

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ AUGUST 13, 2023

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, August 19 - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Leonard Fougere*

Sunday, August 20 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Levi & Geri Haines*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Vadie Thornhill*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Thursday, August 17 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS - *The Ever-Present Saviour and God*

Peter was the most impulsive of all the apostles with his tendency to act without thinking of what he was doing. The incident in the Gospel reflects Peter's impulsiveness. He often failed and was upset with his own behaviour. Jesus always tried to show his disciples how difficult it was to follow him before they set out on the way he taught them. A great deal of failure in our lives happens when we act on impulsiveness and allow our emotions to get the better of us. Fortunately, Peter in the moment of his failure held on to Jesus firmly. Every time Peter fell, he rose again. His failures only made him love the Lord more deeply and trust him more intently. The Lord keeps watch over us at all times, and especially in our moments of temptation and difficulty. Do you rely on the Lord for his strength and help? Jesus assures us that we need not have to fear if we trust in him and his great love for us. When difficulties or trials threaten to overwhelm you, how do you respond? With faith and hope in God's love, care and presence with you? We must not lose our focus on the Lord. Peter in the gospel of today

remained afloat on the water when his gaze was only on the Lord, but began to sink when his focus shifted to the events around him. In many ways, we can see ourselves in Peter. How is our faith during a crisis? Where is our focus?

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea, (30)	575.00
St. Agnes, (17)	310.00
Loose	15.00
St. Vincent de Paul, (6)	70.00
Loose	11.00
St. Joseph (15)	175.00
Cemetery Yard Sale	1,239.00

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - We desperately need new members!! Next meeting is Tuesday, September 12 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, August 20

Lector - Buzz Lumsden

Cleaners - August 20 - 26 - Irene & Juanita

We are inviting parishioners to serve as Sacristans, Ushers and Altar Servers for Funeral. Please contact Fr. Jonathan for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS STAR OF THE SEA

Sunday, August 13 - Regatta Prize Bingo, Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall, 7:00 p.m. Thank you so very much for your many donations! It is much appreciated.

Saturday, August 19 - Chowder Luncheon at the Shamrock Club, immediately after the parade. Food items will be needed for this event.

Cake Booth - Canso Regatta Midway, Saturday, August 19 starting at noon.

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - will resume in September.

Club 100 Draw - Winners were Brandon Casey, Garnet Mason, Brent Myatt, Ernie Keefe and Carla Connors! Special thanks for your support.

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Weekly Bingo - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

NOTES

The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine - The gift shop is open for the season, 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, everyday including Sundays and Holidays. The Shrine is always open.

Mass For Shut-Ins - Masses from our 60th season may be viewed on our Diocese of Antigonish YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYevnyrNU6zIWHDh8KJ71w> and on our website: <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/mass-for-shut-ins>

He Has Faith in Us

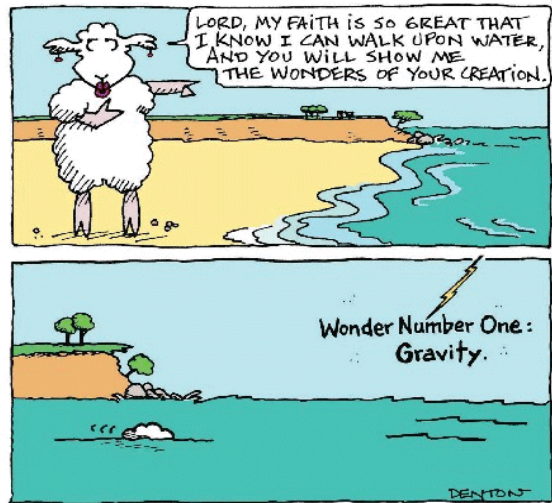
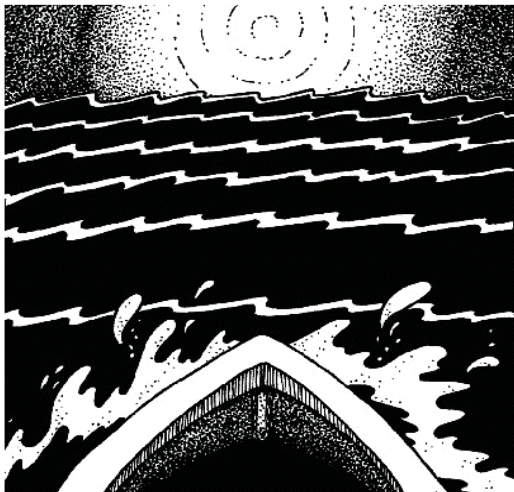
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13 - Elijah's flight to Horeb
- ▶ Romans 9:1-5 - Grief for the Jews; God's free choice ▶ Matthew 14:22-33 - Jesus walks on water

Often people hear this passage of Peter's failed attempt to walk on water, and they hear criticism in Jesus' voice: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" They assume Jesus was disappointed that Peter doubted him. But Jesus wasn't sinking. Peter was. So what if it's the other way around? What if Jesus was asking Peter why he doubted *himself* and his own ability to walk on water?

In Jesus' time and culture, Jesus wasn't the only rabbi who had students, "disciples," following him and learning from him. It was a common practice for rabbis to choose disciples to follow them whom they judged could eventually, with enough teaching and training, do what they did. Being a disciple to a rabbi was a high calling; very few men were good enough students to follow in a rabbi's footsteps. The student had to have the potential to do what his master did. That's why when Jesus sent the disciples out two by two to cure the sick, cast out demons, and proclaim the good news, others wouldn't have been surprised. After all, they were training all along to do what their master did.

So when Peter sees Jesus walking on water, he wants to do what his master does. Incredibly, Peter *can* walk on water—at least until he looks around and begins doubting himself. If Jesus didn't think Peter could walk on water, he wouldn't have told Peter to get out of the boat. If Jesus didn't



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"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

Sheepish Question:

How can I square "reality" with my faith in the power of Jesus?

know Peter could do what Jesus did, he wouldn't have called him to be his disciple in the first place. In fact, Jesus told his disciples, "You didn't choose me. I chose you" (Jn. 15:16). Jesus believes in Peter and the other disciples—that's why he chose them. He knew they could feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and work for justice. And they did—and they changed the course of history.

The thing is, Jesus believes in all of us too. Two thousand years later Jesus chooses all of us to do what he did. We have faith in Jesus. Can we accept that Jesus has faith in us?

Questions of the Week

- 1 Jesus chose 12 apostles who were probably illiterate, working poor people to carry on his work after he was gone. Who have you seen God work through whom others might have overlooked because of their lack of education, money, or prestige?
- 2 Do you think that Jesus has faith in you? Why or why not?

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