



Liturgy Cycle B

Twelfth Sunday Of The Year

Strom On The Lake

Introduction

We all encounter storms of one kind or another during the course of our lives- troubles, disappointments, quarrels, setbacks, accidents, illness etc. Every storm severely tests our faith in God. Though we turn to God in the midst of the storm at the same time we often doubt him. Today's Gospel shows Christ present with his disciples in the midst of the storm. He is also present with us in our storms.

First Reading (Job 38:1, 8-11)

God alone is able to exercise control over the sea. In this way we see God's care for the human family.

Second Reading (2 Cor 5: 14-17)

Christ died so that we might live a Christ centered life, not a self-centered life.

Gospel (Mark 4: 35-41)

When the apostles witness Jesus calming the sea they are dumbfounded and ask who this man can be, who is able to do a work of God.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to God our Father that with his help we may be able to weather the various storms, which threaten our lives and our world.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church, the barque of Peter: that it may not lose heart when storms of dissension or persecution blow up and threaten to sink it. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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For world leaders: that they may spare no effort to bring peace to those troubled spots of the world where the storms of war are wrecking lives and homes. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For families which are threatened by continual fighting; and for homes threatened by unemployment, hardship, and poverty. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may be able to overcome our patience, anger, and resentments, which upset our lives and the lives of those who are close to us. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Reflection

One minute our lives are free and easy.

Next minute we are cast down.

All it takes is a piece of bad news

or some disappointment,

and suddenly for us the whole world

becomes dark and somber.

Waves of discouragement, fear, and despair

rise up all around us, threatening to engulf us.

In such moments

who will save us from drowning and help us

to keep the barque of our lives on course?

Christ our Brother will.

He who is our companion

on the voyage to the eternal shore.

All we have to do is awaken ourselves

to a sense of his presence,

and call out to him in our distress,

as the apostles did.

Then we will hear his gentle voice saying to us:

"Fear not, for I am with you".

And the waves of fear will subside,

and the sun of hope will shine for us again.