

Prayer Gathering for 12th Week of Ordinary Time

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**Creator of the Sea, Blower of the Wind,
the storms of life rock our boats, sap our hope and paralyze us with fear.
Help us to know that nothing lasts forever, but you.
Summon your power. Come to our aid. Quiet the storm. Make solid our faith.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

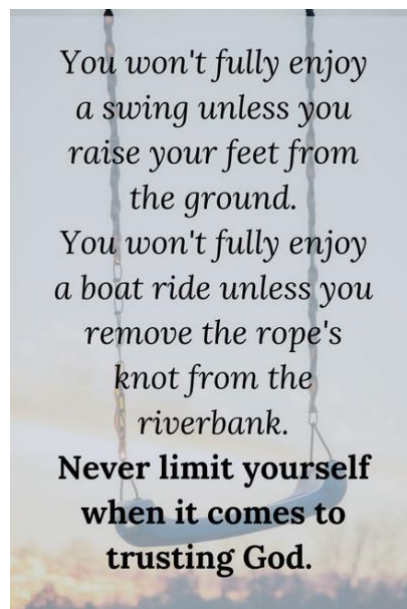
GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

*“When I... said [to the sea]:
‘Thus far shall you come but no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stilled!’”*
**God miraculously holds back the tremendous power of the ocean at the shoreline.
What is another phenomenon in nature that fills you with wonder?**

*“A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat,
so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion.”*
**When in your life did it seem that storms were raging around you and Jesus –
rather than holding your hand – was asleep? When did he “wake up”?**

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

“Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?”
What is this story of the storm about? What is its meaning for your life at this time?

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

That all of us will choose to trust God and be willing to “let go” so we can “let God”;
we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our Church may be a beacon in the storms of life and welcome people from every port of
call into a great and welcoming “arrivals hall”; we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That parents may experience the joy that comes from loving and nurturing;
we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That memories of the pain experienced by slaves in our nation’s past will lead us to work for
greater justice, love, understanding for people of color; we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That painful past memories will not be forgotten but inspire us to be people of greater faith,
kindness and self-control; we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all newly-ordained priests will be kind, loyal, faith-filled, compassionate shepherds;
we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the poor will be regarded as God’s most precious children and find open doors, minds and
hearts wherever they go; we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the sick will be healed... and until then will be patient, brave and trusting in their struggles;
we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our beloved dead... .. and for all who grieve those they miss;
we pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.**

CLOSING PRAYER

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.**

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of Job

The Lord addressed Job out of the storm and said:

*Who shut within doors the sea,
when it burst forth from the womb;
when I made the clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling bands?*

*When I set limits for it
and fastened the bar of its door,
and said:*

*'Thus far shall you come but no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stilled!'*

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

On that day, as evening drew on,
Jesus said to his disciples:

“Let us cross to the other side.”

Leaving the crowd,
they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was.
And other boats were with him.

A violent squall came up
and waves were breaking over the boat,
so that it was already filling up.
Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion.

They woke him and said to him,
“Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”

He woke up, rebuked the wind,
and said to the sea, *“Quiet! Be still!”*
The wind ceased and there was great calm.

Then he asked them,
“Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?”

They were filled with great awe and said to one another,
“Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

Mark, chapter 4