



## Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity May 31, 2015

### Sunday Liturgy Guide for the Church of the Poor in the Spirit of the New Evangelization

**The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, serves God's Reign by being the conscience of all through solidarity with the poor for the freedom of all.**

On this Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, the Church is inviting us to contemplate on this summary of Trinitarian faith entrusted by St. Gregory of Nazianzus to the catechumens of Constantinople: "...the profession of faith.. I give you but one divinity and power, existing one in three, and containing three in a distinct way. Divinity without disparity of substance or nature, without superior degree that raises up or inferior degree that casts down... the infinite co-naturality of three infinities. Each person considered in himself is entirely God ...” (CCC 256). In this spirit let us

continue to reflect on the Church as Discipleship in Community, this time as Church of the Poor, articulated by the PCP-II. Listen to what PCP-II has to say:

#### “C.5 The Church of the Poor

**What then is the ‘Church of the Poor’?**

(136) When the Church in the Philippines become truly the Church of the Poor, the poor will feel at home in her, and will participate actively, as equal to others, in her life and mission. The Church will then become truly a communion, a sign and instrument for the unity of the whole Filipino nation.”

Isn't this summary statement of PCP-II on the Church of the Poor reflective of the reality of our Philippine Church today? That she is not yet a Church of the Poor, nor a poor Church for the poor? What shall we concretely do to implement the acts and decrees of PCP-II in this regard?■

## Entrance Antiphon

*Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.*

## Introductory Rites

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*C: Amen*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*C: And with your spirit.*

## Introduction and Welcome

P: Dear brothers and sisters: today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Let us rejoice in the presence of the Spirit in us that, through baptism, has enabled us to share in the loving communion of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We pray for one another that we become more conscious of our identity as children of God: first and foremost, heirs of God's Kingdom, and therefore, called to live and act according to the commandments and laws of this Kingdom, and, secondarily only, according to the laws and regulations of any nation or state on earth.

## Penitential Act

P: Brethren (brothers and sisters), to prepare ourselves to celebrate worthily these great sacred mysteries, let us now acknowledge our sins, and ask God for pardon and strength:

P: I confess..

*C: to almighty God...to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

P: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*C: Amen.*

P: Lord, have mercy.

*C: Lord, have mercy.*

P: Christ, have mercy.

*C: Christ, have mercy.*

P: Lord, have mercy.

*C: Lord, have mercy*

## Gloria

Glory to God in the highest Glory to God in the Highest!

And on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Collect

P: Let us pray: God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification made known to the human race your wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

*C: Amen.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading: Deut 4:32-34, 39-40

L: The First Reading is taken from the Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: "Ask now of the days of old, before your time, ever since God created man upon the earth; ask from one end of the sky to the other: Did

anything so great ever happen before? Was it ever heard of? Did a people ever hear the voice of God speaking from the midst of fire, as you did, and live? Or did any god venture to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by testings, by signs and wonders, by war, with strong hand and outstretched arm, and by great terrors, all of which the LORD, your God, did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? This is why you must now know, and fix in your heart, that the LORD is God in the heavens above and on earth below, and that there is no other. You must keep his statutes and commandments that I enjoin on you today, that you and your children after you may prosper, and that you may have long life on the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you forever.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **Commentary on Deut 4:32-34, 39-40:**

This is an exhortation of Moses to his people, probably composed by the Deuteronomistic editor in the time of king Hezekiah (716-687 BCE). At that period, the Northern Kingdom of Israel fell to the Assyrians. Some refugees from that destruction went down and lived in the Southern Kingdom of Judah, probably in the city of Jerusalem. When Assyria's power waned, Hezekiah thought this was the opportune moment to retake the Northern Kingdom and establish one nation once again. But there had to be reforms in the moral and religious fibers of the people which must be evident in the socio-political-economic structures of society. From the refugees came this Deuteronomistic interpretation of history: the reason why the Northern Kingdom fell was because of its failure to follow the Law of Yahweh. Therefore, to return to Yahweh as the only God, the people must reject idolatry and worship of gods; they must return to Yahweh, live by his

laws of justice and re-construct a society based on his egalitarian commandments. The final Deuteronomistic editor placed this exhortation into the mouth of Moses to ground the reform in Mosaic Law and tradition. In this sense, Moses has become the conscience of the people!

#### **Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22**

***R: Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the Lord the earth is full.

***R: Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made; by the breath of his mouth all their host. For he spoke, and it was made; he commanded, and it stood forth.

***R: Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

***R: Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield. May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

***R: Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

#### **Commentary on Ps 33:**

This song of praise acclaims the creative power of the word of the Lord: nature (the heavens, the earth and the seas) and human history are of his own making. Hope is the lure of the future: to see God and experience his help and his kindness, the deliverance from death and famine.

#### **Second Reading: Rom 8:14-17**

L: The second reading is taken from Letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: For those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry, “Abba, Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

### **Commentary on Rom 8:14-17**

The text is still grounded in the question: “who will liberate me from this mortal condition?” (Rom 7:24). The answer now: Christ who has gifted me with the Holy Spirit. And the great revelation: the Holy Spirit has made us all children of God, by adoption. Through the Spirit we are empowered and ennobled to proclaim and to go to God as “Abba, Father”. By this we are made heirs of God, and co-inheritors of Christ. This being children and heirs of God makes us also sharers in his passion and glory. There is no other way.

### **Alleluia Verse: Rev 1:8**

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.** Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Gospel: Matt 28:16-20**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus said to his disciples: “When the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus

approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.*

### **Commentary on Matt 28:16-20**

In five verses, Matthew has constructed a scene that reveals who Jesus is (Christology) and what the Church is about (Ecclesiology). Jesus is God-with-us – Emmanuel – (Matt 1,24) is now reiterated: behold I am with you always, until the end of the age – in the history of the peoples of the world. Hence, the Church is now constituted by the whole humanity, without limits in space and time in human history, beyond the limited circle of the disciples. Her task is to proclaim the death and resurrection of the Lord, which, since “all power in heaven and on earth has been given to me”, means the Reign of God. The Church is in the service of God’s Reign. Therefore, the mission of the Church impels her to go out and baptize everyone into the communion of love in the Holy Trinity. Take note: the Reign of God is absolutely and indissolubly linked with the poor and the marginalized. Therefore, her actions – the actions of the members of the Church – should not depart from the historical actuations of Jesus: solidarity with one another and freedom and liberation for all.

Join Fr. Ben Alforque, MSC of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in **GOSPEL BREAK**, a short yet entertaining and insightful discussion of this Sunday’s Gospel on YouTube. Visit [gospelbreak.wordpress.com](http://gospelbreak.wordpress.com). Or scan this QR code with your Smartphone or tablet.



**Homily: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, serves God’s Reign by being the conscience of all through solidarity with the poor for the freedom of all.**

Summary of the Sunday Reading Message	Concrete description of the poor people and their situation	Reflection/ Points for reflection/ Call/ Challenge
The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, serves God’s Reign by being the conscience of all through solidarity with the poor for the freedom of all.	In your BEC and parish, who do you know are the undernourished and malnourished children? Why are they so? What is the impact of undernourishment/ malnourishment on the growth of these children? What can you do/ have you done?	“The Holy Spirit has made us all children of God, by adoption, in Christ Jesus.” “The Reign of God is indissolubly linked with the poor and the marginalized and their struggle.”

**Profession of Faith:**

**General Intercessions**

P: Dear sisters and brothers, on this Feast of the Holy Trinity, let us humbly and confidently raise our voices in prayer to our heavenly Father. For every prayer let our response be: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

L: Let us pray for the Church: that being a Church of the Poor spread all over the world, she may continue to serve God’s Reign by being the conscience of all

through solidarity with the poor for the freedom of all. Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

L: For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for the bishops, priests, deacons, for those in consecrated life and for all those who are entrusted with the care and administration of the church as People of God: that they will continue to work for the realization of the Church of the Poor, where “the poor will feel at home in her, and will participate actively, as equal to others, in her life and mission.” Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

L: For world leaders and all those entrusted with governance and administration of the goods of the earth: that they make laws, policies and structures that will help eradicate the malnutrition and undernourishment of children, promote the mental, physical, spiritual and moral well-being of the youth and prepare them for leadership and community life of the future. Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

L: For all of us, inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven: that we may live our lives according to the values of the new life lived in common by educating one another on the care for the environment, the causes of climate change and global warming and by finding effective ways and advocacies to transform wastes into useful materials to sustain life and the ecology. Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

L: For our beloved dead: that in the forgiveness of their sins, they may find eternal rest in the heart of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

**5** L: For our special intentions, in the

silence of our hearts. (*pause*)... Let us pray to the Lord.

**R: Lord, lead us to communion with the Blessed Trinity.**

P: Lord, these are the prayers we present to you today. On this Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, teach us to grow in love and communion with you, with one another and with the whole creation, by the inspiration and prodding of your Spirit. We ask this through same Christ our Risen Lord.

R: *Amen.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, ....

C: *Blessed be God forever.*

P: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

C: *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.*

### Prayer over the Offerings

P: Sanctify by the invocation of your name, we pray, O Lord our God, this oblation of our service, and by it make of us an eternal offering to you. Through Christ our Lord.

C: *Amen.*

### Prayer of the Eucharist

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: *It is right and just.*

P: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For with your Only Begotten Son and the

Holy Spirit you are one God, one Lord: not in the unity of a single person, but in a Trinity of one substance.

For what you have revealed to us of your glory we believe equally of your Son and of the Holy Spirit, so that, in the confessing of the true and eternal Godhead, you might be adored in what is proper to each Person, their unity in substance, and their equality in majesty.

For this is praised by Angels and Archangels, Cherubim, too, and Seraphim, who never cease to cry out each day, as with one voice they acclaim:

A: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

### Acclamation

P: The mystery of faith.

**Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.**

*(Concluding the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest says:)*

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

C: *Amen.*

### Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

### Doxology

C: *For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.*

### Sign of Peace

P: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your

Apostles; Peace ... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

*C: Amen.*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*C: And with your spirit.*

P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*A: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world ... grant us peace.*

### **Communion**

P: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*A: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.*

### **Communion Antiphon Gal 4:6**

*Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: Let us pray: May receiving this Sacrament, O Lord our God, bring us health of body and soul, as we confess your eternal holy Trinity and undivided Unity. Through Christ our Lord.

*C: Amen.*

### **Final Blessing**

P: The Lord be with you.

*C: And with your spirit.*

P: Bow down for the blessing: May your family always rejoice together, O God, over the mysteries of redemption they have celebrated, and grant its members the perseverance to attain the effects that flow from them. Through Christ our

Lord.

*C: Amen.*

P: And may the blessings of almighty God, + the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever.

*C: Amen.*

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace of Christ.

*C: Thanks be to God. ■*

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