



Our Parish Community

June 12, 2022

The Most Holy Trinity (C)

Prv 8:22–31

Rom 5:1–5

Jn 16:12–15

Dear Padre,

My daughter is \$30,000 in debt. Last payday, she loaned a friend \$600 for his house payment. She lent the money because she heard at Mass that if you have money and your friend needs it, you should lend it. Is that what Jesus would suggest for my daughter's situation?

If your daughter had \$600 she didn't immediately need and was certain the friend would repay her in a timely fashion, yes, it was good for your daughter to have lent the money. It's a sign of your daughter's generosity and kindness.

But there are many "ifs" in the above scenario. If someone had lent that money to your daughter and, because she then lent it to her friend, the lender was denied her payment in a timely fashion, your daughter shouldn't have lent the money.

Putting this idea in simpler terms, if I have two chickens and need only one for supper, I can give a hungry person the extra chicken. But I needn't give away all I have to feed the hungry, thus becoming hungry myself. If I have only one chicken, I don't have to give it away.

We're called to be generous, but not at the expense of our own well-being. Lending money is a different

issue because it seems everyone owes money. If your daughter is paying her debts in a timely fashion, she can continue to be generous.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR
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I Believe in God

What do we mean when we say this? We are saying that we don't understand it, but we believe it; we accept it as truth. How do we know it's true? First, we must remember that we are standing before the greatest mystery of all—the mystery of the triune God. The best we can do is open our eyes to the power of God working in our lives. Today's readings help us do that.

In the first reading, the wisdom of God takes our hand and leads us through the marvels of creation. Who has not stood in awe before a sunset, a waterfall, or the smile of an infant? We are surrounded by the wonders of the natural world, wonders that can fashion us into nature mystics and prompt us to praise our Creator.

Once transformed by his encounter with the risen Christ, Paul proclaims again and again that "we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). He knows from experience that Jesus is his savior and the savior of us all. We may not always realize this, but there are times in the life of each of us when we experience a profound need to be saved.

Finally in the Gospel, it was Jesus himself who promised that the "Spirit of truth" would come and strengthen our faith (John 16:13). Without that Spirit we might simply wander about in confusion. These readings provide a glimpse into the action of God in our lives. Do we believe what they say?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ✱ Stop for a moment and rejoice in the beauty of creation.
- ✱ Pray this simple prayer: "I believe. Help my unbelief."

The LORD begot me,
the beginning of his works....

I was his delight day by day,
playing before him all the while.

PROVERBS 8:22, 30



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

There are many ways to justify one's actions when not giving alms [to the homeless]. "But why should you? If I give him money, he'll just spend it on a glass of wine." If a glass of wine is his only happiness in life, then so be it.... It is always right to give help.

INTERVIEW WITH SCARP DE' TENIS MAGAZINE, APRIL 4, 2017