

Celebrating a Liturgy of the Word with Family Trinity Sunday

Activities for children, leading up to Trinity Sunday: children could go for a hunting walk - finding groups of 3 (e.g. clover leaves) or the numeral 3 (e.g. letterboxes) / find Mt Sinai on a map / colour or make a trinity symbol <http://sweetclipart.com/triquetra-symbol-line-art-2118> / create a dance using the idea of 3 is one.

Preparation – allow some time to prepare

- Read through the outline beforehand
- Arrange seating and set a prayer focus in the centre. Include 3 in 1 symbols – (e.g. clover or other leaves) as part of your prayer focus, or anything children have prepared or made.
- There are some links to open beforehand. A song at the beginning, and end, a psalm. Two links for the reflection after the Gospel.
- Share the reader role. Encourage your readers to practice beforehand and pause for commas and full-stops. Don't correct children as they are reading or during the Liturgy.

SONG: Trinity Song © Frank Andersen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDpz-GZ2O2I>

SIGN OF THE CROSS: In name of the Father... OR Ki te ingoa.... Haere mai! Welcome. Today is Trinity Sunday. This is a wonderful day because we are reminded that God is love and that love flows out from God like a great river and covers everyone and everything. Even now, God's love covers and fills each of us.

READER Let us praise the wonder of God in this litany.

Wonderful God	All Glory to you.
You are three,	All Glory to you.
And you are one.	All Glory to you.
You delight to give us life.	All Glory to you.
All life comes from you,	All Glory to you.
And dwells within you.	All Glory to you.
You enfold us in your love.	All Glory to you.
In you we live and move,	All Glory to you.
And have our being.	All Glory to you.
In you is love,	All Glory to you.
Which never ends.	All Glory to you.
How tenderly you love	All Glory to you.
Each and every one.	All Glory to you.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Amen.

READER Look at the bone carving. Do you think this is a good symbol of the Holy Trinity? Discuss.

COLLECT - READER Let's bring to mind all we want to pray for. (*Allow silence, 1 minute*)

Wonderful God, there are many things we need to pray for; please listen to us. Help us to know what to do and have the strength to do what is right. We pray to you Father, through Jesus Christ your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

First READING: Exodus 34:4-6,8-9 *International Children's Bible*

READER 1 So Moses cut two stone tablets like the first ones. Then early the next morning he went up Mount Sinai.

READER 2 He did this just as the Lord had commanded him. Moses carried the two stone tablets with him.



READER 1 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with Moses. And the Lord called out his name, 'the Lord.'

READER 2 The Lord passed in front of Moses and said, 'I am the Lord. The Lord is a God who shows mercy and is kind.'

READER 1 'The Lord doesn't become angry quickly. The Lord has great love and faithfulness.'

READER 2 Then Moses quickly bowed to the ground and worshiped.

READER 1 Moses said, 'Lord, if you are pleased with me, please go with us.'

READER 2 I know that these are stubborn people. But forgive our evil and our sin. Take us as your own people.'

The Word of the Lord

ALL Thanks be to God

Follow the reading with silence. Let some words from the reading, go over and over in your mind.

Discuss: What did God say?

PSALM:

Let's sing – Glory and Praise to our God - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YculmbiRhME> [Chords](#)

Glory and praise to our God
Who alone gives light to
our days
Many are the blessings
he bears
To those who trust in His
ways

1. We the daughters and sons of Him
Who built the valleys and plains
Praise the wonders our God has done
In every heart that sings

2. In His wisdom He strengthens us
Like gold that's tested in fire
Though the power of sin prevails
Our God is there to save

3. Every moment of every day
Our God is waiting to save
Always ready to seek the lost
To answer those who pray

4. God has watered our barren land
And spent his merciful rain.
Now the rivers of life run full
For anyone to drink

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 International Children's Bible

READER – A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Now, brothers and sisters, I say good-bye.

Live in harmony.

Do what I have asked you to do.

Agree with each other, and live in peace.

Then the God of love and peace will be with you.

Give each other a holy kiss when you greet each other.

All of God's holy people send greetings to you.

The Word of the Lord

ALL Thanks be to God

Follow the reading with silence. Let some words from the reading, go over and over in your mind.

Discuss: what does 'live in harmony' mean?

GOSPEL: John 3:16-18 International Children's Bible

READER A reading from the Gospel of John.

ALL Glory to you O Lord.

READER 1 Who did Jesus speak to?

READER 2 Jesus spoke to Nicodemus:

READER 1 What did Jesus tell Nicodemus?

READER 2 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.

READER 1 Why did God give Jesus to the world?

READER 2 God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.

READER 1 *Was there anything God did not send Jesus to do?*

READER 2 God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world guilty, but to save the world through him. Anyone who believes in God's Son is not judged guilty.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL Thanks be to God.

Follow the reading with silence. Let some words from the reading, go over and over in your mind.

Discuss: What did Jesus want Nicodemus to understand.

REFLECTION:

READER A long time ago, people used the word perichoresis to help them understand the Trinity. The prefix 'peri' is used in perimeter and periscope. 'Peri' means around. Choresis gives us the word choreography. Choreography means dance. Listen to the priest talk about this idea in this video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLjiofPwiyA>

Now, let's join this dance with these dancing Franciscans. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7xL5vKDloI>

Prayer of the Faithful:

READER: Let us pray together. God wants us to pray for the needs of the whole world.

The response to the petitions is, 'and renew the dance of love.' Lord send out your Spirit, **All** and renew

For the Church – that we will be inspired by the love of the Holy Trinity and listen to each other, and learn how to come to agreement and live in peace.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For people of all Christian denominations – that they will look for ways to renew bonds of friendship and worship.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For national and international leaders– that they will work for peace and find peaceful ways to end violence.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For the United States of America – that violence will end and they will become a country where people of all races, colours and nationalities are respected equally.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For countries and peoples struggling with Covid-19 – that leaders support and protect people who are physically, emotionally and financially vulnerable, especially in poor countries.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For health professionals – that those who have served their communities so selflessly during the pandemic, understand that their service is a service of love, and a share in the work of the Holy Trinity.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

For our own faith communities – that we learn to see the poor, the hungry, the hurting and the homeless in our midst, and respond to their needs.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord send out your Spirit **All:** And renew the dance of love.

ALL We make these prayers through Jesus the Son. Amen.

READER: And now let us pray together as Jesus taught us: Choose Māori or English
Māori at this link <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/mass-readings-in-te-reo/>

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

E to mātou Matua i te rangi,
kia whakatapua tōu Ingoa,
kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga,...
kia whakaritea tōu hiahia
i te whenua, kia pērā anō i to te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Whakakāhoretia ō mātou hara,
me mātou e whakakore nei,
i ngā hara o te hunga,
e hara ana ki a mātou;
kaua mātou e tukua, kia whakawaia,
engari, whakaorangia, mātou i te kino.

Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha me te
korōria mo āke, āke. Amene

COLLECTION:

READER: Something that Christian people do is support people who need help. There are lots of people who need help. Let's talk about who needs help and what we could do to help them.

- **Your Parish:** your parish and presbytery still have operating costs.
- **The Caring Foundation Covid-19 appeal** to donate, click [here](#)
- **Catholic Social Services Auckland** to donate, click [here](#)
- **The Catholic aid agency Caritas** to support their work, click [here](#)
- **St Vincent de Paul** contact your parish or click [here](#)

READER: Thank you for your participation in today's Liturgy of the Word. Let us remember that God is a 'dance around of love.' Let us seek to imitate God in all we do, and become people who learn to dance the steps of love. Let us be loving in all our ways, to family, friends and strangers. let us learn to love as Jesus showed us to love. Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you. May God bless you and your family and all whom you love.

All: Thanks be to God.

DANCE: Let's finish by dancing together. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-wJ7n1KL7Y>

Extras

Trinity dance - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHHrmPC1KsY&t=5s>

Richard Rohr - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvtnoDQXBYw>

Prayer of the Trinity – Gaelic - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2VpTJx5F1c>