

## **Cycle A The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**

### **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!

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever;  
And blessed is your holy and glorious name, praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, praiseworthy and glorious above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne upon the cherubim, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

### **Reading II, [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.

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

If you want to catch a Catholic's attention, that is what we say. Today on the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity we say it as a profession of faith in the mystery of our one God who is at the same time three Persons; the Holy Trinity--Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The readings today tell us about the mystery of the Holy Trinity by telling us about God. They tell us that God loves us so much that He gave His only son so that we might have eternal life. He sent Jesus not to condemn us, but to save us. All we have to do is believe, and when we do, we realize that we are obliged to respond with praise and service not just for our own good, but for the good of others.

The most radical revelations of God's Word are that God Himself is in community, a community of Persons that exists in perfect love.... and that we are made in God's image and likeness...and that in Christ we will be in God's community forever. God is Three Persons, that is the inner nature of God, that is the life of Heaven, and that is what we are called to be in relationships here on earth, right now, as the One Body of Christ.

God created us to be in and to live in relationships. There we discover ourselves and we find the meaning of life. We come to know who we are when we see and understand ourselves in the eyes of those who relate to us, who know us, and who come to love us. How many times this week did you encounter a community? Even brief encounters can be meaningful and loving. Thursday morning the doorbell rang, my two Jehovah Witness friends came to share what reading the Bible is all about, and how God's Word speaks directly to us convincing us that He is real and He loves us. We shared our common faith in God...we didn't argue about differences in theology. You see when we encounter community, we begin to taste Heaven and to experience the ultimate community of God...the communion of the Three who are One. Not only that, when we live in relationship, in communion, with others we become more than just ourselves. Who we are is expanded, and broadened, and deepened. As the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading said:

*“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.”* Image what would happen if we conducted our politics that way.

Loving others, you see, isn't something that's simply nice... it is essential. It is the essence of being one with Christ. It is only in loving relationships with others that we can understand that God is love...and that we who love have found God...and that God lives in us.

So rather than being puzzled by the teachings about the Holy Trinity, stuck on the “three-ness of God”, we must throw ourselves into life, into love, and experience the Trinity in our relationships with others. Let us share with each other a life in which we can be so much more of our true selves. It is there that we come to know God. It is in loving others that we can begin to understand the wonder of life, and the joy of knowing who God is and what His life is like.

Today we rejoice in the mystery of the Holy Trinity. It is upon this reality that Christianity is built. The kingdom of Heaven is here among us. Life with God is experienced here.... now. Heaven is not just a carrot dangled in front of us. Heaven isn't just the reward at the end of a road of pain, and trial, and suffering. Heaven exists when we discover ourselves, when we discover each other, when we live a Trinitarian life with others...when we live in communion, in relationship, with others.

So today, at Mass, it is not only the Holy Eucharist we receive. At Mass we experience the ultimate community of God...Holy Communion with the Three who are One and each other... and then we go live that loving Communion with the world, helping others experience God's love. There is no other way, or truth, or life than God.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!