



## Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

† Sunday 27th May 2018

In England & Wales

Cycle of Prayer – Human Life

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

### Book of Deuteronomy 4: 32-34, 39-40

Moses speaks to Israel reminding them of their uniqueness as God's People, and of the unique nature of their Lord God. *'From the time God created mankind on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic... was anything ever heard... did ever a people hear the voice of the living God... as you heard it, and remain alive?'* In contrast with the false and pagan deities of their neighbours, the Lord God of Israel is unique and all-powerful. *'Understand this today,'* Moses says *'take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep God's laws and commandments... so you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord God gives you forever.'*

**Responsorial Psalm 32(33)** – a joyful song to the Creator, in thanksgiving

### Letter of Paul to the Romans 8: 14-17

Paul – the Pharisee, trained in the religion of the Old Testament with its trust in an awesome and terrible God – now writes as a disciple of Jesus to remind his readers of the intimate, almost familiar presence of God in their lives. *'Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves... it is the spirit of sons.'* For the apostle Paul, the contrast between being a slave or son, could not be greater, for God is now an intimate friend – a loving 'father figure'. The Spirit: *'makes us cry our Abba! Father!'* This use of the familiar phrase 'Abba, Father' is like a child calling God with an intimate name like "Daddy" or "Papa". The Christian, truly a child of God, and loved by God is called to *'share the sufferings of Christ so as to share his glory.'*

### Gospel according to Matthew 28: 16-20

This episode, in the days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, has echoes that remind us of the Transfiguration – maybe the event takes place on the very same mountain – the Lord Jesus greets his disciples: *'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you.'* If we are fearful of the task entrusted to us, we have the Lord Jesus' assurance: *'And know that I am with you always – yes, to the end of time.'* This text sums up the content of Matthew's gospel account, with its reference to the past, the present and to the future, and to the fulfilment of all that had been written.

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