

FAITH

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Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!



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Year B 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION BACK IN THE AUTUMN

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Job 38:1,8-11

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 106(107): 23-26,28-32

Second Reading:

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

Gospel:

Mark 4:35-41

""Who can this be? Even the wind and sea obey him""



By Cornelis de Wael (c.1620) Public Domain, via [Wiki Commons](#)

Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find this week's readings online [here](#).

Check out [this video](#) on the readings for children.

Pray

In the Gospel today we hear the familiar story of Jesus calming the storm at sea.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Use your imagination to meditate on this scripture. What can you see? What can you hear? What can you touch? What can you taste? How are you feeling before Jesus wakes up? How are you feeling after Jesus calms the storm?
- Spend some time speaking personally to God about the storms in your own life. What is worrying you? Do you feel like he's asleep or doesn't care? Do you want to call out to him for help?
- Try offering a "decade of trust", concretely handing over to Jesus a specific worry or anxiety with each of the ten Hail Mary beads. Focus on Jesus, the Solution, and not the worries. Start with an Our Father and end with a Glory Be.

Talk

The Jesus who calms the storm in this week's Gospel is the same Jesus who can help us face any and every storm that comes our way.

- When this massive storm hits, where do we find Jesus? What is he doing, and how does that compare to the disciples? What does this tell us about Jesus?
- In the disciples' days, water was always considered one of the most unpredictable and dangerous forces in the world. Why is it important that Jesus would calm the storm? What does that say to us?
- Are there things in your life that are causing you fear? Do you have storms that you need Jesus to calm, at home or in school, or with your friends or neighbours?
- How can you let God speak peace – *"Quiet! Be still."* – into your life and into your fears?

Family Challenge!

If you experience moments of fear and panic this week make an effort to stop and remind yourself that God is in control. Pray the prayer Jesus gave to St Faustina: "Jesus, I trust in You"

SEEING THINGS FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

Today's reading describes how Jesus calmed a storm at sea. It is the first of four miracles that are presented in sequence at this point in Mark's Gospel.

As is typical in Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are frightened by the sudden storm; they do little to inspire confidence in the reader. Mark notes the contrast between the disciples' terror and Jesus' peace. Jesus is sleeping, untroubled by what is going on around him.

The disciples' words to Jesus are telling. They are familiar enough with Jesus to dare to wake him. Their words to him are words of reproach, questioning his care for them. A careful reader might wonder what the disciples expected Jesus to do. Are they more troubled by the storm or by Jesus' inattentiveness to their needs? How many of us have chided a family member or friend for not agreeing with our assessment of the severity of a situation?

Today's Gospel offers evidence of Jesus' power and authority as he calms the storm. In his day, power over nature was believed to be a sign of divinity—only God calms storms. Jesus' rebuke of the storm also echoes the rebuke he uses when he talks to and expels demons. In each situation, Jesus' power and authority is a sign of his divinity. Indeed, the disciples are left wondering about Jesus' identity at the conclusion of today's Gospel. They see before them a human being who acts with the authority and power of God. The disciples' uncertainty about Jesus' identity is a recurring theme in Mark's Gospel.

This Gospel is a metaphor for our lives. We are in the boat, the storms of life are raging around us, and like the disciples, we may believe that Jesus is unconcerned, or "sleeping." We hope that we will be as familiar with Jesus as his disciples. If we feel that Jesus is sleeping, are we comfortable enough to wake Jesus and present him with our needs? Jesus does not chide his disciples for waking him. Instead he chides them for their lack of faith, for their lack of perspective. When we bring our worries to God in prayer, we might just begin to learn to see things from God's perspective.

Adapted from Loyola Press: Sunday Connection

Check
this
out

ONLINE WITH SAINTS

Imagine you could meet and greet a saint, which saint would you choose? Online with Saints (#OnlineSaints) offers a virtual encounter with 100+ saints from all around the world. Get ready to meet and greet the saints through their social media account! The app "Online with Saints" offers a virtual encounter with saints from all around the world : their inspiring life stories are linked to real life modern questions, and together with them answers are found.

Online
with
Saints



THE STORMS WITHIN

Do you have any memories of storms and the damage they did to your home? Do you know what it's like to be inside and hear a storm rage outside? Have you ever been caught out in a storm and tried to get to shelter?

What about in your own life or your heart? We all have storms, some small, some more like raging squalls that we have to deal with at different times. Sometimes we get caught up in situations beyond our control and find ourselves dealing with chaos and confusion. Sometimes the storm rages within our own hearts, and no one can see what's happening, except maybe those closest to us. Sometimes we might even feel like the disciples on the boat with Jesus: it feels like He's asleep and He doesn't see or doesn't care.

Jesus always sees. Jesus always cares. Jesus is always there with us.

There is no problem too difficult, no situation too chaotic, no relationship too messy, no heart too broken that Jesus does not see and cannot heal. This week, bring your burdens to the Lord. Ask Him to calm the storms of your life. He may not change your situation straight away, and quieten the troubled seas, but He will calm your heart and your troubled mind. He is God. The waves and wind of the storm obeyed Him then. The waves and wind still know His name.

Rosary of Trust - Fr Mark Mary CFR

It is well (Kristene DiMarco)

To the Heights Youth Resource also available



Family Prayer

Lord Jesus, speak your calming words into the storms of our lives. Quieten our hearts so that we can hear your words of love for us. May we focus not on our problems, but on You, our solution. Amen

EVENTS

40 Hours Adoration - for renewal of the faith of our children, families and nation: Foyer of Charity, Leperstown, Dunmore East X91FC65 - Sat 29th June 6am to 10pm Sun 30th June. Mass Saturday 6am, Sunday 10am. To sign up for an hour or more information: Helen 086 1678027 hellywilliams@gmail.com www.foyerofcharity.ie All are welcome

Campa Mhuire Mhathair Catholic Summer Camps for Primary School Children: Ardmore and Tramore in July. (Also in Killarney and Mitchelstown). Music, Action Songs, Arts & Crafts, Games, Prayer and a whole lot of fun! More info on <https://www.holyfamilymission.ie/campa-mhuire-mhathair/>

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: August 15th-18th at Clongowes Wood College, Co Kildare. Ages 16 - 35. Donation only. Faith, fun, fellowship! For more info including bus routes go to www.youth2000.ie

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- To the Heights Youth Newsletter (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie) WEEKLY
- Check it Out! Diocesan Events Bulletin (events@waterfordlismore.ie) FORTNIGHTLY

