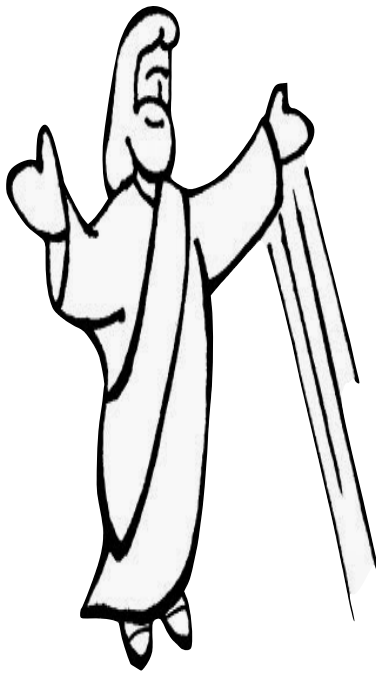


26th May 2024



Take me
Home !!

Trinity Sunday



Priest's Tidings

To most of us today's feast of the Trinity may not be as stirring and touching as Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, yet it sums up all of these. It is simply the feast of one God who shows three loving faces to us. We can call him Father, even "Daddy," as Jesus said. We can call him our brother in Jesus. We can call him our breath in the Spirit, who is our force and life and love that keeps us alive and moving and building a Church and a world. And if we want to sum up God in one word, we say with St. John: God is love. If God loves us so much we can do no less than love one another.

To many people God is all too often a far-away God, very distant and vague, a God apparently not easy to approach, but to whom we turn when all else fails. Would that we were more aware of the reality! Our God is near, very close to us. Already in the Old Testament he gave his name as "I am the one who is there [for you]," the God who feels our miseries and our joys. In Jesus he made himself one of us, a brother, a companion on the road of life. Through the Spirit of love he lives in us and makes us capable of community and love. If we were only aware of all this! Let Jesus awaken us to God's riches and beauty.

Where is God for us? Far away, in his high heaven, and very remote from our everyday life, as someone we fear to make angry? Today, as we celebrate the Blessed Trinity, we honor a God who lives in the community of a covenant relationship with us; that means, a God who makes us like his blood relatives, a God as close to us as a marriage partner, a God who preferred us to his own Son as he let Jesus give his life for us, a God who keeps stirring us through the Spirit with the inspirations of love and tenderness, of compassion and courage. Let this eucharist be a song of thanks to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit..



Fr Hugo

Holy Communion

Entrance Hymn:

276 – Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading:

A reading from of Deuteronomy (4:32-34,39-40):

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: the Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today, so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: (33)

R./ Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the Lord the earth is full.. **R./**

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made; by the breath of his mouth all their host. For he spoke, and it was made; he commanded, and it stood forth. **R/**

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness. To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine. **R./**

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield. May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.**R/**

Second Reading:

A reading from Romans (8:14-17):

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory..

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

623 – Eternal Father, strong to save..

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Matthew (28:16-20):

Glory to you, O Lord.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ



Prayers of Intercession

Father, we give thanks for the wonders and mystery of creation. We thank you for life and for your love. We ask you to bless the nations of the world as they strive for unity and peace. We remember all who work in caring for our planet, all who work in conservation and in growing our food.

Holy, holy, holy God,
hear us and help us.

Jesus, you are our Redeemer. You gave yourself in love for us. We come to give our love to you. We remember in your presence all who lack any knowledge of love. We pray for all who are scorned and rejected, especially those who suffer from the cruelty and wickedness of others. We ask you to bless all who are struggling at this time.

Holy, holy, holy God,
hear us and help us.

Holy Spirit, inspirer and giver of talents, we thank you for artists and craftspeople, for all who beautify and enrich our earth. Remember in your presence all who are unable to use their talents. We because of the situation in which they live. We remember those who are restricted by poverty or tyranny.

Holy, holy, holy God,
hear us and help us.

Holy and blessed Trinity, Three Persons and One God, we thank you for your love which is eternal. We thank you for the gift of personality. We remember in your presence friends and loved ones who are departed from May they rejoice in the fullness of life eternal in your presence and in your kingdom.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Offertory Hymn

765 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation,

Communion Hymn

422 – Alleluia, sing to Jesus!,

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

One day at a time sweet Jesus
That's all I'm asking of You
Just give me the strength
To do everyday what I have to
do Yesterday's gone sweet Jesus
And tomorrow may never be
mine. Lord help me today, show
me the way One day at a time

I'm only human, I'm just a
woman Help me believe in what
I could be And all that I am
Show me the stairway, I have to
climb Lord for my sake, teach
me to take. One day at a time

One day at a time sweet Jesus
That's all I'm asking of You
Just give me the strength
To do everyday what I have to
do. Yesterday's gone sweet
Jesus And tomorrow may never
be mine. Lord help me today,
show me the way .One day at a
time

Do You remember, when You
walked among men. Well Jesus
You know if You're looking below
It's worse now, than then
Pushing and shouting. That's
crowded my mind. So Lord for
my sake, teach me to take One
day at a time.

One day at a time sweet Jesus
That's all I'm asking of You
Just give me the strength
To do everyday what I have to
do. Yesterday's gone sweet
Jesus. And tomorrow may never
be mine. Lord help me today,
show me the way
One day at a time
One day at a time sweet Jesus
That's all I'm asking of You
Just give me the strength
To do everyday what I have to
do. Yesterday's gone sweet
Jesus And tomorrow may never
be mine Lord help me today,

show me the way One day at a
time.

Lord help me today, show me
the way
One day at a time (one day at a
time)

Prayer and Meditation

Reading the Scripture passage humbly and prayerfully is the foundation for everything else that follows and cannot be rushed. So begin with a prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to 'lead you into all the truth' (John 16:13).

Read the passage slowly and carefully. Avoid being tempted to look at the Lectio comments or any of the other steps at this stage.

Have a notebook and pencil ready. Underline, or make a note of, any words or phrases that stand out to you. Write down any questions that occur to you. Read the passage several times and read it aloud. Give yourself time to understand and appreciate what is being said.

Now read the Lectio comments and reflect on the ways they are similar or different to your first thoughts.

Oratio

Prayer opens up a conversation between God and us. In the Psalms we see how the writers pour out their feelings to God, often mixing hopes and fears side by side. God values our honesty. We can't hide anything from him anyway. Using the words of the responsorial psalm can help us but we can also use our own words to have a heart-to-heart conversation with a very special friend.

Through prayer we make our response to the light God's Word has shed on how we are living our lives. Now we can bring what is happening in our own life and in our community before God. We

speak and listen, listen and reflect – it is a conversation with God.

Contemplation

To help us interpret the Gospel reading the Liturgy provides two further Scripture readings. Reflecting on these can both enrich our understanding of the text and bring into focus a response we may need to make to the Lord.

Contemplation gives us the opportunity for an intimate time of communion with God. Be still before God and invite him in. Few words, if any, are necessary here. Enjoy time in his presence. Just be with him and let him love you. Let him refresh your soul.

Review

After you have finished your time of reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation you may want to jot down in a notebook any experiences or thoughts that particularly impressed you. You may find it helpful to look back at these later.

Mediation

Meditation deepens our appreciation of the passage and helps us to explore its riches. We read in 2 Timothy 3:16 that 'All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth,

rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instructions for right living...' So approach Scripture in faith expecting God to speak to you. He may reveal something of himself to you. He might highlight an attitude or behaviour of yours that needs to change. He might show you a promise to encourage and strengthen you. Here are some suggested approaches you may find helpful. Use your imagination. Picture the passage; put yourself into the scene and become part of the story. See things through the eyes of the other characters, listen to what they say, watch their reactions, imagine how they feel. Keep coming back to Jesus. Get to know him; delight yourself and become fascinated by him, his words, his actions, the way he responds - everything about him.

Ask questions. Use your own questions and the questions given to think more deeply about the passage and what God wants to say to you. Ask Jesus why he did and said what he did. Try to understand his reasons and intentions. Allow time to be quiet, to listen and hear his answer.

Let the Word be a mirror for you. As we read the Bible it shows us more of what the Christian life looks like and where ours needs to change. We see how God's Word applies to our daily life, as an individual, and as part of our community and society. We will find promises and encouragement, challenges and demands. If we are willing God will nurture and free us to be more fully human and fully alive.

What's happening in our Parish!

Sunday — Mass at 9:30 am
Support St Matthew's Church:

On our website (www.stmatt.co.uk) in the donations section, where you can donate by card.

- Make instant donations with our wireless contact less machine.
- Scanning this QR code to continue supporting us.



Communion

We now offer communion in both bread and wine. If you do not feel comfortable drinking from the common cup, please receive in bread only or ask for a blessing. Please do not dip the bread in the wine

This Time Tomorrow..

We're inviting people to share what they get up to during the week and if you would like to share, please let us know

English Cultural Celebration
Sunday 9th June 9.30am

Please bring along something to share at our full English brunch after the service

Further Celebration Dates

Summer Picnic Sunday 14th July
after the service

St Mathew's Day Sunday 22nd
September 12.30pm Bilingual
Service

Bible Verses this week

Our curate, Fr Steve, posts one minute reflections on a Bible verse from Monday-Friday. These are available on our website, and also in our parish WhatsApp group. If you would like to join the WhatsApp group, please let us know

Monday Mark 10:27

Tuesday Mark 10:31

Wednesday Mark 10:43

Thursday Mark 14:25

Friday Luke 1:48

Spaces Available at St Saviour's and St Olave's School

Our Church of England Girls' Secondary School, St Saviour's and St Olave's, has spaces available for next academic year. If you are interested, please contact the school via 020 7407 1843 or office@ssso.southwark.sch.uk

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