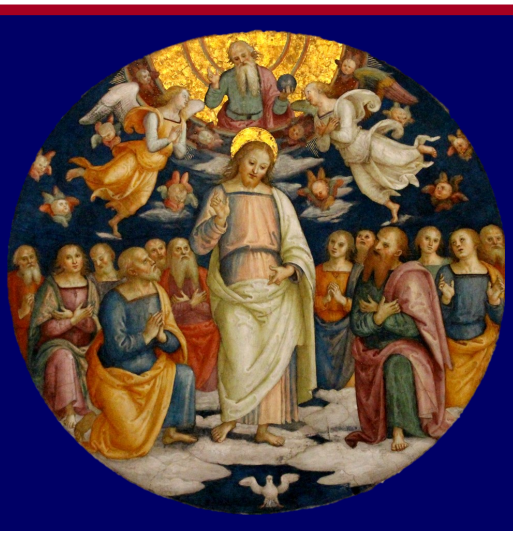
"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest."



The 'Sanctus' prayer is said in the Liturgy of the Eucharist by the congregation as part of the Eucharistic Prayer.

EUCHARIST: Eucharist means "thanksgiving"; this prayer is invoked within our prayer of thanksgiving.

HOLY: At the conclusion of the Preface is the *Sanctus ('Holy'* in Latin). It begins with a triple praise of God: "Holy, Holy, Holy". In Hebrew, repetition is used to indicate the superlative, rather than "more" or "most."

HEAVEN & EARTH: The Sanctus underscores that all creatures on heaven and earth are full of God's glory, for which we are thankful.

HOSANNAH: in Judaic and Christian use, hosannah expresses adoration, praise, or joy. It ties Christ's work of salvation, his sacrifice through death on the Cross, to the consecration which takes place during the Eucharistic prayer.

HOSTS: refers to a gathering or multitudes and it generally accepted to refer the heavenly hosts of angels.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

- The Biblical foundation is in Isaiah 6:1-3, where the prophet Isaiah writes, "I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne... Seraphim were stationed above... 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!' they cried one to the other. 'All the earth is filled with his glory!'" It is also found in Revelation 4:8b "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"
- In Luke 2:13, a "multitude of the heavenly host" also announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

- The words of the final lines can be found in the Gospel of Matthew, as Jesus enters into Jerusalem before His Passion: the people shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest" (Mt 21:9). Versions of this acclamation appear in the other Gospels, and from Psalm 118:26, 'Blessed be he who enters in the name of the Lord!" — a passage that became understood as a reference to Christ.

"The Sanctus is an amazing and powerful call to share in the adoration of the Trinity by the angels and also a plea of salvation through the coming of Christ. In a stroke of genius, the early Church brought these two prayers together, recognizing that the heavenly worship comes down to earth through Jesus' sacramental presence and sacrifice in the Mass."

Adapted from: Catholic.com and Todayscatholic.org