# Devotion for the Feast and Triduum of the Most Holy Trinity



# **INTRODUCTION**

It was considered appropriate in the Late Middle Ages that the Octave Day of Pentecost should honour the whole Trinity of God because the Blessed Trinity is the crown of each Person of God, and the descent of the Holy Ghost in the liturgical calendar completes the salvific work of the Father (honoured traditionally in Advent), Jesus (honoured from Christmastide to the Ascension) and the Holy Ghost (honoured at Pentecost). In addition, every Sunday commemorates the Blessed Trinity, as, on a Sunday, God created the world, Jesus completed the redemption of man; and the Holy Spirit descended to found the Church. In the Middle Ages, Sundays were dedicated to the Trinity of God and votive Masses of the Blessed Trinity were assigned to Sunday. This led to very serious abuses, for some priests celebrated such Masses in place of the Sunday Mass of the Season. Eventually, the offering of any votive Mass on a Sunday was forbidden, and votives of the Most Blessed Trinity were re-assigned to Monday (even though Sunday remains the proper day of the Blessed Trinity; and Monday, the proper day of the Holy Spirit). However, the problem was also resolved in 1334 by promoting just one votive Mass of the Holy Trinity to the rank of a Solemn Feast of the same title. The season following this Mass became known in Northern Europe as 'Trinitytide'. It lasts from Trinity Sunday until Advent. So the votive Mass of the Holy Trinity which we have today was not

derived from the feastday Mass of the Holy Trinity: it was the other way around.

In time, the fathers of the Church came to realise that there was a convenient period of three days connecting the Feast of the Blessed Trinity to the august Feast of Corpus Christi (which had been instituted universally in 1264). There was already established various tridua to celebrate the greatest feasts on the calendar, so a new one was devised. It allows for special devotion to the Trinity on Trinity Sunday, to God the Almighty Father on the Monday following, then to Christ on the Tuesday, and finally to the Holy Spirit on Wednesday. Hence, in each day of the triduum, one Person of God is especially honoured. But these are days of devotion: the three following the feastday cannot be feasts assigned to those sacred Persons. The reason is that the Holy Ghost already has His feast one week before this time; and the premier Feast of Jesus Christ must be Easter. Most importantly of all, it is considered blasphemous to celebrate a Feast of God the Father. While He is equal to the Son and the Holy Ghost in terms of power, knowledge and presence, He is greater than the other Persons in terms of dignity: He is the very dignity of the Godhead Himself. It is in this sense that Jesus says, "The Father is greater than I". We do not have a Feast of the Almighty Father because He must be honoured equally every day: all days are His continuous feastday. There is only one church dedicated to the Heavenly Father (it is in Rome) because every church is dedicated to Him, to the very dignity of the Godhead.

A post-Trinity Triduum is careful, therefore, not to establish feasts; instead, it recommends days of devotion to each Person of God and always in the glory of the entire Society of the Blessed Trinity. The Trinity is a Society and a Family, and God therefore instates a model for human society and human families. We may also dedicate the Rosary to the glorification of each Person of the Blessed Trinity. We can ask our Lady to intercede that all the peoples of the world come to see that God is their Eternal Father and has Fatherly qualities, for example. The Father is usually worshipped as Creator; the Son, as Redeemer; the Holy Ghost, as Sanctifier; and the Blessed Trinity, as Perfect Being. Following is a traditional devotion to the Blessed Trinity and to each divine Person.

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### DEVOTION FOR TRINITY SUNDAY AND THE TRIDUUM FOLLOWING

Each day, chant or recite the following hymn, Act of Adoration, and Plea, with following Pater, Ave and three Glorys.

## Hymn: My God, How Wonderful Thou Art!

My God, how wonderful Thou art! Thy Majesty, how bright! How beautiful Thy mercy-seat In depths of burning light!

How dread are Thine eternal years, O everlasting Lord! By prostrate spirits day and night Incessantly adored.

How wonderful, how beautiful The sight of Thee must be, Thine endless wisdom, boundless power, And awful purity!

O how I fear Thee, living God, With deepest, tend'rest fears, And worship Thee with trembling hope And penitential tears!

Yet I may love Thee too, O Lord, Almighty as Thou art; For Thou hast stooped to ask of me The love of my poor heart.

No earthly father loves like Thee, No mother half so mild Bears and forbears as Thou hast done With me, Thy sinful child. Only to sit and think of God, Oh, what a joy it is! To think the thought, to breathe the Name, Earth has no higher bliss.

> Father of Jesus, love's Reward, What rapture will it be, Prostrate before Thy throne to lie, And gaze and gaze on Thee!

### Act of Adoration of the Blessed Trinity of God

Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity! We will confess to Him, for He hath dealt mercifully with us. O Lord, our Lord, how admirable is Thy Name in the whole earth! Blessed art Thou, O Lord, Who broodest upon the deeps, and sittest upon the cherubic throne. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, in the firmament of Heaven, and throughout all ages to be praised. Thee, O God, the unbegotten Father; Thee, the onlybegotten Son; Thee, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; Thee, the Holy and undivided Trinity: we do confess and praise and bless Thee, for Thou art most great and doest the greatest wonders; Thou art God alone. To Thee be praise; to Thee, glory; to Thee, thanksgiving: for everlasting ages, O blessed Trinity! Blessed be God the Father; blessed be God the Son; blessed be God the Holy Ghost: for He hath dealt mercifully with us. We invoke Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee, O Blessed Trinity! Thou art our hope, our salvation, our honour, O Blessed Trinity! Deliver us, save us, quicken us, O Blessed Trinity! The Father is charity; the Son, grace; the Holy Spirit, divine inspiration: O Blessed Trinity! The Father is truth; the Son is truth; the Holy Ghost is truth: O Blessed Trinity! The Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are one substance, O Blessed Trinity! Blessed art Thou, O Lord, in the firmament of Heaven, and to be praised through all ages. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts! Amen. Amen.

#### Plea

Let us unite ourselves with the nine choirs of angels and with the blessed saints and holy souls who, in lifetime, had most devotion to the adorable mystery of the ever-blessed Trinity. One *Pater*, one *Ave*, three Glorys.

Now pray one Address each day, as follows. Once this is done, say the prayers which follow the next horizontal line.

# HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY: ADDRESS TO THE BLESSED TRINITY

Most merciful and adorable Trinity: with our lips, with our hearts, with all our strength, we exalt Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee. We render endless thanks unto Thee for Thy clemency and Thy goodness, and we extol Thee in the hymn of Thy glory: Holy, holy, holy! We beseech Thee to enter into our souls to make them temples worthy of Thy Majesty. We pour forth our humblest supplications to the eternal Father, to the divine Son and to the Holy Spirit, beseeching Thee, O most Holy Trinity, to remove from us all that is evil, and to establish in our souls all the virtues of the Gospel. Keep us, O most Blessed Trinity, for we are the work of Thy hands; keep us, for we hope in Thee, and our only confidence rests in the infinitude of Thy mercy; keep us, here and everywhere, within and without, now and forever. O Lord God omnipotent, Three and One!: help us, we beseech Thee, for Thou art the defender and protector of those that trust in Thee, and without Whom there is no salvation. Thou art the true God, and there is no God but Thee, neither in Heaven nor on earth nor in the deeps; and Thou alone workest wonderful and inscrutable things, of which there is no number. O most majestic Trinity, to Thee belongeth all glory, all honour, all hymns of praise. To Thee, the angels sing their songs of jubilee, with all the Heavens and the powers that are therein. All creatures adore and bless Thee as their Creator, their Lord and their King. Every spirit exalteth Thee, O holy and undivided Trinity; and we, the humblest of Thy creatures, joining in the adorations of all Thine elect, invoke, revere and adore Thee, now and for evermore. *Amen*.

### MONDAY AFTER TRINITY SUNDAY: ADDRESS TO GOD THE ALMIGHTY FATHER

O eternal and unbegotten Father, to Whom all prayer riseth; O Lord God, first Person of the most adorable Trinity: have mercy upon us vile sinners, have mercy upon all Thy creatures. We offer to Thee, O eternal Father, Thy beloved Son Jesus as a full expiation for all our sins and the sins of the whole world, in union with that unspeakable charity wherewith Thou didst vouchsafe to send Him to be our Saviour. We offer Thee His most holy Incarnation, life, Passion and death; his incomparable virtues; and all He did or suffered for us. We offer Thee His toils, cares, pains and His most Precious Blood, together with the merits of His most holy Virgin Mother and all His saints. Help us, we beseech Thee, most merciful Father, through this Thy Son, in the virtue of the Holy Ghost. Be with us miserable sinners, and pitifully recall us to the way of salvation. Give to all the living Thy pardon and grace; and to the faithful departed, rest and light eternal. Amen.

### TUESDAY AFTER TRINITY SUNDAY: ADDRESS TO GOD THE SON, OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST

O eternal and only-begotten Son, second Person of the most Holy Trinity, and our most loving Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Who didst come down from Heaven to convert sinners, to redeem slaves, to set free prisoners, to console the afflicted, to unite the scattered, and to bring into the right way all who had gone astray: vouchsafe to bestow unto us Thy most abundant charity. Thou hast received from the eternal Father the human race for Thy charge. Keep us safe, we beseech Thee, from all our enemies, visible and invisible. Protect and deliver us, as Thou didst protect Peter from shipwreck and Paul from chains. Assist us, O divine Defend us, O uncreated Strength! By Thy Wisdom! goodness, by Thine immensity, by Thy divinity, by Thine omnipotence, we beseech Thee to grant unto us a most loving devotion to Thine unutterable dignity as the eternal Word. Guard us, O great Shepherd of men; save us, O Saviour of the universe! Do this, we implore Thee, by Thy Nativity; by Thy bitter Passion; by Thy painful agony; by the nails, the lance, the thorns, the scourges, the vinegar and gall; by the words Thou spakest on the Cross; by all the weariness and toil which Thou didst bear in life as well as in death. Deliver us from all evils of soul and body; whether from past, present or to come; both temporal and eternal. Do this, we beseech Thee, O Saviour of the world, by the merits of Thy most Precious Blood, by Thy blessed Resurrection, by Thy marvellous Ascension, and by Thy glory at the right hand of the eternal Father, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all praise, blessing and adoration, through everlasting ages. Amen.

# WEDNESDAY AFTER TRINITY SUNDAY: ADDRESS TO GOD THE HOLY GHOST, THE SANCTIFIER OF MANKIND

O eternal Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son, third Person of the adorable Trinity, eternal love of the Father and the Son, sweet fire of the seraphim and cherubim, vouchsafe to descend into our hearts and to illuminate them with Thy splendour. Thou art the true light of every soul, the light and strength of every heart. Thou didst give unto the apostles the knowledge of those truths which they preached unto the world. Thou gavest them the zeal whereby they propagated the Faith. It was from Thee that the martyrs drew that invincible constancy to despise the most fearful torments, and that holy liberty of speech to rebuke the proudest tyrants. Thou didst endow the prophets with the knowledge of wonderful secrets, and didst lay in the patriarchs the foundations of the Catholic Faith. From Thee, the saints obtained all good will, which inspired all good deeds, with all their other graces, gifts and prerogatives: all didst flow from Thine immense goodness. Come down, O Lord, and quicken us, and melt the ice of our hearts with Thy most ardent charity. Come, Fount of grace and Source of Heavenly flames: purify us and set us on fire with love, that we may die to self and live for Thee alone. Dissipate in us every spirit which is alien to Thee, or hinders Thy coming. Take away all that is displeasing to Thee; take away all that is not inspired by Thee. Enrich us with Thy gifts; illumine us with Thy light;

quicken our understanding; kindle our wills; wash away what is unclean; and heal what is infirm. Strengthen our weakness; instruct our ignorance; inflame our tepidity; fertilise our barrenness; nourish us with Thy sweetness; and console us with Thy tenderness. Thou art our comfort and our hope; Thou art our consolation and our joy; Thou art our strength and our science; Thou art the sanctification of our hearts, the pardon of our sins, and the death of our evil habits. Thou art the life and food of every virtue. Visit us in Thy benignity, most merciful Paraclete; take possession of our inmost affections, O divine love; and leave no part in us which is not penetrated, possessed and sanctified by Thee. *Amen*.

*Every day, close with the following hymn, versicles and response, collect and benediction.* 

### Hymn: Have mercy on us, God most high

Have mercy on us, God most high, Who lift our hearts to Thee; Have mercy on us worms of earth, Most holy Trinity;

Most ancient of all mysteries, Before Thy throne we lie; Have mercy now, most merciful, Most holy Trinity. When Heaven and earth were yet unmade, When time was yet unknown, Thou in Thy bliss and majesty Didst live and love alone;

Thou wert not born, there was no fount From which Thy Being flowed; There is no end which Thou canst reach, But Thou art simply God.

How wonderful creation is! The work that Thou didst bless; And, oh!, what then must Thou be like, Eternal Loveliness!

Most ancient of all mysteries, Still at Thy throne we lie; Have mercy now, most merciful, Most holy Trinity.

- $\checkmark$ . O Lord, hear our prayer.
- $\mathbf{R}$ . And let our cry come unto Thee.

#### Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, Who hast granted Thy servants in the confession of the true Faith, to acknowledge the glory of an eternal Trinity, and in the power of Thy majesty, to adore a Unity: we beseech Thee that, by the strength of this Faith, we may be defended from all adversity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

### Benediction

May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father  $\blacksquare$  and the Son and the Holy Ghost descend upon us and remain with us always. *Amen.* 

Close this devotion by reciting the Litany of the Holy Trinity on Sunday, the Litany of God the Father on Monday, the Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus on Tuesday and the Principal Litany of the Holy Ghost on Wednesday.

# LITANY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

(approved for private use only.)

# This Litany is commonly said on Sundays throughout the year except for certain special feastdays.

- Blessed be the Holy Trinity and undivided Unity; we will give glory to Him, because he hath shown His mercy unto us.
- ℣. O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name in all the earth!
- $\mathbf{R}$ . O the depth of the wisdom and of the knowledge of God!

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Blessed Trinity, hear us. Adorable Unity, graciously hear us. God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us*. God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us. God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us*. Holy Trinity, One God, &c. Father, from Whom are all things, Son, through Whom are all things, Holy Ghost, in Whom are all things, Holy and undivided Trinity, Father everlasting. Only-begotten Son of the Father, Spirit Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Co-eternal Majesty of Three Divine Persons, Father, the Creator, Son, the Redeemer, Holy Ghost, the Comforter, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,

Who art, Who wast and Who art to come, God Most High, Who inhabitest eternity, To Whom alone are due all honour and glory, Who alone doest great wonders, Power infinite, Wisdom incomprehensible, Love unspeakable,

Be merciful, *spare us*, *O Holy Trinity*. Be merciful, *graciously hear us*, *O Holy Trinity*.

From all evil, *deliver us*, *O Holy Trinity*. From all sin, *deliver us*, O Holy Trinity. From all pride, *deliver us*, *O Holy Trinity*. From all love of riches, *deliver us*, *O Holy Trinity*. From all uncleanness, &c. From all sloth, From all inordinate affection, From all envy and malice, From all anger and impatience, From every thought, word and deed contrary to Thy holy law, From Thine everlasting malediction, Through Thine almighty power, Through Thy plenteous loving kindness, Through the exceeding treasure of Thy goodness and love, Through the depths of Thy wisdom and knowledge, Through all Thy unspeakable perfections,

We sinners, *beseech Thee, hear us.* 

That we may ever serve Thee alone,

we beseech Thee, hear us.

That we may worship Thee in spirit and truth,

we beseech Thee, hear us.

That we may love Thee with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our strength, *we beseech Thee, hear us.* 

That, for Thy sake, we may love our neighbour as ourselves, &c.

That we may faithfully keep Thy holy commandments, That we may never defy our bodies and souls with sin, That we may go from grace to grace and from virtue to virtue, That we may finally enjoy the sight of Thee in glory, That Thou wouldst vouchsafe to hear us,

O Blessed Trinity, *we beseech Thee, deliver us.* O Blessed Trinity, *we beseech Thee, save us.* O Blessed Trinity, *have mercy on us.* 

# Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy*. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

### Pater (silently). Ave (silently).

- **%**. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, in the firmament of Heaven;
- **R**. And worthy to be praised, and glorious and highly exalted forever.

### Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who hast granted Thy servants in the confession of the True Faith, to acknowledge the glory of an Eternal Trinity, and in the power of Thy majesty to adore a Unity: we beseech Thee that, by the strength of this Faith, we may be defended from all adversity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

# LITANY OF GOD THE ALMIGHTY FATHER

This Litany is especially appropriate on the Sundays of Advent and on the Monday after Trinity Sunday, when devotion to God the Father is especially appropriate.

[\* Bowings are made on italicised names: a full bow for *Jesus*; a halfbow for *Mary*; a nod for the proper name of an angel or a saint.]

Lord, have mercy upon us. *Christ, have mercy upon us.* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Holy Father, *hear us*. Just Father, *graciously hear us*.

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us*. God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us*. God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us*. Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us*.

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, have mercy on us. Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Father of mercy and God of all consolation, have mercy on us. Father in Heaven, we have sinned before Thee, &c. God the Father. forever blessèd. Father, worshipped in spirit and in truth, Father, without Whom no one can come to Thy Son, Father of glory and Lord of Heaven and earth, Thou Who hast sent Thy Son into the world, Thou from Whom all fatherhood is derived in Heaven and on earth, Thou Who elected us in the Son before the creation of the world, Thou Who predestined us as sons by adoption, Thou Who hidest mysteries from the prudent and the wise and revealeth them to little children. Thou Who dost bless us with every spiritual benediction in Heaven, Thou Who dost forgive us our sins, Thou Who didst elect us that we may be holy and spotless in Thy sight, Thou Who grantest Thy good Spirit to those who entreatest Thee,

Father of Light, from Whom all good cometh, Father, the Giver of Life, Who raiseth up the dead, Father, Who seeth in secret, Eternal Farmer, Who worketh until now, Thou Who maketh the sun rise on the good and the evil, Who maketh it rain upon the just and the unjust,

Who hath numbered the very hairs of our heads,

Who didst not spare Thine own Son but

delivered Him up for all of us,

Who hast called us into the company of Thy Son,

Thou Who hast favoured us in Thy beloved Son,

Thou Who hast translated us into the Kingdom of Thy beloved Son,

Thou Who hast made us worthy to rank with the saints,

Thou Who hast called us to the wedding banquet of Thy Son,

- Thou Who hast chosen us and hast given unto us an everlasting consolation,
- Thou Who didst so love the world that Thou didst give unto us Thine only-begotten Son,
- Thou Who, with a great voice coming down from Heaven, didst exult in Thy Son,
- Thou Who art well pleased in Thy Son,
- Thou Whom it pleaseth Thee to give unto us Thy Kingdom,
- Thou Whose Face the Angels of Heaven forever gaze upon,
- Thou Who didst hand over Thy Son

that Thy servants might be redeemed,

Thou Who didst show unto us such love that we might be accounted Thy sons,

Thou Who willest that we be conformed to the image of Thy Son,

Thou Who dost reign over us and through us and in us all,

Thou Who didst prepare a kingdom for Thine elect

before the foundation of the world,

- Father of orphans and defender of widows,
- Father Who judgeth everyone according to his works without respect to person,

Thou, in Whose house there are many mansions,

Father Who art kind and patient and full of mercy,

Be merciful, spare us, O Lord. Be merciful, graciously hear us, O Lord. Be merciful, deliver us, O Lord. From all evil, O Lord, deliver us. From all sin, O Lord, deliver us. From the power of the devil, O Lord, deliver us. From every temptation and every occasion of sin, &c. From the snares of all our enemies. From anger and hatred and all ill will, From the imminent danger of sin, From every adversity and from every danger of mind and body, From everlasting damnation, Through Thy sublime knowledge, by which Thou dost plumb the abyss, By Thine immense power, by which Thou didst create all things from nothing, Through Thy gracious providence, by which Thou dost order all things, Through Thine eternal love, by which Thou dost love the world, Through Thine infinite goodness, with which Thou fillest all things, On the Day of Judgement, We sinners, we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thy Name be hallowed everywhere and always, we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thou wouldst grant unto us Thy Kingdom to come, we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thy will may be done on earth as it is in Heaven, &c. That Thou wouldst graciously give us our daily bread, That Thou wouldst graciously forgive us our trespasses, That Thou wouldst protect us under the covert of Thy wing and graciously deliver us from every temptation,

That Thou would graciously protect us from every evil,

That, because we faithfully seek, we may effectually find, Father, in the Name of Thy Son,

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *reconcileth us to the Father*.

- Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *admit us to the Father.*
- Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, after the time of this exile, show unto us the Face of Thy Father.

Holy Father, *hear us*. Father of Justice, *graciously hear us*.

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.* Lord, have mercy.

### Pater.

- 🕅 O God, our Protector,
- **ℜ** Look down upon us, and cast Thine Eyes upon the Face of Thy Christ.
- 🕅 Remember us, O Lord, in Thy good will,
- **R**: And visit us with Thy salvation.
- X Show unto us, O Lord, Thy mercy,
- **R**: And grant us Thy salvation.
- 🕅 Convert us, O Lord God, by Thy might.
- RY Show us Thy Face, and we shall be saved
- 🕅 O Lord, hear my prayer.
- **R**: And let my cry come unto Thee.

#### Let us pray.

O God, Who, by the voice of Christ, Thy Son, hast revealed that Thou art the sower who soweth the good seed and cultivateth the best branches, which are present in all the children of Thy Church: we beseech Thee to grant to Thy faithful, who are, to Thee, as a vineyard or as a cornfield, that, having rooted out the filth of all the thorns and briars, we may produce worthy fruits in abundance.

O God, Who art immutable goodness and everlasting light, look favourably upon Thy whole Church and, by Thy perpetual resolve, effectually perform with tranquility the work of man's salvation so that the entire world may see and may know that what was cast down has been raised up, what was worn out has been renewed, and that all things are restored again by Him Who created them in their bounty.

O God, Thou art the rapture of the humble and the strength of the righteous, Who, through Thine only-begotten Son, so deigned to instruct the world that every divine action was performed for our instruction: arouse in us the fervour of Thy Spirit, that what Thy Son taught vigorously by word and example we may be able to imitate entirely.

O God, Who willeth that the faithful be united in mind and will, grant that we may love what Thou dost enjoin and desire what Thou dost promise, and that, despite the ever-changing vicissitudes of this world, our hearts may be fixed on Thee, where true joy doth reside for evermore.

O God, from Whom all good things proceed, grant unto Thy suppliants that, by Thine inspiration, we may think what is good and, under Thy direction, act in like manner. Through our Lord *Jesus* Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. *Amen*.

- X O Lord, hear my prayer.
- **R**: And let my cry come unto Thee.
- $\mathbf{X}$  Let us bless the Lord.
- **R**: Thanks be to God.
- X And may the souls of the faithful departed,
  - through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
- R Amen.

### THE LITANY OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear us. *Jesus*, graciously hear us. God, the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us*. God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us*. God, the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Splendour of the Father, *have mercy on us*. Jesus, Brightness of Eternal Light, have mercy on us. Jesus, King of Glory, &c. Jesus, Sun of Justice, Jesus, Son of the Virgin Mary, Jesus, most amiable, Jesus, most admirable, Jesus, mighty God, Jesus, Father of the world to come, Jesus, Angel of the great counsel, Jesus, most powerful, Jesus, most patient, Jesus, most obedient, Jesus, meek and humble of heart, Jesus, Lover of chastity, Jesus. Lover of us. Jesus, God of peace, Jesus, Author of life. Jesus, Model of virtues, Jesus, zealous for souls. Jesus, our God. Jesus, our refuge, Jesus, Father of the poor, Jesus, Treasure of the faithful, Jesus, Good Shepherd,

Jesus, true Light, Jesus, eternal Wisdom, Jesus, infinite Goodness, Jesus, our way and our life, Jesus, joy of Angels, Jesus, King of Patriarchs, Jesus, Master of Apostles, Jesus, Teacher of Evangelists, Jesus, Strength of Martyrs, Jesus, Light of Confessors, Jesus, Purity of Virgins, Jesus, Crown of all Saints. Be merciful, spare us, O Jesus. Be merciful, graciously hear us, O Jesus. From all evil, Jesus, deliver us. From all sin, Jesus, deliver us. From Thy wrath, Jesus, deliver us. From the snares of the devil. &c. From the spirit of fornication, From everlasting death, From the neglect of Thine inspirations, Through the mystery of Thy holy incarnation, Through Thy Nativity, Through Thine Infancy, Through Thy most divine life, Through Thy labours, Through Thine agony and Passion, Through Thy Cross and dereliction, Through Thy faintness and weariness, Through Thy death and burial, Through Thy Resurrection, Through Thine Ascension, Through Thine Institution of the Most Holy Eucharist, Through Thy joys, Through Thy glory,

- Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Jesus.*
- Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Jesus.*
- Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us, O Jesus.*

**V**. Jesus, hear us.

### **R**. Jesus, graciously hear us.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast said: "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you", grant, we beseech Thee, to us who ask, the gift of Thy most divine love, that we may ever love Thee with all our heart, and in all our words and actions, and never cease from praising Thee.

Make us, O Lord, to have both a perpetual fear and love of Thy Holy Name, for Thou never failest to govern those whom Thou foundest upon the strength of Thy love, Who livest and reignest, world without end. *Amen*.

## PRINCIPAL LITANY OF THE HOLY GHOST

Following is an older and more fitting version of this Litany than the truncated one most often found in devotionals today. It mentions all the fruits of the Holy Ghost, unlike the shorter version. This Litany could be used to open the Rosary during Whitsun Week; and it might be used on Wednesday after Trinity Sunday to honour the Third Person of God.

[Bowings are indicated by red font. A full neck bow is accorded the Holy Name of Jesus; a half-bow, to that of our Blessed Mother Mary.]

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.* Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.* Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.* Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.* 

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us*. God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us*. God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us*. Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us*.

Holy Spirit, Who proceedest from the Father and the Son, *have mercy on us.* 

- Holy Spirit, co-equal with the Father and the Son, *have mercy on us.*
- Promise of the Father, most loving and most bounteous, *have mercy on us.*

Gift of the most high God, &*c*. Ray of Heavenly light,

Author of all good,

Source of living water,

Consuming fire,

Burning love,

Spiritual unction,

Spirit of truth and power,

Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

Spirit of counsel and of fortitude,

Spirit of knowledge and of piety, Spirit of the fear of the Lord, Spirit of computction and of penance, Spirit of grace and of prayer, Spirit of charity, peace and joy, Spirit of patience, longanimity and goodness, Spirit of benignity, mildness and fidelity, Spirit of modesty, continence and chastity, Spirit of adoption of the sons of God, Holy Spirit, the Comforter, Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, Who, in the beginning, didst move over the waters, By Whose inspiration spake the holy men of God, Who didst overshadow Mary, Who didst co-operate in the miraculous conception of the Son of God, Who didst ascend upon Him at His Baptism, Who, on the day of Pentecost, didst appear in fiery tongues upon the disciples of the Lord, By Whom we also are born again, Who dwellest in us, Who governest the Church, Who fillest the whole world, Holy Spirit, we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thou wouldst renew the face of the earth. we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thou wouldst shed abroad Thy light in our hearts, we beseech Thee, hear us. That Thou wouldst write Thy law in our hearts, &c. That Thou wouldst inflame them with the fire of Thy love, That Thou wouldst open to us the treasures of Thy grace, That Thou wouldst teach us to ask for them according to Thy will, That Thou wouldst enlighten us with Thy Heavenly inspirations, That Thou wouldst keep us to Thyself by Thy powerful attractions,

That Thou wouldst grant to us the knowledge alone necessary,

That Thou wouldst help us to love and bear with each other,

That Thou wouldst lead us in the way of Thy commandments,

That Thou wouldst make us obedient to Thine inspirations,

That Thou wouldst teach us to pray, and Thyself pray within us,

That Thou wouldst clothe us with love and compassion towards our brethren,

That Thou wouldst inspire us with a horror of evil,

That Thou wouldst direct us in the practice of good,

That Thou wouldst give us the grace of all virtues,

That Thou wouldst be Thyself our everlasting reward,

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Lord.* 

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord.* 

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us.* 

Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.

℣. Create in us a clean heart, O God.

**R**. And renew a right spirit within us.

#### Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Father, that Thy divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame and cleanse our hearts; that He may penetrate us with His Heavenly dew; and make us fruitful in good works. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

This devotional booklet has been prepared by the Una Voce Vancouver Island Association (U.V.V.I.A.)