

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

9 August 2020



Hello and welcome to you all. I hope you all have had a good week. As I mentioned last Weekend, from today we all have to wear a face covering in church.

Today's gospel follows on directly from the miraculous provision of food for the multitude as we heard in last Sunday's gospel. Jesus sends his disciples off to cross the lake by boat while he disperses the crowd and goes up the mountain to pray. The disciples struggling to make headway in a boat out on the lake is symbolic of the later church in a situation in which it so often

finds itself. The scene of the disciples battling a headwind and heavy seas while Jesus remains apart on the mountain evokes a sense of the Church struggling against forces that threaten to engulf it, keenly sensing all the while the physical absence of the Lord. Eventually Jesus joins the disciples walking on water. That prompts Peter to do the same but he feels he is sinking and asks for Jesus help. Jesus replies "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

From this scene we can take comfort especially at this present time. The gospel reminds us that there will be times of stress and danger when our faith will be sorely tested and sometimes fail. We must remember Jesus is with us. Like Peter we cry "Lord save us". It is in times of crisis that in our prayer we turn to Jesus for help and he will calm us. We have always to remember we carry a cross and through the cross we are saved. The cross brings us new life. Each day let us turn to Mary and pray the rosary asking for her Son to help us. We should all carry the rosary in our pockets so that we can remain close to Her and Jesus.

Have a good weekend and if you are going on holiday keep safe. Every blessing on you all.

Fr. Leslie



Collection

The Collection at Mass on 26 July totalled £144.88 of which £41.00 was Gift Aided.

Thank you and God Bless.

Care Staff needed for the Ursuline Sisters in Brentwood

We urgently require a Care Manager (maternity cover) and 2 Care Assistants for our team providing care for 8 Sisters resident in the Grange. The Care Manager post is for 25 hours per week. Applicants should have General Nursing qualifications, experience managing a care team and hold a full driving licence. Experience caring for the elderly is essential. Some weekend, evening and on-call work will be required. Care Assistant applicants should have previous experience. Bank and part time shifts are available. Salaries dependent on post and candidate. Please telephone 01277 260156 for application forms.

National day of prayer and fasting FOR LIFE

On Friday 14 August we are asking you to say the Rosary. St. John Paul II said "A great prayer for Life is urgently needed."