

APRIL 14, 2026 FATHER ROSHAN LOY D'SOUZA

A young boy once received a beautiful kite as a gift. One windy afternoon he went to a large open field to fly it. As the wind lifted the kite higher and higher into the sky, the boy watched with excitement. Soon the kite was soaring high above him, dancing gracefully in the wind.

After a while the boy began to think. He wondered if the string tied to the kite was actually holding it back. “If the string were not there,” he thought, “the kite could fly even higher and be completely free.” So he made a decision—he cut the string.

For a few seconds the kite shot even higher into the sky. The boy felt proud of his idea. But within moments the kite began to shake and wobble. Without the string guiding it, the wind pushed it in every direction. Soon it lost its balance and finally crashed into a tree.

That day the boy learned an important lesson: the string was not limiting the kite—it was actually helping it rise and stay steady.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus speaks to Nicodemus about a new kind of life. He says, “You must be born from above.” Nicodemus is confused because he thinks Jesus is speaking about being physically born again. But Jesus is talking about a spiritual rebirth—being born of the Spirit.

Just as the kite needed the string to guide it, our lives need the guidance of God’s Spirit.

Sometimes people think that faith, God’s commandments, or the teachings of the Church restrict their freedom. But in reality, they give our lives direction and purpose. Without God’s guidance, we can easily drift aimlessly like that kite without its string.

Jesus explains that the Spirit is like the wind. We cannot see it directly, but we can see its effects. When the Spirit moves in someone's life, that person begins to change. They become more loving, more patient, more forgiving, and more generous.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles gives us a beautiful example of people living this new life in the Spirit. The early Christian community was united in heart and mind. They shared everything they had, and no one among them was in need. Those who owned land or property sold it and brought the money to the apostles so it could help others.

One man mentioned in the reading is Barnabas. He sold a field and gave the money to the community. This act of generosity shows how deeply the Holy Spirit had transformed their hearts. They were no longer thinking only about themselves, but about the needs of others.

The Psalm today reminds us of the foundation of this way of life: "The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty." When we truly accept God as the King of our lives, we trust his guidance. Just as the string helped the kite stay in the air, God's presence helps our lives rise higher and remain steady even in strong winds.

Jesus also speaks about Moses lifting up the serpent in the desert so that those who looked at it could be healed. In the same way, Jesus says the Son of Man will be lifted up. He is referring to his crucifixion. When we look to Christ on the cross with faith, we receive healing, forgiveness, and new life.

So, what lessons can we take from today's readings:

First, true freedom comes not from cutting ourselves off from God, but from allowing the Holy Spirit to guide our lives.

Second, when the Spirit transforms our hearts, we become more generous and willing to care for others.

Third, recognizing that the Lord is King helps us trust God's direction even when we do not fully understand it.

Finally, whenever life becomes confusing or difficult, we should turn our eyes to Jesus lifted up on the cross, because in him we find healing, hope, and new life.

If we remain connected to God, like the kite connected to its string, our lives will rise higher and higher toward the love and purpose God has prepared for us. Amen.