

Gospel Mark 4:35-41

" Do you not care if we perish?" The disciples' cry for help in danger during the storm on the lake is something we know all about.

This situation is repeated in every possible shape and form. God often seems not to be there in the mist of life's storms. Whenever trouble and distress bring us to the verge of ruin, it is as if Christ were sleeping, as if He could neither hear nor see what is happening to us. Today's Gospel is speaking to that situation; it makes us feel both ashamed and, at the same time, consoled. The disciples know well enough what danger they are in.

The fact that they lose their heads and panic completely must certainly make them ashamed afterward. For after all, their Master has talked so much about trust in God and about the fact that they can always be sure they are held safe in His hand. In their fright at the way the waves rose on the lake, it is as if all these lovely pious notions have been blown away. All that is left is their bare anxiety to survive.

And how many situations of the storm-on-the-lake type there are in life! Whenever all that remains in a relationship is conflict; whenever our own economic position brings us close to disaster; whenever the ground is moving and shaking in our spiritual life: Where is God at times like that? Is He asleep? Has He forgotten me? How does my faith help me now? Maybe God is asleep? Have I let Him go to sleep; when everything was going nicely, did I forget "the good Lord," did I neglect my faith? Is it surprising if, now that there is a sudden emergency, He is not awake to help me through the storm?

Like any attitude in life, faith has to be practiced in good times in order to be lively in bad. If I do not make it my habit to thank God when I am fortunate, then in an emergency I shall not have the confidence in God that can carry me through.

Just for Fun

Two Jesuit novices both wanted a cigarette while they prayed. They decided to ask their superior for permission. The first asked but was told no. A little while later he spotted his friend smoking and praying. "Why did the superior allow you to smoke and not me?" he asked. His friend replied, "Because you asked if you could smoke while you prayed, and I asked if I could pray while I smoked!"



二零零九年六月廿一日

June 21, 2009

『這人到底是誰？連風和海也聽從祂！』

常年期第十二主日

福音 谷：4:35-41

「我們要喪亡了，祢不管嗎？」門徒們驚恐萬狀地呼救著。這情形隨時隨地都可能再發生，而天主卻常常好像在我們生命的風浪中遁形匿跡。每當我們經歷困難與挫折，面臨即將毀於一旦的危機時，似乎耶穌總是在呼呼大睡，似乎祂對我們的危機不聞不問。今天的福音恰好針對這種情形；其內容讓我們既羞愧、又欣慰。

他們當時驚慌失措、方寸大亂的事實，一定讓他們在事後羞愧得無地自容。他們的師傅經常耳提面命地講論信賴天主，更向他們保證在天主內一定安然無恙。然而當湖面狂風大作時，他們變得驚恐萬狀，所有虔誠的信念統統被吹到九霄雲外，心裡只留下如何才能存活的焦慮。

在我們的生命中，曾經歷多少次湖面颳起狂風的情形啊！當某一情感關係只剩下衝突時；當經濟狀況讓我們陷入蕭條困頓時；當我們的精神生活天崩地裂時：天主跑去哪裡了？祂睡著了嗎？祂忘記我了嗎？我的信仰在此刻能幫助我嗎？會不會是我讓天主去

睡著了呢？當諸事順遂時，我有沒有忘記「好天主」，有沒有忽略我的信仰生活呢？如果現在有突發事件，祂正巧沒有醒著幫助我度過風暴，我還需要驚訝嗎？就像生命中的任何態度一樣，信仰必須在順境中加深鞏固，然後才能在逆境中發揮功效。如果我沒有養成習慣，在幸運時刻感謝天主，那麼在緊急狀態中，我也不會指望天主協助我度過難關。

今天福音的場景使我們舒了一口氣：在重大的信仰考驗關頭上，至少在一開始的時候，就連宗徒們都曾經失足。不過，耶穌把他們從迷失中領回正道。祂平息了風暴，幫助門徒們重拾信德。他們害羞地捫心自問：「我們甚麼時候竟然忘了信賴祂呢？」下一次再發生的話，他們保證會記得。我們將來也一定會遇上困難和憂苦的情況 天主不會讓我們免於這一切。然而我們知道：耶穌在生命之舟中與我同在。即使我失去一切，祂也會起身幫助我。與祂同在，我永遠不會迷路。祂是我的救主。

薛恩博樞機 著
丁穎達教授 譯

主日學消息

主日學將於六月廿八日為本學期結束，希望各位學生、家長及老師們將渡過一個愉快、平安與喜樂的暑假。

新學年招生報名章程，將於八月初刊登在堂區通訊內，請各家長留意。

主日茶座

日期：六月廿八日

餐單：1) 葡國雞飯

2) 清湯牛腩麵

每款六元正，餐券在每台彌撒後發售，請教友儘早購票。

Sunday Collection 主日彌撒捐獻

二零零九年六月十三、十四日
June 13 & 14, 2009

主日捐獻 Sunday Collection	\$2,695.75
特別捐獻 Special offering	\$ 55.00
還款基金 Loan Repayment	\$ 32.00
聖若瑟修院 St. Joseph College	\$2,136.10

獻身服務生活

女性年齡由十八至五十歲之間，想知多一點點有關Sisters of Providence 的修道生活，該女修會將在七月十一日下午十二時至十二日下午十二時，期間設有助談會，型式包括有祈禱、會談、靈性反映及分享，有興趣者可與何修女〔Sister Toyleen〕聯絡。

電話：780 436 7250, 或電郵
vocdir@[providence.ab.ca](mailto:vocdir@providence.ab.ca)

常年期第十二週讀經、福音章節 12th Week of the Year Daily Reading

主日 S	約 Jb 38:1,8-11; 格後 II Cor 5:14-17; 谷 Mk 4:35-40
一 M	創 Gn 12:1-9; 瑪 Mt 7:1-5
二 T	創 Gn 13:2,5-18; 瑪 Mt 7:6,12-14
三 W	依 Is 49:1-6; 宗 Acts 13:22-26; 路 Lk 1:57-66,80
四 T	創 Gn 16:1-12,15-16; 瑪 Mt 7:21-29
五 F	創 Gn 17:1,9-10,15-22; 瑪 Mt 8:1-4
六 S	創 Gn 18:1-15 瑪 Mt 8:5-17

Year for Priests:

Archbishop Richard Smith and priests of the Archdiocese at a special Mass to mark the opening of this jubilee year at 5:30 p.m. on **Friday, June 26**, at St. Joseph's Basilica.

Salt + Light Television, Canada's Catholic Network, takes a look at **St. John Marie Vianney and the Year for Priests** on the Thursday, June 18; Friday, June 19 and Sunday, June 21 episodes of their flagship show, Catholic Focus.

Sunday School

June 28, 2009 will be the last day for Sunday School. We wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful summer holidays. Sunday School will start again in the fall and enrollment details will be published in August's Newsletter.

Sunday Café

Date: June 28, 2009

Menu: A) Portuguese Chicken on Rice
B) Sliced Beef Brisket Noodle
in Soup

Both at \$6.00

Tickets are available after each Mass.
Please purchase your tickets beforehand.

TASTE OF PROVIDENCE

for women 18-50 who are interested in knowing more about the life of a Sister of Providence at Providence Centre, 3005-119 Street, Edmonton from noon of July 11 to noon of July 12, 2009. This will include prayer, Providence spirituality, reflection and sharing and open conversation. Please contact Sister Toyleen for reservations/information at 780-436-7250.

Or email: vocdir@[providence.ab.ca](mailto:vocdir@providence.ab.ca)

Youth Camp

Participants please be at the Church on Friday, June 26, around 5:30 p.m. Have lunch already or bring lunch to eat on the bus. A coach will be taking us to Ephphata House.

For the weekend of June 20/21, 2009 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel reading we hear Jesus commanding the wind and sea to be at peace, to be still. The Gospel scene depicting Jesus and his disciples on a boat seems appropriate for the summer. It is a season to contemplate nature and to find God in the wonders of His creation. It is also a time to contemplate, as stewards of the Lord's abundant gifts, all of creation as God's gift and that ultimately it is God who has control over the world and not us.