

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Miracles attract attention and they are signs of something. The Gospels proclaim them as signs of God’s active presence among us. Their significance is believed to be often ambiguous both from its immediate stand point as well as its far reaching impact. What are we to make of spectacular happenings such as the calming of the sea, or walking on water? In the Temptation stories, Jesus refused to do spectacular actions that would only dazzle people without also fundamentally strengthening them in mind and body.

St. Matthew’s gospel recounts the story of the storm at sea. The apostles are in a small boat tossed and battered by the violent winds and storm at sea. It is a picture that helped the early church and it is the one that could help us now. When the Gospel was originally written the Church was indeed a small community and strong winds were blowing against it, threatening its survival.

The vision of Jesus walking on water inspired fear and awe. After Jesus exhorts them to “take courage and do not be afraid”, Peter makes a conditional request. “If it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” And Jesus simply challenges Peter by issuing the command: “Come”.

As long as Peter fixes his eyes on the one who summoned him, the going is great; but when the same Peter falters, he sees the strong wind and becomes frightened and begins to sink. Peter would cry out and say, “Lord, save me”, and it is Jesus, who reaches out to him and saves him.

The Church will falter when its faith falters. It will fail when it doubts the presence of God. It will experience poise and calm of soul that comes with firm faith in the presence of Jesus Christ in its midst.

This reaching out to grasp the Hand of God becomes the model for us to learn.



DECIMOCTAVO DOMINGO

DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Milagros atraen atención y son señales de algo. Los Evangelios los proclaman como signos de la presencia activa de Dios entre nosotros. A menudo su significado se cree que es confuso tanto en su punto de soporte inmediato, así como su impacto de gran alcance. ¿Qué aremos de sucesos espectaculares como la calma del mar, o el caminar sobre el agua? En las historias de Tentación, Jesús se negó a hacer acciones espectaculares que sólo deslumbraría a la gente sin también fortalecerlos fundamentalmente en mente y cuerpo.

El Evangelio de San Mateo narra la historia de la tormenta en el mar. Los apóstoles se encuentran en un pequeño barco sacudido y estropeado por los vientos violentos y tormentas en el mar. Es una imagen que ayudó a la iglesia antigua y es la que podría ayudarnos ahora. Cuando el Evangelio fue escrito originalmente la Iglesia era una pequeña comunidad y soplaban fuertes vientos contra ella, amenazando su sobrevivencia.

La visión de Jesús caminando sobre el agua inspiró temor y asombro. Después de que Jesús los exhorta a "tomar valor y no tener miedo", Pedro hace una petición condicional. "Señor, si eres tú, manda que yo llegue hasta ti caminando sobre el agua". Y Jesús simplemente reta a Pedro dándole el mando: "Ven".

Mientras Pedro fija sus ojos en aquel que lo convocó, todo es genial; Pero cuando el mismo Pedro flaquea, al ver el viento fuerte y le entra el miedo y comienza a hundirse. Pedro clamaba y decía, "Señor, sálvame", y es Jesús, quien le estrecha la mano y lo salva.

La Iglesia se tambaleará cuando su fe se tambalee. Fallará cuando se dude de la presencia de Dios. Experimentará serenidad y calma del alma que viene con la firme fe en la presencia de Jesucristo en su seno.

Este estrechar para tomar la Mano de Dios se convierte en el modelo para que aprendamos.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA July 25 — July, 26, 2026 Weekday Masses Offerings.....\$ 157.75 Weekend Mass Offerings.....\$1,930.10	UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS August 2: Reserve Fund August 9: Archdiocesan Annual Appeal August 30: Mission Co-Op	A A A 2026 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal We urge you to help us meet our goal: <table><tr><td>Parish Assessment:</td><td>\$32,295.00</td></tr><tr><td>YTD we paid:</td><td>\$13,368.65</td></tr><tr><td>Balance we owe:</td><td>\$18,926.35</td></tr><tr><td>Pledges Balance:</td><td>\$ 615.00</td></tr></table> Thank you for your generosity!	Parish Assessment:	\$32,295.00	YTD we paid:	\$13,368.65	Balance we owe:	\$18,926.35	Pledges Balance:	\$ 615.00
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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 8				
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
August 1, 2026	August 2, 2026	August 3, 2026	August 4, 2026	August 5, 2026
9:00am ✙ Anthony Genovea ✙ ✙ Pacita Santos Mila de la Torre & Family 4:30pm Parish of St. John Click HERE for ONLINE GIVING Give Your Gift TODAY	8:00am Living Members of the Young Men's Institute 10:00am ✙ Dominador Magaling ✙ Mel Ventura ✙ Jeremiah Hallisey 12:00pm Parish of St. John	9:00am ✙ Maria Ida Isaura Conceicao de Salema THURSDAY August 6, 2026 9:00am Deceased Members of the Young Men's Institute	9:00am ✙ Dominga Josefina Mendoza ✙ ✙ Manuel Simpliciano FRIDAY August 7, 2026 9:00am Julianne Parayo ✙	9:00am ✙ Benjamin Caceres SATURDAY August 8, 2026 9:00am ✙ Fr. Jerry Dybdal ✙ ✙ Eduardo S. Genoves 4:30pm Parish of St. John