

## TRINITY SUNDAY 2016

There is a story told of a pastor who had a new kitten that had somehow climbed up a tree in the backyard. The kitten was so frightened he would not come down, and so the priest tried to coax him but down to no avail. The tree was not sturdy enough for Father to climb, so he decided to tie a rope to his car and then drive a few feet forward so that the tree would bend—hoping that he would then be able to reach up and grab the frightened kitten. So that is what he did. Inch by inch he checked his progress as he moved slowly away from the tree and soon the kitten was within his reach. However, as the rope suddenly snapped and the tree flipped back up through the air. The kitten was instantly propelled over the roof of a nearby house and was quickly out of sight.

The priest felt awful and began searching the neighborhood to see if anyone had found the little kitten, but also to no avail. Without any more options, he decided to say this prayer: *“Lord, I commit this lost kitten to your keeping.”*

A few days later he was shopping at the grocery store when he met one of his parishioners and noticed cat food in her shopping cart. Father was amazed since this woman had frequently told him at the rectory how much she disliked cats. So, he asked her why she was buying cat food.

The woman replied, “Father, you would not believe it! My daughter has been begging me for a cat for months and I finally told her that if God gave her a cat, she could keep it. Well, after I told her that she walked out into our backyard, knelt down, folded her hands, looked up to heaven, and prayed aloud asking God for a cat.”

“Now, Father, I know this sounds unbelievable but I saw it with my own eyes! A kitten suddenly came flying out of the sky with outstretched paws and landed right in front of my daughter. So, I had no choice but to let her keep it.”

Wouldn't you agree that if our prayers, both large and small, were answered in THAT way both our lives would be a lot simpler and our faith much easier to keep. But, as we all know, faith is only faith when we cannot see, when darkness overwhelms us, or problems seem to plague us. The teachings of the Church, especially in her most profound doctrines, are most often beyond our comprehension and when pressed about them in discussion, can leave us speechless for an explanation.

No other feast of the church year proves that more than this one, Trinity Sunday, when we celebrate THREE PERSONS in ONE GOD: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Scholars have studied it, theologians have preached on it, and you and I have accepted it, but when all is said and done to UNDERSTAND IT is not within our grasp. For just like that kitten sailing to earth from heaven so too this doctrine of God's nature comes to us.

Our Blessed Lord, in His three years of public ministry taught us well. He spoke of His Father in heaven and told us that He was His Son and that they would send the Holy Spirit. Three persons, one God equal in majesty and undivided in splendor. Father as creator, Son as redeemer, and Holy Spirit as the sanctifier sent for us.

As we celebrate this Feast of The Trinity, may we be ever aware of their presence—not to understand, but to BELIEVE ... and then answers from heaven will still come our way.

God love you!