

Readings and Prayers for 1 August 2021: TRINITY 9 FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT (1): JOY & GENEROSITY

Psalm 145: 1-13a

A Psalm of celebration for all that God has given his people.

- ¹ I will exalt you, my God the King;
I will praise your name for ever and ever.
- ² Every day I will praise you
and extol your name for ever and ever.
- ³ Great is the LORD and most worthy of
praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.
- ⁴ One generation commends your works to
another;
they tell of your mighty acts.
- ⁵ They speak of the glorious splendour of your
majesty –
and I will meditate on your wonderful
works.
- ⁶ They tell of the power of your awesome
works –
and I will proclaim your great deeds.
- ⁷ They celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.
- ⁹ The LORD is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.
- ¹⁰ All your works praise you, LORD;
your faithful people extol you.
- ¹¹ They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might,
- ¹² so that all people may know of your mighty
acts
and the glorious splendour of your
kingdom.
- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all
generations.

Acts 2:42-47

In this reading from early in the Acts of the Apostles, we hear about the Christian fellowship in Jerusalem, shortly after Pentecost.

⁴² The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone

was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Luke 15: 20-24

This passage is the climax of Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son. This younger son has insulted his father, taken much of his wealth and spent it on wild living. In his humiliation, he has realised how much better off he would be even as his father's slave.

Jesus continued, ²⁰ 'So the son got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him.

²¹ 'The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." ²² But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate.'

Collect

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.