

# The Living Word

**The Most Holy Trinity, Year A**

**4 June 2023**

## **First Reading** Ex 34:4-6, 8-9

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

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Dn 3:52-56. R. v.52**

**(R.) Glory and praise for ever!**

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. (R.)  
Blest your glorious holy name (R.)
2. You are blest in the temple of your glory. (R.)  
You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. (R.)
3. You are blest who gaze into the depths. (R.)  
You are blest in the firmament of heaven. (R.)

## **Second Reading** 2 Cor 13:11-13

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

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

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

## **Gospel Acclamation** See Apoc 1:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Glory to the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit:**

**to God who is, who was, and who  
is to come.**

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel** Jn 3:16-18

*God sent his Son to save the world through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'



## **Reflection** by Fr Michael Tate

When he was crucified Jesus uttered: 'It is finished.' What had finished? His earthly ministry during which he painted a picture of the most intimate communion between Himself, the Father, and the Holy Spirit, so intimate that the Church needed a new word: 'Tri-Unity' or 'Trinity' for short.

God is pulsating, shimmering light, dancing in threefold exchange of love, each being simultaneously poured into the other. God is 'Being-In-Love' and love is always relational.

'You are made in the image and likeness of God'? Because of the ministry of Jesus Christ, we know what that really means. We are made to live in relationship – not in solitary.

If we think that the ultimate good is to be self-sufficient/autonomous, that leads to a hellish existence. When we live with as much self-giving as is possible, we are on the way to a heavenly existence.

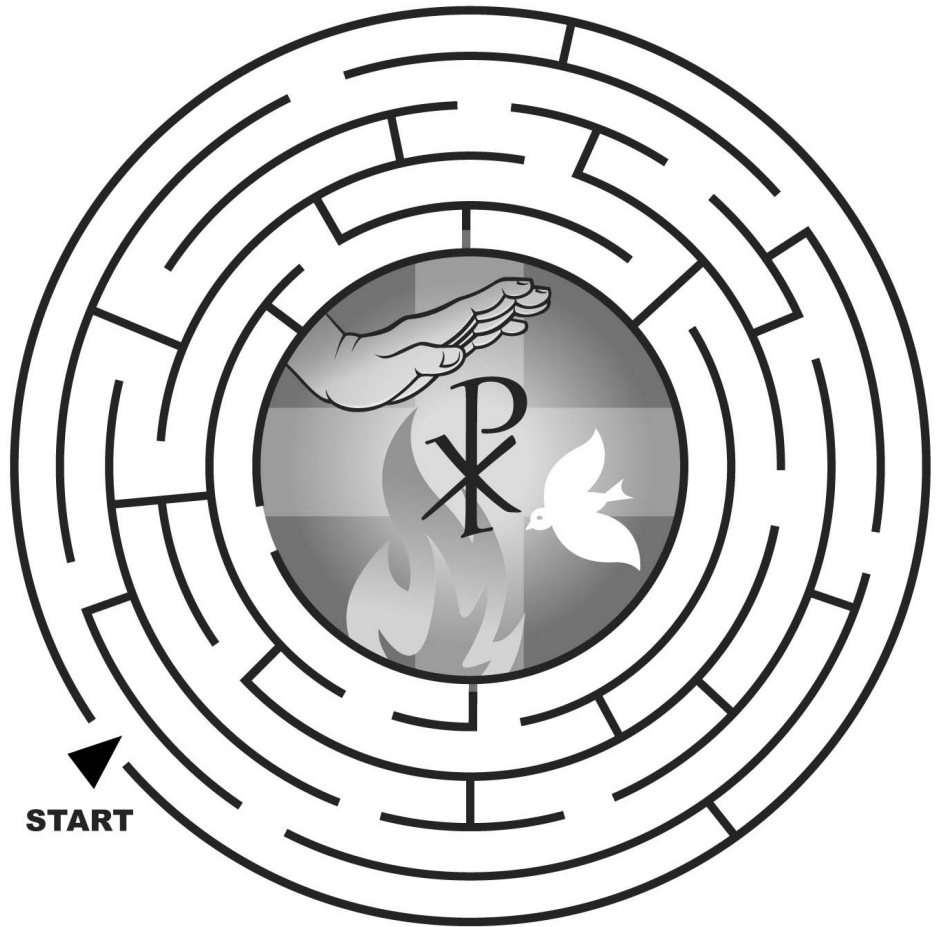
We could pause for a moment to give thanks for the revelation of the nature of God, and consequently of the true nature of human beings.

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Find your way to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit



**S**t Boniface was born in c.675 in Devonshire and was educated at a Benedictine monastery. Ordained a priest at the age of thirty, Boniface became a missionary to Germany and in 722 was consecrated Bishop of Hesse. A popular story of his evangelisation tells of his encounter with a pagan tribe that worshipped the Norse god Thor in the form of an oak tree. Boniface walked up to the ancient tree and cut it down with an axe, then stood on the trunk and said, "How stands your mighty god? My God is stronger than he." This led to widespread conversions and with the timber from the oak, he built a chapel dedicated to St Peter, Prince of the Apostles. He became an Archbishop in 732 and died in 754 after being attacked by a band of pagans while evangelising in Holland.

## Crossword

### Across

- 1: rescue  
5: the planet earth is our \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
7: not ever  
8: humans  
10: Jesus was speaking to this man  
11: belief in God

### Down

- 1: to pass something to another  
2: the opposite of death  
3: persecute  
4: our Father  
6: "For God so \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the world that he gave his only Son,"  
9: forever and always

