



## Trinity Sunday

This week we celebrate the Most Holy Trinity, the rich, ethereal mystery of God's inner life as one divine nature shared between three persons. This is a profound mystery, although the veil which covers it is lifted ever so little. The Bible says that not only is our God a personal God, but that God exists as three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, while remaining one God. Our faith enables us to relish the presence and love of God even though it is beyond our understanding.

The Holy Trinity, the inner self-communication of God, is a profound mystery of faith: how God can be one divinity, shared between three persons. We can only fumble in the dark in search of glimmers of light. In the gospels, the number three symbolises completeness and perfect symmetry, and re-appears at key moments of the Christ story. His life itself reflected the mystery of Trinity. Three figures make up the nativity scene in Bethlehem, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Their first visitors were the three wise men. Later, in the desert preparing for his public life, Jesus was tempted three times by the devil. A good story should have a beginning, a middle and an end. For Jesus, the storyteller par excellence, three figures often feature in his parables. The Prodigal Son is about a father and his two sons; the Good Samaritan tells of the behaviour of three passers-by, the priest, the Levite and the Samaritan; the sower sowed his seed in three different types of terrain, yielding three different levels of harvest. The end of his life, as the beginning, has again the three-motif. During his Passion, Peter denied him thrice. The crucifixion scene has three figures, Christ between two thieves. Before his resurrection, he spent three days in the tomb.

Holy Trinity Sunday invites us to welcome the Spirit who breathes out the Father and Jesus the Son: "You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit who will come upon you and thus you will be my witnesses." This Spirit is God's love, the breath that the Father and Jesus the Son share, the power, the impulse and the vital energy that will make us his co-workers in the service of the grand project of the Holy Trinity.