



Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

[Supersedes 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C]

† **Sunday 16th June 2019**

In England and Wales Cycle of Prayer

For those who suffer persecution, oppression or denial of human rights

Keynote: In praise of One God – Father, Son and Spirit

Book of Proverbs 8: 22-31

In this hymn to divine wisdom, wisdom is depicted as a faithful guide in life to encourage us in the pursuit of wisdom. Spoken, as if Wisdom were a real person, Wisdom speaks: *'The Lord created me when his purpose first unfolded, before the oldest of works... from the beginning, before earth came into being.'* Christians interpret this personal Wisdom as being a reference to God himself and many identify this personal wisdom, with the Word made Flesh. So Wisdom says *'before earth came into being... there were no springs to gush with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I came to birth... before he made the earth, the countryside I was there... I was by his side, a master craftsman... delighting to be with the sons of men.'*

Responsorial Psalm 8 (8) – God is great through all the earth!

Letter of Paul to the Romans 5: 1-5

The apostle Paul sets out his understanding of salvation: *'It is by faith and through Jesus Christ that we have entered this state of grace... because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.'* So our present justification is a matter of the now, not merely something for tomorrow. It is 'proved' to us by the presence of God in our hearts. Rightly this is something we can boast about with a deep sense of gratitude. This is the good news we have – good news to share with others: *'because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.'*

Gospel according to John 16: 12-15

Following the resurrection, the risen Lord appeared to the disciples on a number of occasions. The disciples encountered a physical – but somehow different person – of the risen Jesus, who ate and spoke with them, who was somehow very real to them. In this passage, Jesus encourages the disciples to face the future without his physical presence. He assures them that they will not be left alone. *'When the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you to the complete truth... and he will tell you of the things to come.'* These words of Jesus also reveal the three persons of God, for *'Everything the Father has is mine... and the Spirit of truth... will lead you to the complete truth.'* The 'complete truth' – for there is still so much we do not yet fully understand about the mystery of God!

© 2019 Peter J Harrison

[NOTE: Weekday Readings from the Lectionary Week 11 readings cycle 2; Psalter 3]