



St. Colman's Parish
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8th /9th August 2020

Storms of Life

The readings today are about the storms of life. Times of distress and may lead us into asking the help of God. The gospel is full of incidents where Jesus comes to the help of those who are in the darkness of life, like in illness, bereavement, hunger and thirst, and death.

We come to God like that ourselves. We hope for a cure from illness, for help in financial difficulties, for employment. We come to him in the losses and bereavements of life, and feel like Peter we are walking on water and nearly sinking.

Sometimes we think God can wave a magic wand and all will be well. We know of dramatic cures. We know also that the darkness doesn't lift but that God's care and protection are near. We know that much human suffering is caused not by God but by other human beings, as when we are victims of perhaps injustice, bullying and addiction.

For Peter the Lord stretched out a hand and helped him. Only after that did the storm calm down. In our trust in God and believing he is with us in trials comes some consolation and comfort. We put our hand in the hand of Jesus, of God and trust there is help.

The help will often come through each other. In a few hours of listening, anxiety and sadness can turn to calm. In the times of hardship, help with getting a job or some financial help gets us over some of the bad times. God's hand is so often the hands of another.

Fr. Danny Broderick (087) 9061255

Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown

Rev. Conor Bradley (087) 3664057

Parish Office: open Tues. & Thurs 9:30-12:30 066-9767312

Email: milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie

Website: www.milltownlistryparish.com

Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780

Baptism: We welcome into our Christian community:

Jack Quinn, Ballyoughtragh Heights

Masses & Intentions

Mon Aug. 10 th	Milltown	9:00 a.m.	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Tues Aug. 11 th	Listry	7:00 p.m.	
Wed. Aug. 12 th			<i>No Mass</i>
Thurs. Aug. 13 th	Milltown	9:00 a.m.	
Fri. Aug. 14 th	Listry	6:00 p.m.	<i>No evening Mass in Milltown Feast of the Assumption Vigil Mass Susan Griffin, Lissivane West</i>
Sat. Aug. 15 th	Milltown Listry	11:15a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<i>Feast of the Assumption</i>
Sun. Aug. 16 th	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	<i>Breeda Broderick, Church Street</i>

Eucharistic Ministers

Listry Saturday – Aug. 15th Bridie Murphy
Milltown – Sunday – Aug. 16th Lucy O’ Leary & Sheila O’ Sullivan

Readers

Listry – Saturday – Aug. 15th Tom O’ Sullivan
Milltown – Sunday – Aug. 16th Family Reader

Ushers

Listry – Saturday – Aug. 15th Mary Kennedy
Milltown – Sunday – Aug. 16th Joe Tyther

Cleaners/Sanitiser

Listry – Saturday – Aug. 15th Josie & Frank Jennings
Milltown – Sunday – Aug. 16th Mary Murphy

To get out of a boat in the middle of a storm and start walking across the water was certainly an act of faith on Peter's part. He wasn't even sure that the person walking across the lake to him was Jesus, but he knew that if it was he would not come to harm. When he lost his nerve and began to sink, Jesus put out his hand and held him, at once. This instant action indicates that Jesus did not take his eyes off Peter as he embarked on his walk of faith across the water.

Every journey begins with one small step. Peter's journey across the water began with the step out of the boat. With his eyes fixed on Jesus, he believed he could do something which was physically impossible, and for a few steps on his journey across the water he did the impossible. But when logic took over he began to sink.

Sometimes Jesus calls us to make a journey in faith. The first steps on the journey may not be difficult, as we are buoyed by faith and the momentum which is often part of beginning something new. But there is often a "dip" period after the beginning, where the momentum flags, the easy things have been done and problems emerge. Critics appear and the return for the energy expended seems very little. Like Peter we begin to feel the full force of the wind. At this point the initial act of faith which prompted us to step out on the journey can be replaced by doubt.

It is in this "dip" period that we make the real act of faith, without the support of the enthusiasm and emotions which prompted us to begin the journey. This is the time in which we need to remember that when Peter was sinking amid his doubts, Jesus responded at once to help him. More than that, Jesus put out his hand to help him which indicates how close Jesus was to Peter during the journey across the water.

Peter had no hesitation in calling out "Lord! Save me!" when he got into difficulties. When we start to sink, the temptation is to try to save ourselves. In trying to save ourselves we abandon the original act of faith which propelled us into making the journey.

In calling out to Jesus to save us, we abandon ourselves into his hands in a true act of faith.

***Lord, help me in times of trouble;
let me be a help in times of trouble
for those
near and dear to me.***

Booking of Weekend Masses

If you have not yet contacted the parish office to attend any of the weekend Masses, please do so in one of the following ways:

- Email the parish at Milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie
- Text the parish mobile number. The number is (087) 6326989
- Leave a message on the voicemail of this number
- Ring the parish office during office hours on Tuesday and Thursday morning. The parish office number is (066) 9767312

Using email is the preferred option for making contact but we appreciate that not everyone is used this method.

Priest on Duty this Sunday:
Fr. Kieran O' Sullivan (087) 2432155