

A Parish Prayer for Trinity Sunday

God of mystery, long ago the church learned that you are Father, Son and Holy Spirit—Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life—yet one God. We pray that you will help us to understand what this means for us today. Help your church to present eternal truths in today's language; to struggle with challenging ideas, and explore ancient concepts with integrity.

Lord our God, you are a God of diversity, not confined by the limits of our understanding. As we pray for the world, we are saddened that religion is abused to create hatred and conflict, among Christians, among Muslims, and between differing faiths. We pray for the many places where religion is used as an excuse for enmity and fear even in our own land, to our shame.

We thank you for greater harmony between Protestants and Catholics and for growing reconciliation between Orthodox and Catholic as well. Yet our own church is torn by disagreements. Lord, forgive us. Teach us right paths. Help us in your church to share diversity without division and unity without uniformity.

Gracious God, the love within your being of Father, Son and Spirit teaches us to accept each others' love and care. Strengthen us to care sensitively for the needs of others and ourselves. Touch and heal broken relationships. When relationships seem beyond mending, give comfort and peace. Help us to give our best to our families and friendships, as you give of your best to us in Christ.

Lord Jesus, those who saw the Father through your ministry on earth saw a God who heals. You have sent the Spirit who gives gifts of healing. Give healing to those who suffer from illness, pain, grief, loneliness or any other trouble we pray, particularly those who have sought our prayers.

God of life beyond death, we thank you for the lives of those who see now you face to face in your wonder and glory.

Amen.

—Brian McKinlay