Glory and Praise Forever

Daniel 3:52b

The Most Holy Trinity
June 7, 2020
The Bible readings for this Sunday, feast of the Most Holy Trinity, helps us to enter into the identity of God. The second reading presents the departing words that Saint Paul bids to the community of Corinth: “the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you” (2 Cor 13:13). This — as we say — “blessing” of the Apostle is the fruit of his personal experience with God’s love, that love which the Risen Christ revealed to him, which transformed his life and “impelled” him to take the Gospel to the peoples. Beginning from his experience of grace, Paul could exhort Christians with these words: “... rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another” (v. 11). The Christian community, even with all its human limitations, can become a reflection of the communion of the Trinity, of its kindness, of its beauty. But this — just as Paul himself testifies — necessarily passes through the experience of God’s mercy, of his forgiveness.

It is what happens to the Hebrews in the Exodus journey. When the people break the covenant, God presents himself to Moses in the cloud in order to renew that pact, proclaiming his own name and its meaning. Thus he says: “the Lord, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity” (Ex 34:6). This name implies that God is not distant and closed within himself, but is Life which seeks to be communicated, is openness, is Love which redeems man of his infidelity. God is “merciful”, “gracious” and “rich in charity” because he offers himself to us so as to fill the gap of our limitations and our shortcomings, to forgive our mistakes, to lead us back to the path of justice and truth. This revelation of God is fulfilled in the New Testament thanks to the Word of Christ and to his mission of salvation. Jesus made manifest the face of God, in substance One and in persons Triune; God is all and only Love, in a subsistent relationship that creates, redeems and sanctifies all: Father and Son and Holy Spirit.

... God always seeks us first, awaits us first, loves us first. He is like the flower of the almond tree; thus says the Prophet: “It blooms first” (cf. Jer 1:11-12). In fact Jesus speaks to him in this way: “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” (Jn 3:16). What is this eternal life? It is the immeasurable and freely given love of the Father which Jesus gave on the Cross, offering his life for our salvation. And this love with the action of the Holy Spirit has shined a new light on the earth and into every human heart that welcomes him; a light that reveals the dark corners, the hardships that impede us from bearing the good fruits of charity and of mercy.

FOR GOD DID NOT SEND HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD, BUT THAT THE WORLD MIGHT BE SAVED THROUGH HIM.

JN 3:17
Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Glory and Praise Forever!

_Responsorial Psalm Daniel 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!

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St. Anthony of Padua

Feast Day: June 13

Born in 1195 in Portugal, Anthony of entered monastic life at the age of fifteen and joined the Order of St. Augustine. Stirred to be like the Franciscan martyrs from Morocco, Anthony decided to dedicate his life to spreading the Word of the Lord. Anthony became the patron for recovering lost items because of the celebrated story of his lost prayer book. The beloved volume went missing, stolen by a young monk. Anthony prayed to find the lost book and suddenly an apparition came to the thieving monk, ordering him to return the property to Anthony. The book was rightfully restored to its owner. Since then, throughout the ages, Anthony has been looked to for aid in finding lost articles.

THE CREATOR OF THE HEAVENS 
OBEYS A CARPENTER; 
THE GOD OF ETERNAL GLORY 
LISTENS TO A POOR VIRGIN. 
HAS ANYONE EVER WITNESSED 
ANYTHING COMPARABLE TO THIS? 
LET THE PHILOSOPHER NO LONGER 
DISDAIN FROM LISTENING 
TO THE COMMON LABORER; 
THE WISE, TO THE SIMPLE; 
THE EDUCATED, TO THE ILLITERATE; 
A CHILD OF A PRINCE, TO A PEASANT. 
SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA 
PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH 
1195-1231

Mother Teresa:
Christ in the Poor

Jesus comes to meet us. To welcome him, let us go to meet him. He comes to us in the hungry, the naked, the lonely, the alcoholic, the drug addict, the prostitute, the street beggars. He may come to you or me in a father who is alone, in a mother, in a brother, or in a sister. If we reject them, if we do not go out to meet them, we reject Jesus himself.


Prayer to St. Anthony

_Dear St. Anthony, you are the patron of the poor and the helper of all who seek lost articles. Help me find the object I have lost so that I will be able to make better use of the time I will gain for God’s greater honor and glory. Grant your gracious prayerful aid to all people who seek what they have lost—especially those who seek to regain God’s grace._

_Amen._

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me, the
more I will
bless you”
– Infant Jesus of Prague

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