

**For The Bulletin Of
August 13, 2017**

**THE 19TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

From Father Robert

We usually think of Jesus as meek and mild. Today's gospel begins with an interesting use of words that suggest Jesus could be pretty forceful: "Jesus *made* the disciples get into a boat and precede Him to the other side." He *made* them – words indicating that He didn't give them much choice. Then Jesus "dismissed the crowds" and "went up on the mountain by Himself to pray." It is as though Jesus is preparing everything and even Himself to teach the disciples another lesson about Who He is and what His mission is. The disciples are in a boat on the sea and a storm comes up. Everything is in place. Jesus "came toward them walking on the sea." A new revelation is about to happen. Jesus announces to the frightened disciples "it is I" – I AM, the divine name.

Peter brazenly tests Jesus about His identity: "Lord, if it is You..." Peter seems to be asking Jesus for a display of His divine power, something that rarely happens in the gospel accounts. His bravado doesn't last long. It is that same Peter who becomes frightened and cries out to be saved when he does what Jesus commands him to do: "Come." With challenging truthfulness and saving power, we need only to follow His command, "Come." Unlike Peter, as we come to Jesus we must not lose our courage; we must not lose sight of Who Jesus is, "the Son of God"; we must not

forget that Jesus unfailingly expends His power to bring us to salvation.

Only Jesus can remove the stumbling blocks that keep us from recognizing Him, from coming to Him when He calls us, and from losing our courage. Here is why Peter's challenge to Jesus is so exposing: Jesus' identity is assured (He saved Peter); Peter's (our) trust in Jesus' power is still weak, still needs to be strengthened (Peter "became frightened"). The Good News of this gospel is that challenge doesn't lead to "drowning," but to a revelation of Who Jesus is. Challenge leads to putting ourselves into the hands of the only One Who is unfailingly trustworthy, the only One Who can truly save, the only One Who calls us to become someone more than we already are.

Living The Paschal Mystery

Most of us will not have the experience of Peter – nothing in our human experience leads us to expect that we will ever walk on water! But that is not the goal of trust in Jesus or of Christian living. The real challenge in this gospel is to see the many ways Jesus comes to us and calls us in our everyday lives – not as One walking on water, but as One dwelling in the other in need. We are called to see Jesus in anyone who is calling out for help, anyone who seems to be "drowning" in the chaos of everyday living, and anyone who cries out to us.

It takes more trust and confidence to see Jesus in the other than to walk on water! This, because it demands a great self-emptying on our part to see dignity in those in need. But this is also the glimpse of the Life that comes out of our dying – serving another is an encounter

with Jesus, the One Who saves. Jesus comes to us endlessly in recognizable circumstances (liturgy and prayer, for example) and in unexpected ways (in those in need, in good surprises, in the visits of loved ones). We need only to reach out to Him when He says, “Come,” and let Him catch and save us.

*My life has been like the disciples’- Tossed about by wind and waves, sometimes even sinking – when...At these times Jesus has “stretched out His hand” to save me by...

- I become afraid when...of...because...
- I hesitate to come to Jesus when...I most quickly respond when Jesus commands me to “come” when...



The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 15th, is a Holy Day of Obligation marking The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We are privileged to celebrate Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. in the evening.

The Cabaret

This coming Friday evening, August 18th, is the Second Annual Cabaret performed by the members of

our parish choir, accompanied by Don Pearson and Jim Peddicord. It features a number of tunes from both “on” and “off” Broadway which are sure to please. Tickets are only \$10 per person and benefit our Music Ministry. It will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. I hope you will be able to join us for this very entertaining evening.



An informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 29th, 7:00 p.m., in the church for all those going with us to Norway in 2018. **Linda Grelli, from Black Diamond Travel**, who has arranged all the details of the trip, will be with us to answer any questions. Please mark the date on your calendars and plan to attend.



...to the wonderful team of volunteers who so lovingly and carefully put together the bags of toiletries and socks

for the Stand Down on the Delta this weekend: **Lorraine Lohmeier, Jeanne Reilly, Carole Miller, Bev Iacona, Judy Quicho, Belen Farin, Bobbie Ochang, Nancy Santos, Cecille Mirano, Crispina Malonosan, Vangie Parrilla and Estrella Rusk.**

...to our parishioner volunteers who faithfully clean and prepare the church each Saturday morning: **Jun Bajet, Carole Miller, Mency Osborne, Kathy Romeo, Angela Bueno, Rose Salamanca, Heather Hatteroth, Steve Rojek, and Emilia Freking.**

...to our volunteer parishioners who clean and maintain the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall each week: **Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, Virginia Noack, Patricia Britton, Steve Rojek, and Harlan Young.**

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week:

Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to **our counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week:

Melody Costanza, Harlan Young, Yvette Young, Alicia Perez, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Bob Carvalho and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Bob Carvalho, Carole**

Miller, Dave Costanza, and Dilcia Aparicio.

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during weekend liturgies: **Don Benson, Steve Rojek and Bob Goncalves.**

