



**Blessed Sacrament Parish**  
**Homily by Father Mike Kuse**  
**June 11, 2017 The Most Holy Trinity**

**Reading I Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9**

**Psalm 3:52-56**

**Reading II 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

**Gospel John 3:16-18**

**Homily**

When I was a kid and in grammar school, I was raised with the Catechism of the Catholic Church and one of the questions was, “What is the Blessed Trinity?” And the Blessed Trinity is God as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. All I had to do was have that memorized. We would stand by the blackboard every morning and write those words. If you missed — you went to the end of the line.

And so the faith was engrained in us. Today, the Scriptures are being opened to us in a whole new way and our entire faith has blossomed into something that is fantastic. But there is a lot of mystery to it. And what we are celebrating today is: Yes, God came into the world, he created the world and made it a beautiful place. And then we goofed up. But God still loved us. And then he sent his Son into the world and the Son died for us, but then the Son went back to the Father. Then the Father said, “I am going to give you a Spirit. It is a Spirit that flows from my Son into your hearts. If you follow that Spirit, you will have everlasting life.”

That all sounds nice. Words are nice. But then you and I have to ask ourselves, “Do I really feel the Spirit? Or, do I just want the Spirit to be there just in case?” That’s how we tend to live our lives.

I will share a little story with you that illustrates whether or not you think you are above God, or trust in God. It is story of four people who went up in a plane. The four people included the pilot, of course, and there was a scientist, there was a Catholic priest and there was a young boy about 12 years old. They went up in the air and they were flying along and everything was fine. Then, all of a sudden, the pilot said to them, “I hate to tell you this, but the engine blew out and we are going to go down. But don’t worry, we have parachutes. However, there is one problem. There are four of us but there are only three parachutes on the plane. Now, since I am the pilot and I am a husband and a father, I really should be the first to take one of the parachutes and jump out because I have to provide for my family.”

Then the scientist said, “Well, I am the most brilliant man in the world. If I don’t use a parachute the whole world is going to be in a mess.” So the pilot and the scientist took their parachutes and jumped out of the plane. The Catholic priest and the young boy

were the only ones left and the priest said to the young boy, "I am an old man. I don't have a family and I am not afraid to die. You take the parachute and I will be OK." The boy looked at him and said, "Father, don't worry. It's going to be all right."

The priest said, "What do you mean, it's going to be all right?"

The young boy said, "You know, there were only three parachutes but you know that scientist who said he was so brilliant, he picked up my knapsack and flew out. So we have two parachutes. Hang on. Enjoy life. That's all there is to it."

The question for us is, do we have a parachute or do we rely on a knapsack? In all of our lives the Spirit of God is there. Usually, when life is good you and I are very happy. But when things are difficult we are looking for that parachute. God says, "In my Kingdom, you will always have a parachute during good times and bad times."

There is a young man whom I have known since he was in his late teens and he went on to college, married, had children and had a beautiful family and a wonderful job. Today he has everything in life someone would want. A few months ago, he was having trouble with one of his legs and he went to the doctor and the doctor said, "I am sorry. I do not have good news for you. We are going to have to amputate your leg from the knee on down. Unless we remove this part of your leg, that infection is going to go through your entire body."

Most of us would sit at home and cry. He just said, "When can we do it?" He went into the hospital, had the leg removed and he eventually got his prosthesis and he is enjoying life. The other day someone sent me a picture of this man on my phone. He is probably in his fifties now, and here he was out on the golf course playing golf, traveling the world with his business and enjoying life to the fullest. God gave him a parachute. That man could have reached out for a knapsack. He could have just said, "This is the end. I can't work anymore. I can't watch my kids grow up, or my grandkids. I am going to have to sit in this chair, I won't have any income, and everything in my life is going down the drain." But he knew there was a parachute.

So today as you and I celebrate the feast of the most Holy Trinity, that's really what God is saying to us. He says, "I gave each of you a parachute and I don't play jokes on you. In my Kingdom there are no knapsacks unless you choose to trade in your parachute for a knapsack. The knapsack will take you nowhere, the parachute will give you life, will give you happiness. You never will be alone. You will always be forgiven. You have every reason to live."

May you and I always remember, at any point in our life there will always be a parachute.

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