



# The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 8-9 August 2020**

## Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon

### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

120 Oban Road, Ringwood North 3134

Phone: 0434 224 483

Fax: 9879 0642

Email: [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Jacinta Bibby

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### PARISH SECRETARIES

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### HIGH SPIRITS COORDINATORS

Etta D'Souza

Sundays 4-5:00pm (School terms)

Elma Gama

Sundays 4-5:00pm (School terms)

### PARISH HOSTESSES

Mary Yeo and Kerry O'Leary

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—Holy Spirit

Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM [plt@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:plt@holyspiritparish.org.au)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Secretary

[ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au)

### FETE COMMITTEE

John Cilia (Chairperson) -

[fete@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:fete@holyspiritparish.org.au)

### PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE

St Gerard's: McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

St Anne's: 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards 3114

Phone: 9876 1509

Fax: 9876 6179

Email: [ParkOrchards@cam.org.au](mailto:ParkOrchards@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte](http://www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte)

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm, closed Mondays.

### PARISH SECRETARIES

Ana Saro

Tuesday & Wednesday

Kerry McGowan

Thursday & Friday

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH EMAIL

Jacinta will continue to make contact with parishioners via email on a weekly basis. If you have not received an email but would like to be included in this distribution list, please email to let us know at [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au). Alternatively, please ring the parish mobile 0434 224 483 to advise us of your email address.

This is a great opportunity to update our data base!

### PLEASE NOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PREMIER AND THE BISHOPS OF VICTORIA, ALL MASSES, SACRAMENTS, LITURGIES AND GROUP ACTIVITIES WILL BE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE CHURCH AND CHAPEL WILL BE LOCKED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Readings, Prayers of Intercession and a Gospel reflection are included in the word, which is available from the parish web site: <http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/The-Word-Newsletter>

Recorded Masses (click on the You Tube icon), important information, Spirit Extra, the Spirit Magazine and other Parish matters will also be available on the website: <http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au>

THE Parish Office will also be closed, however, the staff will be monitoring the phone, mail and emails. Please ring the Parish Mobile number: 0434 224 483 and leave your name and contact number and we will return your call as soon as possible. Email: [ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST— RECENTLY DECEASED:** George Donnelly (Jim & Joan Quinlan's brother-in-law)  
Katie O'Dwyer (Bill and Fran's daughter), Victims of the Beirut explosion

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Kevin Maher, Ronald Flannery, Pauline Lees, Bill Hawkins, May Dowling, Anthony Abrams, Ellen Vermer, John O'Dwyer, Ciro, Anna, Antonio, Vic and Ciro Jnr Esposito

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:** Ben Lobo, John, Angela Damora, Warren Darbyshire, Claire Snaidero, Pam Rowe, Stella & family, Deb Neilsen, Pauline Curlis, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason

**Readings this week:** 1Kings 19:9, 11-13; Rom 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at <http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au>

**HOLY SPIRIT THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS:**

Envelopes: \$  
 Credit Cards: \$  
 Direct Debits: \$  
**TOTAL LAST WEEK:** \$

**PRESBYTERY COLLECTION:**

Envelopes: \$  
 Loose collection: \$  
**TOTAL:** \$

THANK YOU to everyone who supports Holy Spirit Parish financially. PLEASE ADVISE THE PARISH HOUSE IF YOUR CREDIT CARD IS LOST/STOLEN OR YOUR CREDIT CARD NUMBER HAS CHANGED.

The Parish will rely on continuing contributions through the Thanksgiving program to meet our expenses for day to day operations. If you would like to drop your envelope into the office, please ring to arrange a drop off or pick up time.

This may be an opportune time to change over to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions. Should you wish to make this change, please call the parish office on **0434 224 483**

**Holy Spirit Parish Vision**

At Holy Spirit Parish, we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit; welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as Disciples of Christ.



Holy Spirit is a child safe parish. At Holy Spirit we hold the care, safety and well being of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus." (Matthew 14:29)*

When you hear Jesus calling, do you respond immediately and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, you are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of His presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen to how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

**Help break barriers**

Learn more and donate at  
[www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal)

T: 03 9287 5513

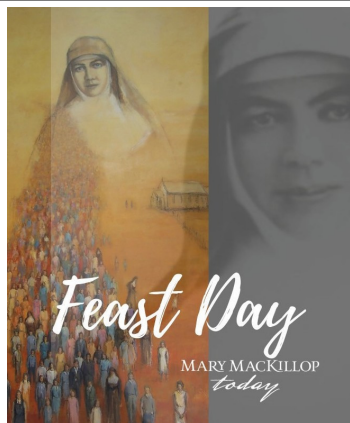
**CatholicCare Sunday Appeal**

This weekend is the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help CatholicCare to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

**Please donate to CatholicCare Sunday Appeal.**

Your support and generosity will help break barriers to social inclusion and strengthen families and communities to live life to the full.

You can donate online at [www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal) or call (03) 9287 5513



In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to

*"Take fresh courage."*

For the ten year anniversary of Mary's canonisation, please give generously this Feast Day to continue her legacy.

TO DONATE Call 02 8912 2777 or visit

[marymackilloptoday.org.au/donate](http://marymackilloptoday.org.au/donate) **Feast Day - 8 August 2020**

**MARY MACKILLOP**  
*today*

## EVERGREENS

Dear Evergreens,

We have been advised to put our Evergreen activities, (Meetings and Social Activities), on hold during the Corona-virus pandemic. We will advise you when we are able to resume. In the meantime, take good care of yourselves and please continue to support each other (by phone etc.)

If any further information is required, please ring Jean-(9876 2204) or Shirley- (9870 1396)



## SEPTEMBER EDITION SPIRIT MAGAZINE - DEADLINE [14TH AUGUST](#)

**We really need everyone's help to make sure the Father's Day edition of The Spirit is as good as it can be. We need photos and stories.**



Because we don't have any current parish events happening, I have suggested the following to get your creative juices going. Remember, you don't have to have journalistic qualifications - No one can tell your stories like you.

**FATHERS AND /OR FATHER FIGURES IN YOUR LIVES** - Tell us the funniest story about your father or father figure, or the best thing about him, and if your life story does not have memories of your father tell us what you think you missed most.

**PHOTOS OF WHAT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HAVE BEEN DOING DURING LOCKDOWN.** Are you knitting, sewing, singing, drawing, painting, colouring in, jigsaw puzzles - Show us what you have achieved! And tell us the story about how you achieved it! Can be five words or fifty -

**WHERE DO YOU SAY YOU ARE FROM?** For instance, in my case, when asked I always say the district I lived in when I was born.

**WHAT EVENTS HAS YOUR FAMILY HAD TO EXPERIENCE IN LOCKDOWN?** Births, Birthdays, tell us how and what you have celebrated or commiserated.

Remember to ask for permission to publish any photos of persons other than yourself!

**Are your pets helping your family through the pandemic? Send us photos of your hero pets.**

Thank you, I have already cleared the decks to cope with the enormous response I am anticipating. Please send your items to [helen@konynenburg.com](mailto:helen@konynenburg.com)

Helen

## Parish Zoom Chat with Fr Arsenio

The next fortnightly zoom chat is planned for Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> August @ 5 - 5.30 pm

*Join with parishioners for a pre-dinner chat next Wednesday evening.*

*It's a great chance to see familiar faces and catch up on news.*

**Holy Spirit Parish's Zoom Meeting**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?pwd=WnlnaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09)

[pwd=WnlnaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?pwd=WnlnaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09)

**Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ**

**Come alone or bring a family member or friend.**

**Please call Mary on 0410 654 357 for tech support if needed.**

**ALL WELCOME**



## Spirit Extra

Spirit Extra Eight is now available on the website.

<http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Spirit-Extra>

### 'The Blessing' Project

Hi everyone! To help keep our Parish community going during the COVID lockdown, we are starting another **choir-inspired** music video project. This time, we would like to involve as many people from the Parish as possible, especially families and children.

You may have seen a song called 'The Blessing' that has been sung throughout the world in a multitude of languages by Christians during COVID-19 to remind the world that God is with us and to give everyone a sense of belonging and unity. You can find some great versions on YouTube – just search for The Blessing. We would like to do a Holy Spirit Parish version of The Blessing. All you have to do is record a video of you or your family singing, playing, dancing or just waving along in time with the music. You can submit more than one video, and if you are a musician, we'd love to have you playing as well. A video with as many familiar faces as possible would be most uplifting to our community so please don't feel that you need to have musical talent to be involved. If you have a real aversion to singing feel free to just clap along to the song, tap a triangle, saucepan lid, sway, dance, hold up a sign of love, peace etc. This is about sharing something as a community. If you would like to be a part of this project please follow the instructions below.

#### How to record your video

You'll need a mobile phone with a camera, and someone to operate it (or use a stand if you have one). You can use the selfie camera if you like, but the rear camera will generally produce best results. If you aren't able to record a video, a photo of your family doing something would be fine.

You will need to sing/play/dance in time with the backing track. You can find the backing track on YouTube at this link <https://youtu.be/yWHQ9YRmXBg>.

If you are singing or playing an instrument, it would be good if you can listen to the backing track on ear-phones so it doesn't come out in your recording. For musicians, there is an attached lead sheet if you need it. The lyrics are also attached.

Once you have recorded your video, please contact Bill or Maree Buttler to arrange for it to be picked up. We can use a USB drive to transfer it, or you can upload it to YouTube and send us the link, or email your photo to us at [billnmaree@optusnet.com.au](mailto:billnmaree@optusnet.com.au) (videos will probably be too big to email).

Once we have enough contributions, we'll put them together into a video collage that can be displayed on the Parish website and Facebook page. Get recording, and have fun!

#### Holy Spirit Web Site - [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au):

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- "News, Events": ref menu
- "Covid 19 News and Updates" (much of which is drawn from Jacinta's weekly email): ref home page & menu
- "How we stay connected", online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page
- >>>> We have changed our web address on Friday 03/07/2020. Refer the attached page for more info <<<<

#### Collection Notice

For information on the Parish's policies regarding information collection and privacy please refer to:

<http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice>

# PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON

following the Beirut blast

## God of Compassion,

You are strength to those who suffer and comfort to those who grieve.  
We pray for the people of Lebanon in this time of disaster.  
Embrace those who died so suddenly and console those  
who grieve for loved ones.

United in solidarity with our Lebanese sisters and brothers we pray:  
For healing and strength for those injured and suffering  
That the international community will respond with generosity  
and compassion  
And that stability and peace will be restored in Lebanon.

**We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

- Jo Brady RSJ Caritas Australia



*It is with great heartbreak that we learnt of the explosion in Beirut which killed over 100 people and wounded thousands. Lebanon has suffered multiple waves of conflict and disaster. A drawn-out civil war, followed by years of conflict with her neighbours, has been compounded by the strain on resources caused by the Syrian war and an influx of refugees. Tuesday's explosion came at a time when the country is already gripped by an economic crisis and reeling from the impacts of COVID-19. The situation is dire. Yet the Caritas network is on the ground, doing what it can to alleviate suffering by delivering emergency food and medical resources at a time of intense crisis.*

*Caritas Australia has committed to provide immediate response in the form of crucial financial support as part of its already established Middle East Regional Appeal. Additionally, through its in-country staff and partners in Lebanon, the wider Caritas network is working to deliver:*

- Food and water.
- Hygiene kits including masks and soap.
- Material for shelter repairs and the clean-up of debris.

*Medication and other health services.*

*Currently Caritas Australia supports two programs in Lebanon, including a Protection program supporting shelters for women and children who are survivors of gender-based violence, and a Humanitarian program supporting Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese host communities. To donate to Caritas Australia call 1800 024 413.*



# Our Parish Website has moved

We are now at [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

As the heading says we have moved our web site. We are no longer at [www.cam...](http://www.cam...) Instead you can find us at: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au).

There have been some useful changes which are best explained by reading these notes in conjunction with the image of our home page (next page).

1. The web site can now be searched. This is perhaps the best of the improvements. If you're looking for something and can't remember where it's placed start here.
2. If you are on a small form factor device (smart phone or table) you will see the "hamburger" in the top left corner. Click this to see the menu (3)
3. The Menu
  - a. The menu now sports "Covid 19". This is the full list of announcements we have made since the restrictions took place – mostly these come from Jacinta's weekly update. We also have the most recent two on the home page ("Covid 19 Updates" - refer 6). Previously we had the most recent one on the home page and the rest on another page that was a bit less obvious to find and much harder to maintain. This change is mostly of benefit to me ;)
  - b. "News, Events" has been revamped. It used to be a menu list of articles which were difficult to navigate and appreciate what they might contain. Now it is a series of summaries each with an associated image and details should you wish to "click-in". This means a more manageable interface and better user experience.
  - c. Contact Us can now fit on our menu. Previously it was only available by the phone icon in the top right corner which is not the first place many people would look.
4. The rotating banners are as they were – a number of standard (e.g. current Mass season which clicks through to mass times) and newly

featured items (e.g. click through the Choir image to see and hear our Choir in action) each of which allows the user to click-through to the content.

5. "Holy Spirit Parish Online – How we stay connected" is as it was – a place to click through to see a list of online resources such as weekly streamed masses and Zoom meeting updates, etc.
6. Covid 19 Updates. As explained in 3a, this is the most recent two announcements and you can "click here for more updates on Covid 19".
7. Welcome to Holy Spirit Parish. This too is unchanged and our Welcome message to the world.
8. Reflections. This is as it was, a reflection from our Parish Priest. However, a significant recent change is that a new reflection is added reliably each week. It doesn't matter how sophisticated the web site is if it has no interesting content. Now we have something valuable to share regularly. Thanks Father Arsenio! (Click "More Reflections..." to previous ones).
9. Tweets by @Pontifex is Pope Francis' Twitter Feed. This is as it was. It automatically updates daily. I have no interest in Twitter myself, but I feel that this feed is worthy of our time.
10. At Today's Readings you can find today's Bible readings courtesy of Melbourne Catholic (Catholic Archdiocese Melbourne).
11. The 8 Icons at the bottom of every page are technically the same. They are a quick way to navigate to main sections of the site. With the change I have taken the opportunity to give "Spirit Extra!" its own button (Helen can lay claim to this new small piece of "screen real estate" next to her "Spirit Magazine").
12. The Footer is unchanged. It too shows at the bottom of every page and tells people who and where we are and also has links to the legal type documents that is required of us.

Online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom (Wed 15/07 7:30 p.m.) <<< last updated Friday 02 July, 10:45 a.m....

Register for our weekly Parish News email by clicking here: [RingwoodNorth@cam.org.au](mailto:RingwoodNorth@cam.org.au)

Following is a log of announcements that have been made since our look down journey.

More specific online resources can be found [here](#).

2020 07 11 Parish AGM, Winter Shelter Update

Please join us on Wednesday 15th July at 7:30pm. Due to the current COVID restrictions this meeting will be held via Zoom

Parish Groups, Sporting Clubs and School have been sent reports on their activities and how COVID has affected them

Topic: Holy Spirit AGM  
Time: Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 07:30 PM  
Zoom details: Please book via the Parish House

Refer the [WS Newsletter July 2020.pdf](#)

2020 07 10 Fr. Arsenio update re. Stage 3 Lockdown and cessation of services

My dear friends in Christ,

We are just returning to our normal ways and who would have thought we find ourselves back again to stage 3 lockdown. Premier Dan Andrews' announcement of at least 6 weeks lockdown was distressing and disappointing for us all. This affects everyone in many different ways. As far as parish life is concerned, this means unfortunately no more Masses. Churches and chapels are to be closed for weeks ahead but limited sacraments are allowed with 10 people for funerals and 5 people for weddings.

We may find this pandemic era as the worst of times but is indeed the best of times to show our sense of personal discipline and our willingness to show our spirit of solidarity and resilience. We have a faith that unceasingly prays and we absolutely trust, with Jesus in our midst, that we will overcome this together and move forward to a better life ahead of us all. Stay safe and God bless us all!

Er Arsenio

Welcome to our Parish Website. This parish is situated at Ringwood North in the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

### The Holy Spirit Parish Vision

AT HOLY SPIRIT PARISH WE ARE AN INVITING COMMUNITY  
INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WELCOMING EVERYONE  
TO WORSHIP, GROW, BELONG AND SERVE TOGETHER  
AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

We aim to make our parish a missionary parish based on the five pillars of Church life - Worship, Evangelization, Discipleship, Community and Ministry. To actualise this dream we are currently working on Divine Renovation based on Alpha.

Since its inception in 1972, Holy Spirit Parish has moved through many stages of development and today continues to strive to be a vibrant community of faith within the Archdiocese. The number of people involved in the sacramental and outreach programmes helps us to bear witness to Christ in our day today life.

We invite you to become part of Holy Spirit parish family by worshipping at Holy Mass, participating in our many activities and service opportunities, and giving your time and talent. Please feel free to come and visit us or contact the parish office if you require further assistance.

### Reaping the rich harvest of God's goodness

Saturday 11th July 2020



### Reaping the rich harvest of God's goodness









Jesus compares the word of God, intended to produce fruit in our lives, to seed sown in the earth by the farmer. The seed of the word of God is first planted in our hearts. If it doesn't get our wholehearted attention in our lives, it withers and dies. Growth in the life of Christ is not always a smooth and straightforward process. The different types of soil can be the varied response we make to His word depending on the twists and turns of life. When we meet with disappointments and setbacks, obstacles may pile up against our

good intentions and weakens our choices. Moments like this call for deep faith. No matter what the situation we have to struggle to believe.

[Read more](#)

[More Reflections](#)

Today's readings are provided by Melbourne Catholic, a publication of the Communications Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

			
<a href="#">Parish Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Newsletter - Weekly</a>	<a href="#">Magazine - Quarterly</a>	<a href="#">Spirit Extra!</a>
			
<a href="#">Parish Groups</a>	<a href="#">Parish Directory</a>	<a href="#">Links</a>	<a href="#">Next Alpha</a>



 **Holy Spirit Parish**  
RINGWOOD NORTH

**Address:** 120 Oban Road  
Ringwood North  
VIC 3134 AUSTRALIA  
03 9876 3077  
ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au

**Phone:**

**Email:**

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

## FIRST READING

1 Kings 19.9, 11-13

*Go and stand on the mountain before the Lord.*

A reading from the first book of Kings.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God,  
he came to a cave, and spent the night there.  
Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,  
“Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord,  
for the Lord is about to pass by.”

Now there was a great wind,  
so strong that it was splitting mountains  
and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord,  
but the Lord was not in the wind;  
and after the wind an earthquake,  
but the Lord was not in the earthquake;  
and after the earthquake a fire,  
but the Lord was not in the fire;  
and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

When Elijah heard it,  
he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out  
and stood at the entrance of the cave.  
The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 85.8ab+9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.7)

**R.** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**8** Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people.

**9** Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. **R.**

**10** Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**11** Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. **R.**

**12** The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**13** Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 9.1-5

*I could wish that I myself were cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people.*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

**1** I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying;  
my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.

**2** I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

**3** For I could wish that I myself were accursed  
and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.

**4** They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants,  
the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;

**5** to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah,  
who is over all, God be blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.



Alleluia, Alleluia  
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.  
Alleluia

## G O S P E L

Matthew 14.22-33

*Lord, command me to come to you on the water.*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Immediately after feeding the crowd  
with the five loaves and two fish,  
**22** Jesus made the disciples get into the boat  
and go on ahead to the other side,  
while he dismissed the crowds.  
**23** And after he had dismissed the crowds,  
he went up the mountain by himself to pray.  
When evening came, he was there alone,  
**24** but by this time the boat, battered by the waves,  
was far from the land,  
for the wind was against them.  
**25** And early in the morning  
Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.  
**26** But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea,  
they were terrified, saying,  
“It is a ghost!”  
And they cried out in fear.  
**27** But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said,  
“Take heart, it is I;  
do not be afraid.”  
**28** Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you,  
command me to come to you on the water.”  
**29** Jesus said, “Come.”  
So Peter got out of the boat,  
started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.  
**30** But when he noticed the strong wind,  
he became frightened, and beginning to sink,  
he cried out, “Lord, save me!”  
**31** Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him,  
saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”  
**32** When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.  
**33** And those in the boat worshipped him, saying,  
“Truly you are the Son of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.



Reflection.

When confronted with stress and pressure of various kinds, we are very much like Peter. A sudden turn of events in life and we are faced with storms which threaten the peace and security of our homes and families. We need to hear those encouraging words of Christ, 'Don't be afraid.' Peter's mistake was that he turned to Jesus in real prayer only in a moment of crisis when he was paralysed by fear and in danger of drowning. We are reminded particularly those who tend to forget about God when all is going well and who only become serious about prayer when problems and tragedies surface. The words "all we can do now is pray" become an attitude which regards prayer as a last resort when all else fails. Christ is prepared to help us at all times and not just in our hour of desperation. If we turn to him in all the circumstances of our lives, he will show us how different his presence makes everything. When Peter accepted the Lord's invitation to come to him across the waters, he was taking a risk. It was a leap in the dark and a journey into the unknown. Likewise, we have been invited by Christ to leave our relative security and follow him with conviction and courage through the storms and trials of this life.

Be well and stay safe. - Fr. Arsenio



### Prayers of Intercession

*Dear Friends. Let us pray for the Church that we may recognize God's presence in both the extraordinary moments and in ordinary events of our lives.*

We pray for grace of a deeper trust in God; that we may surrender our fears to God who makes all things work for the good and who is always with us.

**LORD HEAR US**

We pray for the common projects of all the religions of the world; that we may work together against discrimination, prejudice and hatred.

**LORD HEAR US**

We pray for all who struggle with doubt and uncertainty; that they may find a path for growth and deeper faith.

**LORD HEAR US**

We pray for all who have experienced violence or abuse; that God will heal their spirits and give them courage to live each day.

**LORD HEAR US**

We pray for the victims of the Beirut explosion and for all those who are injured, missing and have lost their homes and livelihood. Watch over and protect them as they must now come to terms for years to come with this terrible tragedy in their hometown of Lebanon.

**LORD HEAR US**

We pray for those who have died recently, George Donnelly, Katie O'Dwyer, and for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time: Kevin Maher, Ronald Flannery, Pauline Lees, Bill Hawkins, May Dowling, Anthony Abrams, Ellen

Verner, John O'Dwyer, Ciro, Anna, Antonio, Vic & Ciro Jnr Esposito.

May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ.

### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION,**

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

