

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity - Lectionary: 164

Reading 1 [EX 34:4B-6, 8-9](#)

Early in the morning Moses went up Mount Sinai as the LORD had commanded him, taking along the two stone tablets. Having come down in a cloud, the LORD stood with Moses there and proclaimed his name, "LORD." Thus the LORD passed before him and cried out, "The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship. Then he said, "If I find favor with you, O Lord, do come along in our company. This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own."

Responsorial Psalm [DN 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56](#) - R. (52b) Glory and praise for ever!

Reading 2 [2 COR 13:11-13](#)

Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Gospel [JN 3:16-18](#)

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

God is intimately close to us. As Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Trinity is the source of the human family, and our model. Because of this, we intentionally and solemnly begin and end Mass invoking the Most Holy Trinity, recalling at this most sacred moment of gathering and worship, God's boundless love. It is also a Sign which reminds us of who we are, whose we are and how we stay faithful to our identity in God. It is a testimony to the world of the only true path forward for humanity.

That God is both unity and trinity, is "the central mystery of Christian faith and life" (CCC). It's the center of our faith, because it gives us a glimpse into the inner life of God. It's the center of our life, because we are called to be living images of God, created to love and be loved.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit established us as a Church called to reflect the unity and diversity of God as we love, support and encourage one another, one human family with many different cultures. God never meant us to go it alone, nor just with him. Therefore we cannot be disciples of Christ without community.

Jesus gave his Church the great commandment to "love one another as I have loved you." He commanded us to be like him: to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbor as ourselves. And loving God leads automatically to loving our neighbor. As Pope Benedict wrote in his first encyclical: "In the saints one thing becomes clear: those who draw near to God do not withdraw from men, but rather become truly close to them" (Deus Caritas Est, 42).

We are called to live in one accord with each other, the communion of believers who have preceded us, and the communion of believers who will come after us. It is the Gospel truth that unites us and manifests among us the peace of Christ. There is no true love, true justice, true mercy and therefore no true peace outside of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If we want God to remain with us, we must not lose sight of who and whose we are. We must, as St. Paul tells us, continually "Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace." We know the degree to which we love others is the degree to which we love God.

As we draw closer to God during our worship today, ask him to show us how to draw nearer to those around us during this coming week. Let's be the first ones to forgive, even if the other person is at fault. Let's be the first ones to go out of our way to help someone who is struggling. Let's be the first ones to defend the truth when others attack it. Let's renew our commitment to make our way through this sin-darkened world by being bright, shining images of God, of the Most Holy Trinity, who is love. A God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.