

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Blessed be God the Father
and the Only Begotten Son of God,
and also the Holy Spirit:
for he has shown us his merciful love.

COLLECT

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, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING 4:32-34.39.40

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

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.'
The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 32

**Response: Happy the people
the Lord has chosen as his own.**

- 1.The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
- 2.By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He spoke; and they came to be.
He commanded; they sprang into being.(R.)
- 3.The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R)
- 4.Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. (R)

SECOND READING

8:14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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 coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.
The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the sacred offerings which at your bidding we dedicate to your name and, in order that through these gifts we may become worthy of your love, grant us unfailing obedience to your commands.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

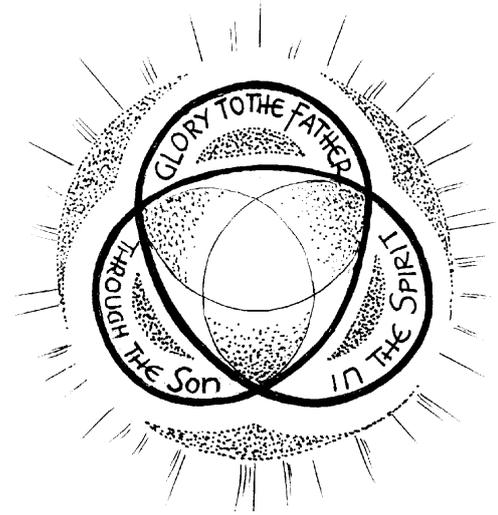
**Since you are children of God,
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 Jesus Christ our Lord.



GOSPEL REFLECTION:



Why are there only eleven disciples mentioned in this reading?

After spending that much time with Jesus, how could any of the eleven still entertain doubts about him? Do you sometimes have doubts about Jesus? Why?

Who gave Jesus the authority to proclaim a baptism of repentance? What are the promises which are made at baptism? How do you live them out in daily life?

How can you follow the command to 'make disciples of all nations'?

How does God, the Father, influence your life? The son? The Holy Spirit?

How can you teach others to carry out what Jesus taught? How might you do this as a faith community?

What does it mean to say that Jesus is with us until the end of time?

When you question elements in your faith life, it provides an opening for the Holy Spirit to enter and prompt you towards growth. What areas of your faith are you questioning right now?

GOSPEL ACTION

Find one way to reveal your love for Jesus to others this week. Reflect on how well you are living out your baptismal promises. Is there an area which needs improvement?

Readings—The Body & Blood of Christ Yr B

First Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16.22-26



A PASTORAL LETTER

Our Witness to the Value of Human Life

To be read at all Masses on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

30th May 2021

On Trinity Sunday, the Gospel reminds us that Christ commissioned His Church to call every human being to share nothing less than the life of the Holy Trinity.ⁱ His commission was to baptise all the nations *“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe all the commands I gave you”*.ⁱⁱ

There is a commandment that God wrote into our hearts from the beginning: *“You shall not kill.”* This command has guided our society from the start and favoured the development of a civilisation that protects the most vulnerable. The inheritance of Judeo-Christian teaching has inspired people to the most outstanding care and compassion for the sick and the suffering. During these past fourteen months, we have witnessed these same values at work in the mobilisation of society and countless heroic acts to protect the most vulnerable.

And yet, a Bill was quietly introduced into Parliament last Wednesday, which seems the more sinister, in seeking to remove legal protections from some of the most vulnerable members of society. A mere six years after Parliament overwhelmingly rejected legalisation for assisted suicide citing the need to protect the vulnerable, we are faced with a new attempt to make those who have always been ‘care-givers’ into ‘life-takers.’ The attempt to change the law has been introduced by the Chair of what was formerly the *Voluntary Euthanasia Society*, removing any doubt as to the ultimate purpose.

I write to alert you to the struggle which lies ahead in defence of the value of human life and the moral vision which has long underpinned the care of the sick. However limited the first proposals may be, a moral line would be crossed if those in our medical and nursing professions are called to assist in killing patients; and a long-standing legal shield is removed from the sick, the aged and those nearing the end of their lives.

This change to the law will be proposed on grounds of compassion in order to alleviate human suffering. All of us are united in wishing to see the relief of human suffering. In imitation of Christ Himself, the Church has always lived a preferential love for the sick and suffering. It was the Church which founded the first hospitals and hospices. However, where the Euthanasia lobby differs from the care Christianity has always inspired, is by proposing killing as means to end suffering.

The parliamentary battle over the issue is expected in the Autumn. We cannot be complacent over what is at stake should the softening of opposition in government and parliament and the proactive campaigning in the media succeed in lulling consciences. If there were any doubt about the consequences, we have only to look at what has happened elsewhere. Even though definite legal safeguards were initially guaranteed, countries that compromised the sanctity of human life in this way have seen euthanasia and assisted suicide extended to ever new groups. These now include those suffering from mental illness and even children.

On Monday, I issued an appeal to everyone who values the sanctity of human life and wants the best care and support for the sick and the dying, to oppose this latest proposal to force our society across the line from caring to killing. May we be ready in the name of the Most Holy Trinity to raise our prayers and voices in witness to value of every human life and for the protection of those who are most vulnerable. We do so with the assurance given in the Gospel today, *“Know I am with you always; yes, to the end of time”*.ⁱⁱⁱ

Entrusting our witness to the value of human life and our commitment to the care of the dying to the prayers of Saint Joseph,

+ Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury

ⁱ Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 735

ⁱⁱ Mt. 28: 20

ⁱⁱⁱ Mt. 28:20

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

30th May 2021 – Trinity Year B

Knowing that God hears and answers our prayers, we bring all our needs before the Lord in faith and trust as we celebrate the Most Holy Trinity.

For the Church and for Christians everywhere: may they bear witness to the presence of God in their lives. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For ourselves: filled with the love of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit may we reach out to all especially those who are most in need.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Fr Peter Walton as he celebrates his Diamond Jubilee this week; as he gives thanks to God for 60 years of Priesthood may the Lord continue to bless him in his ministry of love and service. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all peoples that they may be drawn together in the unity and peace of the Trinity, we especially pray for continued peace in the Holy Land.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all those in our parish who are sick, housebound or finding life difficult that they may experience the healing love and grace of Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all the faithful departed especially **Steve Heaney** and all those who have died recently: **“Eternal rest grant unto them...”**

For all those who mourn the loss of loved ones; may Christ’s message of hope in eternal life bring them comfort and consolation.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We ask Our Lady and all the Saints to join their prayers with ours as we say: **“Hail Mary...”**

Loving Father,
We offer these and all our prayers to you,
through Jesus your Son,
who is Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

30th May 2021 – Trinity Year B

Spiritual Communion

Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things and
I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.
Amen.

CAFOD Prayer for Glasgow

Creator God,
We cry out to you
The earth is damaged and in chaos
People in poverty are suffering the most
Greed and consumerism are a disease
And your Church is too often asleep

Merciful Lord,
Protect your people and restore your earth,
Embolden governments to take action,
Awaken Church leaders
Give the youth influence
And guide businesses to change

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord
May we unite and be bold
Take heart and find hope in you,
Worship you with our lifestyles
Walk in your truth
and see justice and renewal in the earth

Amen