



August 9th, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

At once Jesus spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." From Matthew 14

In this weekend's gospel, Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. Peter's first impulse is to need proof that this person is really Jesus. Even when Jesus grants his request to call him out on to the water, Peter's fear and doubt overtake him. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. Even through the storm of disbelief, Jesus offers calm.

Peter's example teaches us that true ministry emerges from true **faith**. Faith in Jesus will enables us to **act** without fear- to carry on His work, His mission. The mission of the whole Church is to continue the work of Jesus. The family, the domestic church, YOU - participate greatly in this mission.

How is Jesus calling you to mission? What storms might be causing your family doubt or fear?

As A Family, talk about simple but concrete ways you can set aside doubt and fear - and carry out faith through action in the week ahead. Remember, Jesus teaches us about true faith through examples of kindness, forgiveness, justice, peace. How will your family be a living example?

PERSISTENCE.

August 16th, 2020

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." From Matthew 15

In this weekend's gospel, what persistence and great confidence this Canaanite woman had that Jesus could heal her daughter! Does it remind you of any persistent requests within your own home and family? Think about a time when someone's persistence changed your heart. How about a time when you persisted with confidence to help change someone else's heart? What about the needs you take to God in prayer? Are you confident? Do you approach prayer with persistence, as well as trust in His will? The message of today's scripture should be an affirmation of Jesus' overflowing and never ending mercy. God wants us to be confident in Him.

As A Family, talk about the things each member feels they most need from God. Pray those prayers of petition together - trusting that God always hears our prayers ... and answers them according to His will (which equates to **in our best interest & for greater good!**)