Proper Prefaces from The Book of Common Prayer

Christmas

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us;

who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother;

and that without spot of sin,

to make us clean from all sin.
But chiefly are we bound to praise thee
for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
for he is the very paschal lamb,
which was offered for us,
and hath taken away the sin of the world;
who by his death hath destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life.
Ascension

Through thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord;

who after his most glorious resurrection

manifestly appeared to all his apostles,

and in their sight ascended up into heaven
to prepare a place for us;

that where he is, thither we might also ascend,

and reign with him in glory.
Pentecost (Whitsun)

Through Jesus Christ our Lord;

according to whose most true promise,

the Holy Ghost came down as at this time from heaven

with a sudden great sound, as it might have been a mighty wind,

in the likeness of fiery tongues, lighting upon the apostles,

to teach them, and to lead them to all truth;

giving them both the gift of divers languages,

and also boldness with fervent zeal

constantly to preach the gospel unto all nations;

whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error

into the clear light and knowledge of thee,

and of thy Son Jesus Christ.
Trinity Sunday

When this Preface is used, the words ‘holy Father’ must be omitted in the preceding paragraph.

Who art one God, one Lord;

not one only Person,

but three Persons in one Substance.

For that which we believe of the glory of the Father,

the same we believe of the Son,

and of the Holy Ghost,

without any difference or inequality.