

Monday Evening Bible Reading Group: July 25th: 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13: Some Notes

Be cheerful. Keep things in good repair. Think in harmony. Be agreeable (interesting word!). The amazing grace of Jesus. The extravagant love of God. The intimate friendship of the Spirit..

Paul does not preach Trinity by name. He does not make a habit of Trinitarian blessings. Here in the most famous of all his letter endings, he dramatically gives us Trinity in a few words, Strikingly, he puts Jesus first. Jesus embodies the grace of God. Jesus shows that God is Love. Jesus called us friends, Trinity is relationship: relationship from before the beginning as we imagine it, when from the Triune God in relationship came a created universe embracing all things living in that relationship.

Discuss: It is possible to pray for people you hate, but impossible to hate people you pray for. In other words, prayer is of necessity and by definition a healer,

Christian are dedicated/ set aside; but they are also, paradoxically but by necessity, INVOLVED. That goes for Christians collectively, whether they meet in a church, a house, a hall, a pub, or in the open air,

Do we reflect enough on the Blessing at the end of the service? Why does a service of blessing end with a blessing? Do you rate saying the grace together equally with being blessed by the priest? Is there more blessing when the bishop does it? What exactly is the blessing about? Why Carol's addition to the blessing (from the prayer book) "Go in peace"? Can we bless each other?

How do you rate the ending "Ite, Missa est" – "Go, the Mass is finished?"