. Christ, have mercy.
- R. Christ, have mercy.
- V. Lord, have mercy.
- R. Lord, have mercy.

# **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

P. 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.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

R. Thanks be to God.

**RESP PSALM** 

### FIRST READING

R. Amen.

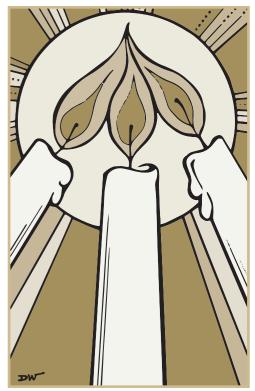
A reading from the book of Exodus The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving. With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage. The word of the Lord.

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Ex 34:4-6, 8-9

Dan 3:52-56, R. v. 52 1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. **R**. Glory and praise for ever! Blest your glorious holy name. **R**. Glory and praise for ever!



- 2. You are blest in the temple of your glory. **R**. Glory and praise for ever! You are blest on the throne of your kingdom.
- **R**. Glory and praise for ever!
- 3. You are blest who gaze into the depths. **R**. Glory and praise for ever! You are blest in the firmament of heaven.

**R**. Glory and praise for ever! SECOND READING

2 Cor 13:11-13

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf. Apoc 1:8 Alleluia, alleluia! / Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: / to God who is, who was, and who is to come. / Alleluia!