

LIVING FAITH

12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY— Mark 4: 35-41

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took Jesus with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.

A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat so that the boat was already being swamped. But Jesus was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.

Jesus said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

Most of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee was around the shores of the Sea of Galilee. He often went from one place to another by boat. Because the Sea of Galilee is below sea level, it is subject to strong windstorms that come up unexpectedly, sweep down from the surrounding hills and whip up great waves.

In this gospel account, such a storm occurs while Jesus and the disciples are on the water. Jesus is in the stern of the boat, asleep on a cushion, while the disciples are becoming frantic with fear as the boat is being swamped. The waken Jesus and say to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” In response Jesus simply rebukes the wind and says to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And there is a dead calm.

This fills the disciples with another kind of fear – our translation calls it ‘awe.’ They whisper to one another, “Who is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?” Who indeed! The gospel-writer Mark give us the answer to that question after Jesus dies on the cross, when the centurion says, “Truly, this man was God’s Son.”

We believe that Jesus is the Son of God who is with us till the end of the age. The question is: Will we hold fast to that faith and persevere even when we’re in great danger, overwhelmed by sorrow or tragedy, and feeling powerless?

TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

1. Talk about a time when you have been afraid.... What did you do?
2. One thing we can do when we are full of fear is PRAY. Each one, find a quiet, more private space and try this way of praying:
 - Call to mind something you fear (especially right now).
 - Acknowledge the “storm”; sit with the fear.
 - Focus on Jesus’ question: Why are you afraid? What do you dread?
 - Pray for the grace to be released from your fear.
3. You might want to come back together and talk about your prayer experience.

Fill in the Blanks Quiz

Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks using the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the page.

As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the _____." So they took Jesus in the _____ and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). But soon a fierce _____ came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with _____.

Jesus was _____ at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to _____?"

When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the _____ and said to the _____, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you _____? Do you still have no _____?"

The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

Mark 4:35-41 (NLT)

wind	drown	boat	faith	storm
waves	water	afraid	sleeping	lake



Word Jumble

Unscramble each word and then place the numbered letters in the numbered boxes at the bottom to reveal the answer.



When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!"

Mark 4:39a (NLT)

BAOT
2

DOWRN
4 3

WEAVS
1

CMLA
5

JESUS CALMS A
1 2 3 4 5

PUZZLE CLUES

1. Jesus and his disciples got in a _____.
2. The disciples were afraid that they were going to _____.
3. Jesus spoke to the wind and the _____.
4. After Jesus spoke, the sea became _____.

Answer: There was a fierce _____ on the sea.

Check your answers in Mark 4:35-41 (NIV)

The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

Mark 4:41 (NLT)



THE CHURCH TEACHES



In solidarity with the Holy Father’s proclamation of a “Year of Saint Joseph”, dioceses and eparchies all over Canada will celebrate an **Act of Entrustment to Saint Joseph**, on Thursday, **1st July** (Canada Day). The *Act of Entrustment* will be **preceded by a Novena** imploring Saint Joseph’s intercession for the welfare of the entire country, for the many needs of society, and to pray in particular for those who passed away due to COVID-19. The *Novena* will begin on **Tuesday, 22 June** and end on **Wednesday 30 June**.

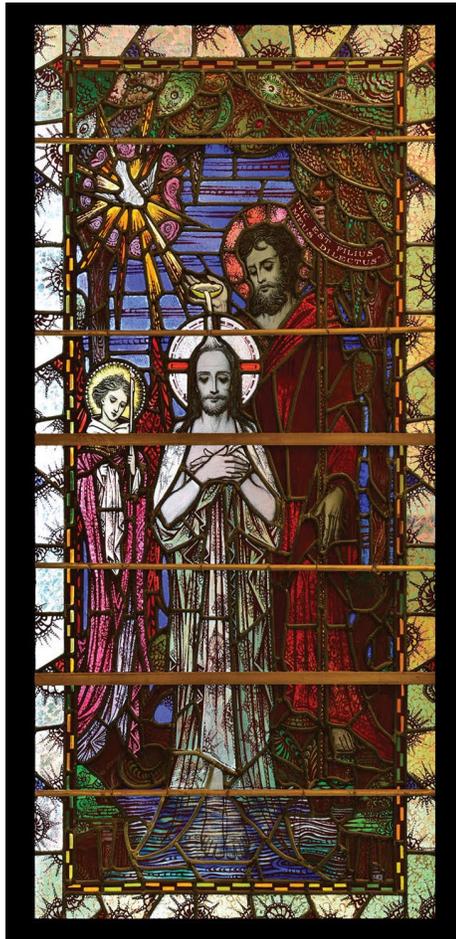
A resource document (in English and French) is available on the CCCB website: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/celebrating-the-year-of-saint-joseph/novena-and-act-of-entrustment-to-saint-joseph/>

<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 1 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For an End to the Coronavirus Pandemic</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, that the sick may experience healing, the dying, peace, healthcare workers, strength, and our leaders, wisdom.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 2 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Those Who Have Died</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, Patron of Canada, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, for those who have died, that all who have passed from this world may attain a share in eternal happiness in the kingdom of heaven.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 3 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For the Family, the Domestic Church</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, beloved father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, for the domestic church, that its members may imitate the Holy Family in practising the virtues of Christian family life so that, one day, they may delight in eternal rewards.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 4 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Peace and Unity in Our Country</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, tender and loving father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, that the people of Canada may know the peace which comes from God and be always united in a fraternal spirit.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 5 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For an End to Racism and Discrimination</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, obedient father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, that we may be given the wisdom and courage to address the persistent sins of racism and discrimination that we may work toward systems that support the dignity of every person and promote respect for all.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 6 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, accepting father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, to give to the Church an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, filled with zeal for the work of evangelization.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 7 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Youth and the Elderly</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, creatively courageous father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, that we may honour and cherish the youth and the elderly by defending, protecting and caring for them, as you cared for your Son and the Blessed Virgin Mary.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 8 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Workers, Especially Frontline Workers, and for the Unemployed</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, working father, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, that we may complete the life-giving work that God, Creator of all things, has set us to accomplish and attain the promised rewards.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DAY 9 PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For the Needy, the Addicted and the Excluded</i></p> <p>Saint Joseph, father in the shadows, we ask that you intercede with your Son, the Saviour of the world, for the needy, the addicted and the excluded, that these who live in the shadows of this world may find relief through the Father’s loving mercy.</p>

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST JUNE 24

St. John the Baptist is the patron of the Archdiocese of St. John's, of our Basilica-Cathedral, of the city of St. John's and of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

John the Baptist is mentioned in all four Gospels. The greatness of John the Baptist, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is perhaps best seen in the great emphasis that the Evangelist Luke gives to the announcement of his birth, and then the actual birth itself. Luke ties together the announcement of the birth of John the Baptist (and the story of the actual birth and the events that surrounded it) and the announcement of the birth of Jesus. The story takes up most of the first Chapter of the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 1, verses 5 to 80. John the Baptist pointed the way to Jesus. In his ministry, he attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan River, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan. He never sought to draw attention to himself, but constantly deferred to Jesus, even sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.



St. John the Baptist is also a patron saint of French Canada. In addition to St. John's, NL, the Canadian cities of Saint John, New Brunswick (1604), and Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec (1665) were all named in his honor. His feast day of June 24, celebrated officially in Quebec as the *Fête Nationale du Québec*, and in Newfoundland and Labrador as Discovery Day.

To the left, you will see a photo of a stained-glass window from the Basilica of St. John the Baptist, showing the baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River. The window, by George Earley of Dublin, is part of a set of windows installed in 1955, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral.

The windows of the Basilica are in need of restoration and stabilization. The Basilica Heritage Foundation is currently raising funds to complete this project. If you are interested in becoming part of the ongoing story of the Basilica by donating to our Stained-Glass Window Restoration Project, contact John FitzGerald, Executive Director of the Basilica Heritage Foundation by e-mail at BHF.inquiries@thebasilica.net

Photo credit: Robert and Lynn Photography 2018.



The statue of St. John the Baptist that stands on top of the archway in the Basilica piazza, looking out over the city and the Narrows. Sculptor: Filippo Ghersi, 1856 (Photo by John FitzGerald, 2020)