

# SUNDAY GOSPEL BIBLE SHARING



## Wednesday June 19th for the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**OPENING PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, please quiet the wind and subdue the waves that threaten our stormy lives. Holy Spirit make us bold to pray for the stillness to listen for the healing words of the Gospel. In Jesus' name. Amen.

- In the words of Saint Benedict, “Listen with the ears of your heart.”
- Please note a word, phrase, or verse that seemed to really catch your notice.
- A volunteer slowly read aloud today’s passage Afterwards, we have a few minutes of silent reflection.

## READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

### Mark 4:35-41

The Calming of a Storm at Sea.

35\* On that day, as evening drew on, he said to them, “Let us cross to the other side.”<sup>m</sup>

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

37 A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up.

38 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?”

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

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

41\* <sup>n</sup> They were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”

Notes

\* [4:35–5:43] After the chapter on parables, Mark narrates four miracle stories: [Mk 4:35–41](#); [5:1–20](#); and two joined together in [Mk 5:21–43](#). See also notes on [Mt 8:23–34](#) and [9:8–26](#).

\* [4:39] Quiet! Be still!: as in the case of silencing a demon ([Mk 1:25](#)), Jesus rebukes the wind and subdues the turbulence of the sea by a mere word; see note on [Mt 8:26](#).

\* [4:41] Jesus is here depicted as exercising power over wind and sea. In the Christian community this event was seen as a sign of Jesus' saving presence amid persecutions that threatened its existence.

## QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

- 1 In today's world, so full of fears and uncertainty, what is my choice: growing faith and trust or paralyzing fear?
- 2 Have I ever been in a "storm" where Jesus seemed not to care and I was overcome by fear? What happened?

## Commentary

The story of the storm sets the stage for the display of Jesus' power in front of his disciples and the people occupying other boats who at least were interested in the person of Jesus. The narrative is typical of Mark who often emphasizes the inability of the disciples to understand Jesus' messianic identity. The event presents a challenge to all believers that extends to our times: What do we choose in moments of tragedy and danger: trust or fear? According to Mark, the disciples had shared in the secrets of the kingdom and had been with Jesus when he healed the sick and cast out demons. Yet, in the crisis they doubt and get angry because Jesus has fallen asleep and is not paying attention to them. After quieting the storm, Jesus asked them: Why this fear? Where is your faith? He was not asking for "awe" at the miracle. He wanted real faith in him which included trust in the final victory after his passion and death. There is no record of any verbal response of the disciples. Instead, Mark tells of their awe, a common reaction to the witnessing of divine power. These men had given up everything to follow Jesus, but their questions showed their anxiety about their lack of knowledge of the one they followed. In a sense we are all "in the same boat." Today's reading offers three significant messages:

- This event was seen as a sign of Jesus' saving presence amid the persecution that threatened the early Christian community. Faith needs to be nurtured.
- As disciples of Jesus, we are called to discover more of whom this person is and whom we have decided to follow.
- During the storm, Jesus rests in trust while the disciples panic in fear.

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

Bible Sharing Parish Hall and Zoom  
Wednesday, June 19 6:30 – 7:30pm  
Weekly on Wednesday  
Zoom Meeting

Description: Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting  
Time: June 19, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZolduisqDosE923wHRoszXqNBSkCL57ORPg/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhpjorHtKTthCORpx5Goj4d-jwpiFdj\\_oPzwjNMS9AeDvnGMBxOZFTRY](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZolduisqDosE923wHRoszXqNBSkCL57ORPg/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhpjorHtKTthCORpx5Goj4d-jwpiFdj_oPzwjNMS9AeDvnGMBxOZFTRY)

Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdzZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKUohJQTo9>

Meeting ID: 811 6265 5618  
Passcode: 280607

