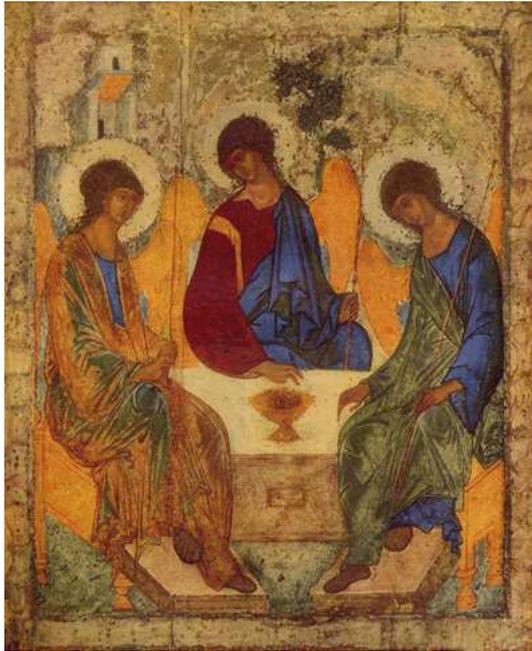


The Feast of the Holy Trinity



Gerry Fitzpatrick writes: Looking for material for the celebration of the Holy Trinity I am reminded of the immense resources we have for our liturgy, even with the re-organisation of repertoire occasioned by the introduction of the new Missal. The 'Glory to God in the highest' is already part of the liturgy and is ideal for such a feast' I am sure that it is worth mentioning that when a congregation is not yet ready for singing the whole Gloria, then they might enjoy singing a response at the start and then speaking the rest of the text until they are ready for the full thing!

The Frank Duffy version (updated) of the Bellahouston Gloria is still popular and there are many other settings already.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis de - o.

(The full version – words and music – can be found under settings in our website The Roman Missal (attached to stmungomusi.org.uk). This has been made available with the permission of the copyright holder.)

My own setting from the Mass of St Andrew is also available on in our website The Roman Missal (attached to stmungomusi.org.uk).

Glo ry to God in the high - est and on

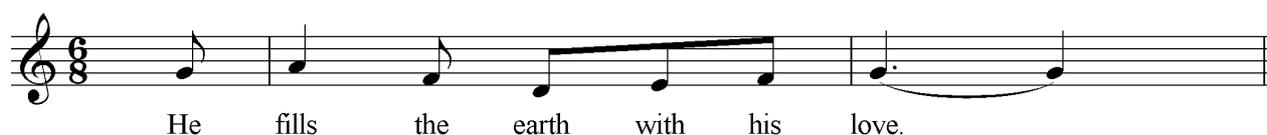
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earth peace to peo - ple of good will.

Noel Donnelly's Dalreoch setting of the Gloria is on our website (music and sound) as is a sound version of the Missal setting. The music of the Missal setting is available in all the Missals so a reprint seems a bit superfluous.

There are plenty settings of the psalm for Year B, Psalm 32, not least in Psalms of the Seasons (Kevin Mayhew and St Mungo Music),
Psalm 32 response



Psalm 32 response



and there are lots of hymns which are ideal for the occasion (to mention but a few): 'In the name of God the Father...'; 'I bind unto myself today;'; 'We wrap round ourselves today;'; 'Be still for the Presence;'; 'All people that on earth'. . . . And there are is an abundance of anthems and motets to keep choirs contented – the Russian tradition is particularly rich and the St Mungo Singers keep 'To thee we call' and 'Holy Blessed Trinity' in repertoire.



graphic © Netta Ewing

This is a feast in which we should perhaps pay special attention to what we sing as the Sanctus, the Holy, holy, holy. Among all the sung texts this surely is special, coming as it does at the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer. It has probably always been meant to be sung to reinforce any sense we may have of the presence of God, the 'All Holy,' the One adored by the hosts of heaven as Isaiah saw in his vision, yet whose glory fills heaven and earth, and whose presence comes among us on earth in the one 'who comes in the name of the Lord.

Music in the liturgy is designed primarily to carry the words with dignity and coherence, yet it can often have a deeper function in that it can enrich and help the meaning of the text to be felt as well as understood.