#### Liturgical Leaflet for an Active Participation in the Celebration of the Eucharist



## The Blessed Trinity, Source of Our Life and Our Joy

he Blessed Trinity is the loftiest and most fundamental mystery of our faith. We believe in one God who is a "family of persons" bound together by the most perfect love: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

We profess our faith in the Blessed Trinity when we recite the Creed, pray the "Glory be," and make the Sign of the Cross. But our best profession of faith should be the way we live. Indeed, all our life should be a response of love to the God who is our FATHER, BROTHER, and FRIEND.

Our concentration on the three Divine Persons does not divert our attention from our neighbor. It actually grounds our love for all our brothers and sisters, for each human being is a reflection of the Blessed Trinity.

In this Eucharist, let us ask for the grace to live out this wonderful truth.



### INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon (To be recited only when no Entrance

Hymn is sung.) 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.

#### Greeting

**P** – The grace and peace from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you all! **All-And with your spirit!** 

#### **Penitential Act**

P –Gathered together by God's Trinitarian love, let us realize our unworthiness to stand in His presence and the need to be purified through His forgiveness. (*Pause*)

- P God, our Father, You are the source of our being and the fulfillment of our aspirations. Lord, have mercy!
  All-Lord, have mercy!
- P -God, our Brother, you came to share our miseries and take away our sins that we might share in your riches.

Christ, have mercy! *All*-Christ, have mercy!

P -God, our Friend and Consoler, you live in us as in a temple and fashion us into the image of Jesus, the perfect man. Lord, have mercy!

#### All-Lord, have mercy!

**P** – May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **All-Amen!** 

#### Gloria

*All*–Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to peo-

ple 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, 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!

#### **Collect** (Opening Prayer)

P – 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.

All-Amen!



**1st Reading** Dt 4:32-34.39-40 Having reached the end of their wandering in the desert, Moses reminds the people of Israel of the wonderful interventions of the Lord in their behalf.

*R* –A proclamation from the Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: "Ask now of the days of old, before your time, ever since God created man upon the earth. Ask from one end of the sky to the other: Did anything so great ever happen before? Was it ever heard of? Did a people ever hear the voice of God speaking from the midst of fire, as you did, and live? Or did any god venture to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by testings, by signs and wonders, by war, with strong hand and outstretched arm, and by great terrors, all of which the Lord, your God, did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?

This is why you must now know, and fix in your heart, that the Lord is God in the heavens above and on earth below, and that there is no other. You must keep his statutes and commandments that I enjoin on you today, that you and your children after you may prosper, and that you may have long life on the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you forever."

The Word of the Lord! *All* – **Thanks be to God!** 

R –Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own!

R. M. Velez





\* 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 times 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*.

**2nd Reading**  *The presence of the Holy Spirit establishes us in a sav ing relationship with the other two divine Persons. It is also the foundation of our hope in our final glorification.* 

*R* – A proclamation from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry, "*Abba*, Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The Word of the Lord! *All* – **Thanks be to God!** 

**Gospel Acclamation** Rv 1:8

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

**Gospel** Mt 28:16-20 Before ascending into heaven, the Lord Jesus gave his disciples the thrilling task of gathering mankind in one family of brethren bound together by the love of the Blessed Trinity.

- *P* –The Lord be with you!
- All And with your spirit!
- P A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All-Glory to you, O Lord!

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of time."

The Gospel of the Lord! All-Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### Homily

#### **Profession of Faith**

(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

*All*–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, (bow)\* 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!

#### **Prayer of the Faithful**

P –We are Christians because we believe in the Blessed Trinity and because we have been baptized in the name of each of the three Divine Persons. Let us turn to them in full confidence and pray:

#### All-Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, hear us!

C –For the entire Church, the Blessed Trinity's family on earth: May she fulfill the mandate of Christ to preach the Gospel to all nations without fear or hindrance, let us pray! **R**.

C -For all the baptized belonging to different Christian denominations: May their common faith in the Blessed Trinity ground and crown their efforts to reestablish the lost unity, let us pray! R.

C – For the newly baptized: May they remain faithful to their bap-

tismal promises and witness to the newness of life received from the Blessed Trinity, let us pray! *R*.

C –For all fathers and mothers: May they find in the Trinity the strength and inspiration to bring unity and stability to their own families, let us pray! **R**.

C -For all of us: May we always be aware of the presence of the Most Holy Trinity in our midst, and derive from Him joy and courage, let us pray! **R**.

C -Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. (Pause) Let us pray! R.

**P** –Eternal, all-powerful God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, from You we come, in You we live, to You we go. Accept us in spite of our unworthiness, and grant that we may share in Your life for ever and ever. **All**-**Amen!** 



#### **Preparation of the Gifts**

**P** -Pray, brethren ... **All**-May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

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

P -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.

Through Christ our Lord. *All*-Amen!

#### Preface of the Blessed Trinity

*P* –The Lord be with you!

- All-And with your spirit!
- **P** –Lift up your hearts!
- All We lift them up to the Lord! P – Let us give thanks to the
- Lord our God! All-It is right and just! P - It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation al-

our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with your Only Begotten Son and the Holy Spirit you are one God, one Lord: not in the unity of a single person, but in a Trinity of one substance.

For what you have revealed to us of your glory we believe equally of your Son and of the Holy Spirit, so that, in the confessing of the true and eternal Godhead, you might be adored in what is proper to each Person, their unity in substance, and their equality in majesty.

For this is praised by Angels and Archangels, Cherubim, too, and Seraphim, who never cease to cry out each day, as with one voice they acclaim:

*All*-Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

#### **Memorial Acclamation**

- **P** –The mystery of faith!
- All-We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again!



- All–Our Father ...
- **P** –Deliver us, Lord . . .
- All-For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

#### Sign of Peace

#### **Breaking of the Bread**

All-Lamb of God ...

#### Communion

P -This is the Lord Jesus who became a human being to reveal to us the love of the Father and give us the Holy Spirit. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

All-Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

#### **Communion Antiphon**

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

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**

**P** –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. *All*-**Amen!** 



- *P* The Lord be with you. *All* – **And with your spirit!**
- P -Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing. (Pause) May God our Father keep you from all harm and fill you with every good gift.

#### All-Amen!

P – May God the Son imbue your heart with filial love for the Father and with brotherly love for all human beings.

All-Amen!

**P** -May God the Holy Spirit guide you as you walk in His ways, always knowing what is right and good, until you enter your heavenly inheritance.

#### All-Amen!

- P May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All-Amen!
- *P* -The Mass is ended. Go and witness to the love of the
- Trinity wherever you are. All-Thanks be to God!

# The Loving God Who Is Everything to Us

Created in the image and likeness of God, man is the most noble of all creatures. But, while without baptism we are only the privileged recipients of God's creative love, through baptism we also become the unique recipients of God's redeeming and elevating love by *becoming personally related to each of the three divine Persons*. In fact, through this sacrament, we become children of the eternal **Father**, brothers/sisters of God's **Son**, Jesus Christ, and sacred abodes of the **Holy Spirit**.

This life-giving relationship with each Person of the Blessed Trinity is neither a temporary role, nor an external label. Rather, it effects a permanent transformation in our being. We become a "new creation" (2 Cor 5:17). We acquire the greatest dignity in the universe.

And all this, not on account of any personal merit on our part, but solely because "So much has the Father loved us that we are called God's children – and so, in fact, we are" (Jn 3:1).

As such, impelled by the Spirit who dwells in us, we dare to call God *"Abba,* Father," the same delicate appellation which Jesus himself used when addressing his eternal Father (see Rom 8:15; Gal 4:5-7 and Mk 14:36).

Our relationship with the Blessed Trinity has a dynamic orientation. By its very nature, it tends to bring us ever closer to the divine Persons, till we come to contemplate them "face to face," i.e., we experience their love in the most direct and full manner. In fact, "if we are children, we are also heirs: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ" (*Rom 8:17*).

The Trinity is, thus, our final "destination" and reward. That is where we belong, and where alone our being will find the fulfillment it longs for.

But the greatness of our present dignity and of the final destiny that comes to us from our baptism has also its demands. **Our daily behavior has got to be in keeping with our being "children of light," for "God is light"** (1 Jn 1:5). Everything in us – thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions – should form a living doxology, a continuous hymn of praise to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

### HYMN TO THE HOLY TRINITY

Father, who didst fashion man Godlike in thy loving plan, Fill us with that love divine, And conform our wills to thine.

Word made flesh, all hail to thee! Thou from our sin hast set us free; And with thee we die and rise Unto God in sacrifice.

Holy Spirit, you impart Gifts of love to every heart; Give us light and grace, we pray, Fill our hearts this holy day.

God, the blessed Three in One, May thy holy will be done; In thy word our souls are free. And we rest this day with thee.



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