

FIRST READING

The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.

A reading from the book of Exodus

34:4b-6, 8-9

Moses did exactly what the Lord had told him.
He got up early and carried the two stone tablets
up the side of Mount Sinai.

The Lord came down in a cloud and stood beside Moses.
The he said, "I am the Lord."
He also walked up and down in front of Moses and said,
"I am the Lord God,
and I am kind and merciful.
I don't easily lose my temper,
and my love can be trusted."

Moses quickly bowed low.
He worshiped and said,
"Lord, if you are pleased with me,
then don't leave your people.
We are stubborn.
But I beg you to forgive our terrible sins
and let us be your very own people."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Daniel 3:52, 53 and 56

R. (52b) Glory and praise for ever!

Lord God of our ancestors,
you are worthy of praise, the highest praise forever.
Your glorious and holy name
is also worthy of praise, the highest praise forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

You are glorious and holy,

worthy of praise in your temple, the highest praise forever.
You are worthy of praise
in the heavens, honored with hymns forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

SECOND READING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 13:11-13

Good-bye, my friends.
Do better and pay attention to what I have said.
Try to get along and live peacefully with each other.

Now I pray that God,
 who gives love and peace,
 will be with you.
Give each other a warm greeting.
All of God's people send their greetings.

I pray that the Lord Jesus Christ
 will bless you and be kind to you!
May God bless you with his love,
 and may the Holy Spirit join all your hearts together.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

See Revelation 1:8

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

God sent his Son to save the world through him.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to John 3:16-17

Jesus told Nicodemus:

“God loved the people of this world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who has faith in him
will have eternal life and never die.

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn its people.
He sent him to save them!”

The gospel of the Lord.

Feast of the Holy Trinity

Opening Prayer:

Help us, dear God, to love you well. As we celebrate this day of remembering that you are perfectly united in love as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Help us to live out of the love you share with each of us.

Readings:

First Reading: Exodus 34:46-6, 8-9
Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3:52, 53 and 56
Second Reading: Corinthians 13: 11-13
Gospel: John 3:16-17

Reflection:

Today, we hear Moses asking God to forgive the people for the times they have not loved God, each other or even themselves. Moses was a good leader who spoke for his people. God must certainly have been pleased to hear Moses' prayer. But, Moses really could not have known how much love God has for his people. When others hurt us, we are not happy with them and sometimes it is hard to forgive them. God 's love is so great that He always loves us and he is always waiting for us to return to him so that He can again tell us how much he loves us.

In our second reading, St. Paul spoke about Jesus whom God sent to save everyone from the punishment that comes from sin. What great love the Father has for each of us. St. Paul tells us that Jesus gave his life for us and he also sent the Holy Spirit to be with us to protect and help us to be loving and caring. It is hard for us to believe that anyone could love us so much!

We can never figure out the mystery of the Blessed Trinity, but we know that God continues to love us and that his love reaches out to us through each of the three persons in God.

Discussion:

1. Is it sometimes hard to forgive people who hurt us?
2. How did the saints live out God's love in the world?
3. What prayer do we say to honor the Blessed Trinity?
4. Can we make the sign of the cross together?

Activity:

Needed: Burlap, felt or other material to fit the size of the front of the lectern.
Approx. 24-30 inches in width and 72 inches in length. Attach velcro strips to the top of the lectern and the top of the banner.

Figures to be glued to the background material: triangle, dove, cross
Letters for words: May – the -Peace-of –the – Blessed – Trinity – Be –
With – You – Always- , - Alleluia!

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Arrange newspaper on a table and the supplies above. Supply glue for the letters and assist the children in placing the figures and letters on the background material. Invite each child to glue one or more pieces on the banner.

Select two of the children to lead the others back into the church to join the community. The banner needs to be pressed at the top so that the two pieces of velcro meet to hold the banner in the front of the lectern.