

Nicodemus, was a Pharisee and a leading member of the Council. It is likely that he was in the temple and heard Jesus and now he wants to know more. He comes to Jesus at night. Perhaps it is truly night, or maybe 'night time' symbolises Nicodemus' ignorance and fear. Through talking with Jesus, he is led to the light of truth, the light of Christ; a journey we are all invited to make.

What follows is an amazing summary of the Father's love - "*God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.*" Jesus is very much the instrument of God's love. "*The Son of Man must be lifted up... so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life in him*". This is a reference to the time when the Israelites were in the wilderness and they had turned away from God. God sends poisonous snakes to punish them. But Moses intercedes & God tells him to fashion a bronze serpent & to raise it up on a pole. '*If anyone is bitten, God said, they should look up to the bronze serpent & they will live.*' So too, the Cross of Jesus will bring life to all peoples.

Jesus concludes by saying: *I do not come to judge you or to condemn, but to bring life – salvation.* How comforting and reassuring this message should be for all of us. Rejoice and be joyful!

#### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Sanctify by the invocation of your name, we pray, O Lord our God, this oblation of our service, and by it make of us an eternal offering to you.

#### **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.

## **The Most Holy Trinity**

**Year A**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

**Officially Easter came to an end last Sunday with the great celebration of Pentecost – the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit. But today our celebration continues as we reflect on God's love in the Holy Trinity. It's as if we just can not let go of our joy & happiness, & understandably so! Today we celebrate the mystery of God's love; the love between the Father & the Son. So perfect is this love that Jesus continually teaches: 'The Father & I are one'; 'to have seen me, is to have seen the Father', 'the words I speak are not my own'; 'to believe in me, is to do the work of my Father.' I understand it perfectly when Timothy Radcliffe speak of the Trinity as the love of the Father & Son overflowing beyond itself into the life of the Holy Spirit & the Holy Spirit which is given to each of us in baptism, draws us into the circle of love between the Father & the Son. Let us rejoice & be glad.**

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

*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.*

#### **Collect**

O 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.

### EXODUS 34: 4-6, 8-9

Moses rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.'

And Moses quickly bowed his head towards the earth and worshipped. And he said, 'If now I have found favour in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.'

#### THE WORD OF THE LORD

The Book of Exodus tells about the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery, the covenant of Sinai and the wandering in the wilderness, therefore the material is very old, between 1446 – 1406 BC. Whilst Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments, the Israelites, tired of waiting, turned from their Liberator and built for themselves a golden calf which they could worship. (Exodus 32) The errant Israelites are only saved when Moses intercedes for them. Now God, re-issues the Laws by which his People are to live by, and he reveals Himself as the *God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.*

#### PSALM: Daniel 3:52-56

**Response:** *To be praised and highly exalted for ever!*

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestors. R  
Blessed is your glorious and holy name, R  
Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, R  
Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, R  
Blessed are you who look into the depths, seated upon the cherubim, R  
Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven. R

### 2 CORINTHIANS 13: 11-14

Rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort 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 saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

#### THE WORD OF THE LORD

For this feast of the Holy Trinity, we read the very end of Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians and he ends his Letter with this Trinitarian Blessing: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

'Paul is always talking primarily about the sanctification of man, rather than prying into the secrets of God, and in this the functions of the three persons are sharply distinguished: God the Father, is the initiator; correspondingly to his role in creation he is ultimately the power... The Spirit is the bond of union, the agent of sanctification... And the Lord Jesus is historically the agent by whom redemption occurred, and who is even now our Lord at the right hand of God'. (*Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB*)

*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!*

### JOHN 3: 16-18

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

#### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD