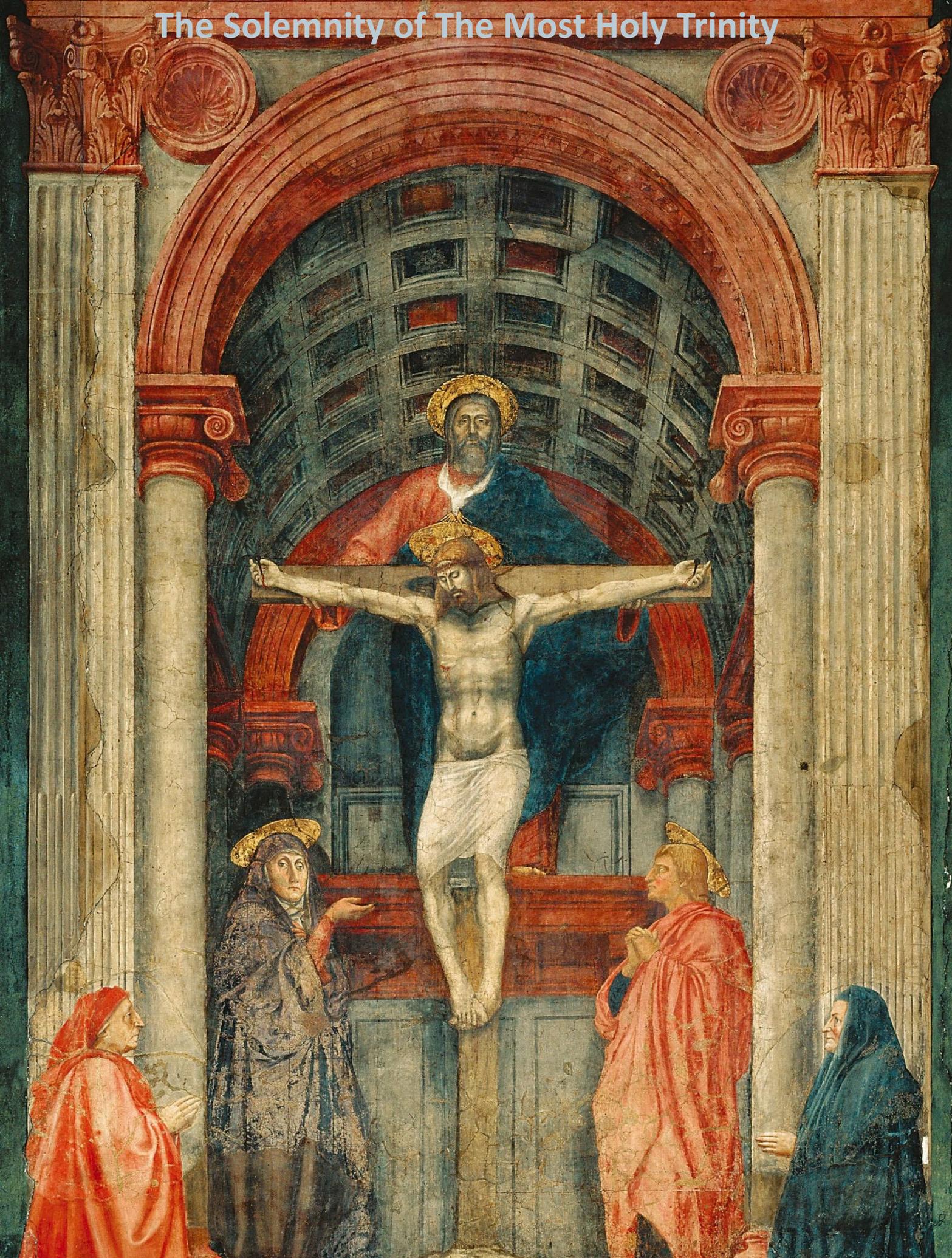


The Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity



Order for Liturgy of the Word

Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity

Entrance Antiphon: Leader

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.

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

Sisters and Brothers, God desires to converse with us through his Word. Let us bless him for his goodness. Blessed be God forever. **Response:** Blessed be God forever.

Introduction: Leader

We gather today to celebrate the Lord's Day. One with our sisters and brothers and with the entire Church, we will listen to God's Word and join in prayer. So, as we prepare to hear of God's love poured out through Christ, let us acknowledge that He is the source of pardon and strength.

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father; Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division: Christ, have mercy.

Response: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father; Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: In acknowledgement and thanksgiving for God's mercy we offer our praise:

All: The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men 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 the 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.

Leader: Let us pray

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. Amen

First reading

A reading from the Book of Exodus

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."

The word of the Lord. **R.** Thanks be to God

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!**

Second reading:

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

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.

The word of the Lord. **R.** Thanks be to God

Gospel acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to God who is, who was, and who is to come. **R.** Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel proclamation:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **R.** Praise to you, lord Jesus Christ.

Having listened to God's word in these passages from Holy Scripture we now profess our faith in all that He has revealed:

All—Profession of Faith:

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered
death and was buried, and rose

again on the third day in accordance
with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,

Who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins and I look
forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful—Leader

Introduction: Having listened to the Word of God and professed our belief in the Trinity, we now bring our petitions to our Father who made us, the Son, who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who renews us:

Intentions: For the Church: that it will be a visible sign of unity and hope in the way we support and encourage one another; we pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For our country and the diverse peoples in it: that they may live in peace and in unity; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For all married and engaged couples: that their witness of self-sacrifice may be a reminder of Christ's self-giving love for us and all the human family; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For all the faithful: that we recognize that God is always present in our lives and journeys with us through all our joys, sorrows, and everyday responsibilities: we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are ill and anxious about health during this time: that they derive comfort, courage, and hope in the healing balm of the Holy Spirit; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have passed through death: that the Holy Spirit will gather them into the joyful life of the Holy Trinity and rest in the peace of Christ; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

Prayer: God our Father, hear the prayers we have offered. May the love which unites the persons of the Trinity unite, and shape our lives and strengthen us to do your will. For this and all the prayers we have offered we ask through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Leader: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Leader: With the love of Christ, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Leader: 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.

Gal 4:6

All—Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Leader: 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 Christ our Lord. **Response:** Amen.

Blessing—making the sign of the cross:

Leader: May the Lord bless us, protect us, and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.

Leader: Let us go in peace.

Response: Thanks be to God.

No matter what you have heard, it is not so hard to understand the Trinity. Simply think back to the great story we have been celebrating for many weeks. Let's tell it one more time.

God the Father invited people on earth to a lasting and loving relationship with him and with each other. "I want to be your God and I want you to be my people. My love for you is tender and precious. Won't you love me in return?" Some understood and entered into the agreement (covenant): Abraham, Isaac, Moses, Elijah, Elisha, just to begin the list. But they and the rest of us humans kept choosing things easier to grab, like money and honors.

Our refusal of God's love became widespread. How did God react to such rejection?

My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. For your sake I scourged your captors and their first-born sons, but you brought your scourges down on me! My people, answer me! (from "The Reproaches" on Good Friday)

God tried a new and quite brilliant way. "Since I am all love and nothing but love, I will go out to them totally as love does; I will become one of them. I will live humanity to its depths, and they will see love poured out."

So God was born as a human called Jesus. He was the heart of God, now made flesh. One with the Father but different as well. And so the world knew about two persons in one God. Jesus told people to love God above all things and their neighbors as themselves.

But many human beings had been hurt and betrayed, living with their own selfishness and greed, as well as their mixed-up motives, co-existing motives with those of others too. Love can get lost in such a world. It was into this ocean of cruelty and loss that God the Son plunged. He dove all the way down to death. It was a display of the most profound insides of God's love.

Up to that point the disciples knew only two parts of God: Jesus and his Father (and they were not very sure about these). So before he left, Christ said this to them (paraphrase):

Philip, and the rest of you, if you know me you know the Father. He is in me fully, and after I go back I will make a home in you by sending the Holy Spirit. This Comforter will be the very love that I and the Father have for each other and for you. That way I will be with you until the end of time.

He is talking about the third person of the Trinity, which nestles close to our souls if we let it. The Holy Spirit is graceful and deep and comforting, like a blanket in cold winter. It is the love between the Father and Son.

So how can God interact with us in these three very different ways?

By being "plural," that is, by being three "persons." How can three be one? By not letting the number three be a divider but a plus sign. All three, in a great dynamic of love, are so close to one another that they are One God.

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Read more about the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1112>

Art: *Holy Trinity*, by Masaccio, Basilica Santa Maria Novella, Florence, Italy