

[90] **TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME B**

FIRST READING

Here I have set the boundaries of the sea.

A reading from the book of Job

38:1, 8-11

From the storm the Lord said to Job:

“After the ocean was born,
I enclosed it with a wall.

I used the mist for its baby clothes and covered it with clouds.
I marked out its boundaries and locked it behind doors.”

Then I said to the ocean,
“Your raging waves stop here!
This is as far as you go!”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

107:23-24, 25 and 28, 29-30

*R. (1b) Give thanks to the Lord, God's love is everlasting.
or
R. Alleluia.*

Some of you made a living
by sailing the mighty sea,
and you saw the miracles
the Lord performed there.

*R. Give thanks to the Lord, God's love is everlasting.
or
R. Alleluia.*

At his command a storm arose,
and waves covered the sea.
You were in serious trouble,
but you prayed to the Lord,
and he rescued you.

*R. Give thanks to the Lord, God's love is everlasting.
or
R. Alleluia.*

He made the storm stop
and the sea be quiet.
You were happy because of this,
and he brought you to the port
where you wanted to go.

R. Give thanks to the Lord, God's love is everlasting.
or
R. Alleluia.

SECOND READING

All things are made new.

† A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 5:14-17

Brothers and sisters:

We are ruled by Christ's love for us.
We are certain that if one person died for everyone else,
then all of us have died.
And Christ did die for all of us.
He died so we would no longer live for ourselves,
but for the one who died and was raised to life for us.

We are careful not to judge people by what they seem to be,
though we once judged Christ in that way.
Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person.
The past is forgotten,
and everything is new.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

Luke 7:16

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

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

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 4:35-41

Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the east side."
So they left the crowd,
and his disciples started across the lake with him in the boat.

Some other boats followed along.
Suddenly a windstorm struck the lake.
Waves started splashing into the boat,
and it was about to sink.

Jesus was in the back of the boat with his head on a pillow,
and he was asleep.
His disciples woke him and said,
"Teacher, don't you care that we're about to drown?"

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet.
The wind stopped,
and everything was calm.

Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid?
Don't you have any faith?"

Now they were more afraid than ever and said to each other,
"Who is this?
Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

The gospel of the Lord.



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer:

Thank you Jesus,
For calming the waves of our lives. Please help us to remember that we can always count on you. In your name we pray.
Amen

Readings:

Job	38:1, 8-9
Psalm	107:23-24,25,28,29-31
2 nd letter of Paul to the Corinthians	5:14-17
Mark	4:35-41

Reflection/Discussion/Activity:

Place a large circle of blue fabric on the floor. Ask the class to sit around the fabric but not on it.

Are you ever afraid during a storm? We were at a soccer game last fall when it began to storm. We watched huge black clouds roll in. It looked like someone was stirring them up in the sky they were moving and swirling so fast. They covered the sun so it looked like it was night time. The wind started blowing. Trees were bending this way and that way. Chairs were being blown over and hats blown off of people's heads. Suddenly there was a huge bolt of lightening and a huge clap of thunder. It was quite scary. Everyone grabbed their kids, picked-up their chairs and ran for their cars as it started to pour-down rain.

Today's Gospel reading is about Jesus and the disciples being out on a boat during a storm. As scary as it was to be on a soccer field and in a car when the storm hit, I think it would have been even scarier to be on a boat in the middle of a lake. The disciples must have been very frightened.

Give each child a small plastic boat. Ask them to put their boats on the lake. Tell them that the class is going to create a storm on the lake. Have them each take a small edge of the fabric in one hand, and shake it up and down while making storm noises. Tell them that when you say "Red Light" they must stop shaking and making noises. When you say "Green Light" they will start again.

"Red Light." How would you feel if you were out on the boat during the storm? What would make you feel afraid?

"Green Light."

"Red Light." Imagine you are on the boat, very afraid, and you turn around to see Jesus – your teacher, your leader and your friend, ASLEEP in the back of the boat. How would you feel then?

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“Green Light.” You wake-up Jesus and He tells the waves to be quiet.

“Red Light.” What do you think now? Your friend and teacher has just commanded the storm to stop and it did! What kind of person could do that?

Jesus seems a bit disappointed that his friends didn't trust that he would always take care of them although I think he must have understood that it is natural to sometimes be afraid. Fear can be a good thing when it helps us be safe and stay away from things that are dangerous. Sometimes, though, fear and worry can rule our lives and even make us sick. Jesus wants us to know that he is ALWAYS with us and will ALWAYS help calm the storms of our lives. When we are afraid or worried we need to talk to him and trust that it will be OK, no matter what the storm is going on around us or in us.