

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Father Dave

(Job 38: 1, 8 – 11; 2 Corinthians 5: 14 – 17; Mark 4: 35 – 41)

Young children are often afraid of the dark. Once a bedroom is dark and nearly impossible to see what might be causing a noise, a child's vivid imagination takes over trying to explain every sound. We also often forget how difficult it was as a child to learn certain skills; for example, riding a bicycle. After years of cycling there may seem to be nothing to it. Yet if we develop a health problem that affects our balance, cycling, walking, almost anything can be very difficult if not impossible. The same is true for life in general. A period of illness reminds us that even the most basic things that we take for granted are not easy to achieve, and we may wonder how we ever managed to do them.

Each of us experiences different "storms" of life: from growing up and trying to "get the grades" so that we pass from one grade to another; maybe the families moved and we had to begin in another school and develop new friendships; from unemployment to illness; and to that point in life when our spouse may return to God and we are left alone. All these can instill a certain sense of fear and angst within us. But we can learn from Job, Paul, and the Apostles with Jesus in today's Scripture Readings.

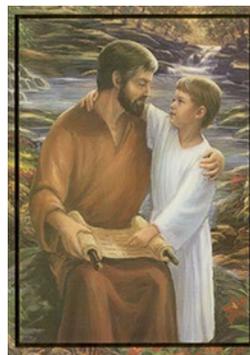
The Apostles were "seasoned" fishermen. In a sense they were born fishing. So what happened in today's Gospel selection that we read?

The Sea of Galilee is known for the unpredictability of the weather. It was and is notorious for its sudden storms (kind of like what we experienced last Sunday afternoon). The fishing boats were built for stability more than for deep-water crossings and heavy weather. And so it is understandable that in a smaller boat encountering a stronger than usual storm the Apostles were fearful. But through it all Jesus remained asleep! We may be inclined to think that Jesus did not care about the danger. Yet it would be wrong to think that. Rather, Jesus is able to see the storm in a different way. He lives His life as one of constant trust in His heavenly Father (not that the Apostles didn't have trust in God), and when the storm blows up He places His trust completely in His Father. This is why He asks the disciples why they have no faith. The trust that Jesus has in the Father does not mean that He has no cares or fears, but instead, He knows that no matter what happens to Him in this life His Father will raise Him to eternal life.

We can be like the disciples setting out in the boat. We can become oblivious to the fragility of life, to the risks that surround us. When something happens that throws us off balance we can be like the Apostles or like a young child whose imagination takes over and instills fears that are not warranted. Certain things we need to fear. But, there are also certain things that need to be entrusted to our Loving Father Who is always looking out for our own good. Job learned this lesson that we heard in our first

reading. He was tested beyond what most people could not endure. Still, he remained true to God through it all as God reminded him how He was always present in the chaos of the world.

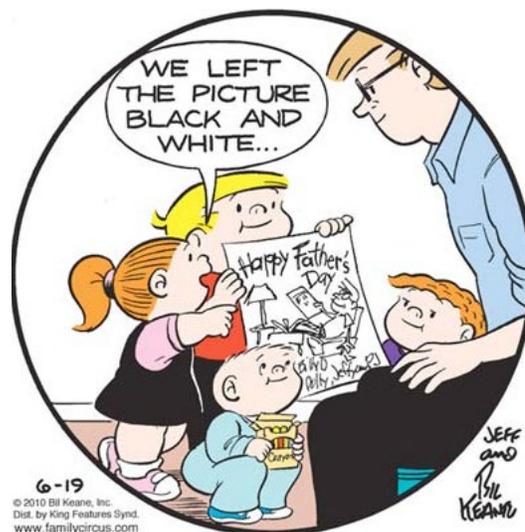
Let us always hear the voice of Jesus reminding us "Do not be afraid." Let's often use His words when we are in a situation that unsettles us: "Quiet! Be Still!"



This weekend, our nations recognizes our Dad's in a special way. Let us be mindful of them and grateful for all that they do – not just today, but everyday. Let's remember those days when we were younger and the many things they, with our Mom's taught us and did with us. Perhaps you were unfortunate to never know your Dad, or perhaps he wasn't all that you hoped a Dad could be. Even in such unfortunateness, think of the life he, with your Mom, gave to you. And think of how our Heavenly Father continues to care for you. And perhaps, your Father has been called to his eternal rest. Wherever they may be, remember them in your prayers that our Heavenly Father keep them in His care.

Happy Fathers' Day

Let us pray for the Conversion of the World
& for Peace



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"... so you get to color it however you like!"

BULLETIN REFLECTION – Fr. Rody

JUNE 20, 2021

12TH SUN. O.T. YR-B...MK 4, 35-41

35 On that day, as evening drew on, he said to them, “Let us cross to the other side.”

All throughout my life, my knowledge of USA is through stories of relatives, friends, and classmates...pictures of San Francisco Bridge and Statue of Liberty...movies...books, etc. Admittedly this left a spark of curiosity on me...with the statement ‘Until when will this dream be?’ August 01, 2019 at San Francisco Airport, just like Neil Armstrong (setting his left foot on the moon) I would say ‘I have set my right foot marking my personal-experiential history of USA...thank you my God for this gift of chance.’

Same with faith... *‘Let us cross to the other side...Why?’*

HERE...the single penny of the widow is nothing

THERE...*that single penny of the widow is something, she gave more*

HERE...you are outcast because of your sickness

THERE...*despite your sickness you can mingle/associate with us*

HERE...you are rich-poor, educated-not educated, sitting in front-at the back

THERE...*everybody is equal, everybody has dignity (Gen. 1, 26-27)*

HERE...earth can give you 100 years

THERE...*heaven can give you eternity*

Jesus Christ is telling us, ‘Let us cross to the other side and have a new experience of life...I will show you that life there is not about social stratification...not about what you have reached nor accomplished...not about what you have. Rather, life there is about how you share your life with others with no quantification...despite wanting, having only a few...you are happy sharing to others the gifts of your life and they are happy too with what you share to them...**JN. 15, 11** “...so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.’

‘Mankind, we still have so many things to compare and my invitation remains...*Let us cross to the other side,*’ *Jesus is saying to the modern age.*