



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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INTO DEEP WATER WITH JESUS

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 9, 2025

The Gospel of today's Liturgy takes us to the banks of the Sea of Galilee. The crowd is gathering around Jesus, while some disappointed fishermen, among them, Simon Peter, are washing their nets after a night of fishing that had gone badly. And so it is that Jesus climbs into Simon's boat; then he invites him to go out to sea and cast his nets again (cf. Lk 5:1-4). Let us pause on these two actions of Jesus: first he climbs into the boat and then, the second one, he invites him to put out to sea. It was a night that had gone badly, without fish, but Peter is trusting and puts out to sea.

First of all, Jesus gets into Simon's boat. To do what? To teach. He asks for that very boat, which is not full of fish but rather has returned to the shore empty, after a night of toil and disillusionment. It is a beautiful image for us too. Every day the boat of our life leaves the shores of our home to sail out into the sea of daily activities; every day we try to "fish in the open sea", to cultivate dreams, to pursue projects, to experience love in our relationships. But often, like Peter, we experience the "night of empty nets" — the night of empty nets — the disappointment of trying very hard and not seeing the desired results: "We toiled all night and took nothing" (v. 5), says Simon. How often, we too are left with a sense of defeat while disappointment and bitterness arise in our hearts. Two very dangerous seeds.

So what does the Lord do? He chooses to climb into our boat. He wants to proclaim the Gospel from there. It is precisely that empty boat, the symbol of our incapacity, that becomes Jesus' "cathedra", the pulpit from which he proclaims the Word. And this is what the Lord loves to do — the Lord is the Lord of surprises, of miracles in surprises — to climb into the boat of our lives when we have nothing to offer him; to enter our emptiness and fill it with his presence; to make use of our poverty to proclaim his richness, of our miseries to proclaim his mercy. Let us remember this: God does not want a cruise ship: a poor "ramshackle" boat is enough for him, as long as we welcome him. This yes, to welcome him; it does not matter on which boat, but to welcome him. But, I wonder, do we let him into the boat of our lives? Do we make available to him the little we have? Sometimes we feel unworthy of him because we are sinners. But this is an excuse that the Lord does not like, because it distances him from us! He is the God of closeness, of compassion, of tenderness, and he does not seek perfectionism: he seeks our welcome. He says to you too: "Let me get into the boat of your life", "But Lord, look..." — "Like that, let me in, just as it is". Let us think about this.

In this way, the Lord rebuilds Peter's trust. When he climbs into the boat, after preaching, he says: "Put out into the deep" (v. 4). It was not a good time of the day for fishing, in broad daylight, but Peter trusts in Jesus. He does not base his trust on the strategies of fishermen, which he knows well, but rather he bases it on the newness of Jesus. That wonder that moved him to do what Jesus told him. It is the same for us too: if we welcome the Lord into our boat, we can put out to sea. With Jesus, we sail the sea of life without fear, without giving in to disappointment when one catches nothing, and without giving up and saying "there is nothing more that can be done". Always, in personal life as well as in the life of the Church and society, there is something beautiful and courageous that can be done, always. We can always start over — the Lord always invites us to get back on our feet because he opens up new possibilities. So let us accept the invitation: let us chase away pessimism and mistrust, and put out to sea with Jesus! Our little empty boat, too, will witness a miraculous catch.

Let us pray to Mary, who like no other, welcomed the Lord into the boat of her life. May she encourage us and intercede for us.

CWL General Meeting: Our first meeting of 2025 will be taking place on February 11th at 7pm in the parish hall. We will be setting our yearly budget at this meeting while enjoying some fellowship and refreshments so hope to see you there. New members are always welcome!

THE 33RD WORLD DAY OF THE SICK is celebrated on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. Inspired by the Jubilee Year's theme of hope, this year's theme for World Day of the Sick is: ***"Hope does not disappoint, but strengthens us in times of trial!"*** It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.

[MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS XXXIII WORLD DAY OF THE SICK](#)

LA 33 JORNADA MUNDIAL DEL ENFERMO se celebra el martes 11 de febrero de 2025, memoria litúrgica de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes. Inspirado en el Año Jubilar, el tema de este año para la Jornada Mundial del Enfermo es: ***"¡La esperanza no defrauda, sino que nos fortalece en los tiempos de prueba!"*** Esta jornada nos recuerda que no se puede descuidar el servicio a los enfermos y a los que sufren y reconoce los grandes esfuerzos de los médicos, enfermeras, hospitales y ministros pastorales para asistir a los enfermos.

[MENSAJE DEL SANTO PADRE FRANCISCO CON OCASIÓN DE LA XXXIII JORNADA MUNDIAL DEL ENFERMO](#)

ENGLISH SCHEDULE

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 8, 2025 **5:00 PM**
+Kenny Borutskie

Sunday, February 9, 2025 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 **11:00 AM**

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 **11:00 AM**

Thursday, February 13, 2025 **11:00 AM**
+Catherin & Joseph Zanizwski

Friday, February 14, 2025 **11:00 AM**
St. Cyril and St. Methodius
+Wanda & Byron Walker

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 15, 2025 **5:00 PM**
+Janet Silvar +William & Stella Dombroskie

Sunday, February 16, 2025 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

V Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Sabado 8 de febrero, 2025 **7:00 PM**

Domingo 9 de febrero, 2025 **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 11 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

Miércoles 12 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

Jueves 13 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

Viernes 14 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**
San Cirilio y San Metodio

VI Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Sabado 15 de febrero, 2025 **7:00 PM**

Domingo 16 de febrero, 2025 **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Young Adults Night: Jubilee Year Pilgrimage in Guelph: Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to make a Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate (28 Norfolk Street, Guelph) on Saturday, March 1st and attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations.

Holy Hour: 6:30-7:30 pm, social with food: 7:30-8pm, praise night with Vocations testimony: 8-9pm, Compline 9pm. A Plenary Indulgence can be received under the usual conditions for attending a pilgrimage site. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com