



Get Out of the Boat

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As priests we're expected to plan our own funerals, including the Scripture readings. As it happens, I chose the Gospel for this Sunday, the one about Jesus walking across the water and inviting Peter to trust and step out of the boat and come to him. You may think it strange for a funeral, but it's been pretty much the story of my life.

Often there have been times when I was asked to go where I didn't want to go, like Peter being asked to get out of the boat. Ultimately I realized that those were also the very times when I seemed most aware of God's presence. Oh, I think God

was always there, it's simply that my own ego often got in the way. It was when I gave in that I most felt buoyed by God. In fact, the least satisfying assignment was the one I eagerly sought out, and some of those I resisted

turned out to be graced. Like Peter, it's good to do what doesn't always make sense.

What does all this have to do with my choice of this Scripture reading for my funeral? Well, every

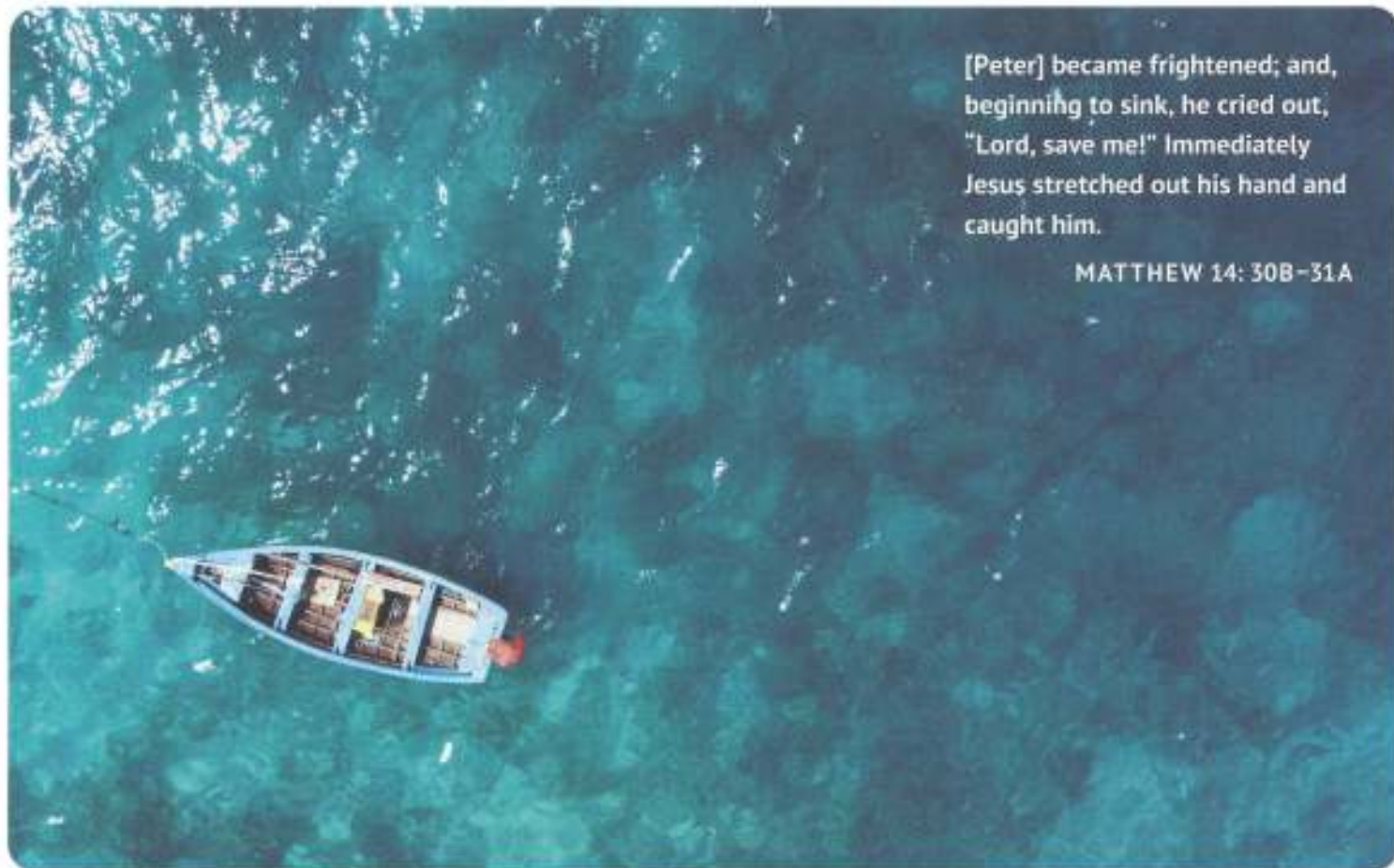
time I have stepped out of the boat of security, God has been there to sustain me. I figure there is going to be no bigger "stepping out" than death, so I'm expecting God will be there as well. ●

Reflect

Have you ever experienced the impossible becoming possible with God's grace?

[Peter] became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him.

MATTHEW 14: 30B-31A





Holy Trinity



St. Thomas More



St. Patrick

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Adoration Room at STM
Open Monday - Sunday
Regular Hours
9 am - 6 pm

Rav/Tort Group taking orders now
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Ravs/Tort are \$8.00/bag

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Website for the Three Churches
www.bureaucatholic.org
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Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



STM Chicken Dinner | 11:00am - 2:00pm | Sunday, August 20, 2023

Menu: Baked or Fried Chicken, Spaghetti, Salad, Bread & Butter,
Dessert, Water, Coffee, Lemonade

Adults: \$12.00 - Kids: 10 & under \$6.00

Carry Outs Available By Calling 815-252-4377

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of August 14, 2023

Monday	8/14	5:00 pm	HT-Assumption Vigil Mass	+ Daisy Kopeck
Tuesday	8/15	9:00 am	STM-Assumption Mass	+ For All Parishioners
Wednesday	8/16	5:30 pm	HT	+ Leonel Pommier
Thursday	8/17	9:00 am	HT	+ Michael Campbell
Friday	8/18	9:00 am	STM	+ John Balma

Mass Intentions for the weekend of August 19-20, 2023

Saturday	8/19	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ Dennis & Lori Domkuski
Sunday	8/20	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	+ Norma Templeton
		10:30 am	St Patrick	+ In Thanksgiving (Rain)
		5:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ For All Parishioners

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Feast day: Tuesday, August 15

Today, Catholics and many other Christians celebrate the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This significant feast day recalls the spiritual and physical departure of the Mother of Jesus Christ from the earth, when both her soul and her body were taken into the presence of God.



Venerable Pope Pius XII confirmed this belief about the Virgin Mary as the perennial teaching of the Church when he defined it formally as a dogma of Catholic faith in 1950, invoking papal infallibility to proclaim, "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." His Apostolic Constitution "Munificentissimus Deus" (Most Bountiful God), which defined the dogma, contained the Pontiff's accounts of many longstanding traditions by which the Church has celebrated the Assumption throughout its history.

Although the bodily assumption of Mary is not explicitly recorded in Scripture, Catholic tradition identifies her with the "woman clothed with the sun" who is described in the 12th chapter of the Book of Revelation. The passage calls that woman's appearance "a great sign" which "appeared in heaven," indicating that she is the mother of the Jewish Messiah and has "the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." Accordingly, Catholic iconography of the Western tradition often depicts the Virgin Mary's assumption into heaven in this manner.

"It was fitting," St. John of Damascus wrote in a sermon on the assumption, "that she, who had kept her virginity intact in childbirth, should keep her own body free from all corruption even after death," and "that she, who had carried the creator as a child at her breast, should dwell in the divine tabernacles." (Excerpted from Catholic News Agency)

The Soul Can't Wait To See God!

When loved ones die, it is easy to instantly presume they are in Heaven and are no longer in need of our prayers. But the greatest gifts we can offer to those who have gone before us are prayers and Mass offerings. It's true that every person who dies in a state of grace (meaning they do not have unrepented mortal sin), will enter into the glories of Heaven, eventually. However, what we may often forget is that in order to enter into the full glory of the presence of the Most Holy Trinity, every last sin, no matter how small, must be purged away. This is Purgatory, which is a clear and definitive teaching of our faith.

Purgatory is an act of God's mercy and we are called to help pour forth that mercy on others through our prayers, sacrifices, and indulgences offered on their behalf after they pass from this Earth. This is why Holy Mass matters, because it is the par excellence prayer for the soul.

Please let the office know if you are willing to have Mass for your beloved deceased be said at any of the 3 churches, so as not to keep the soul waiting for the beatific vision, beholding the heavenly glory of God. Again, please be reminded, according to diocesan policy, Mass stipends are \$10 per Mass.

Assumption Day Reminder

Again, we like to remind all members of our 3 churches that this year's Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, which will be this coming Tuesday, August 15th, is a holy day of obligation. Hence, all members are urged to do the best they can to attend Mass on that day. The Assumption Mass schedule is as follows:

Monday, August 14th at HT 5:00pm & Tuesday, August 15th at STM 9:00am



Holy Day of Obligation

LATEST OFFERING'S

AUG 6TH WEEKEND

HT – \$925.00
SP – \$815.00
STM – \$1,110.00



CONFESSIONS

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS
WILL BE SAT. AUG 19TH
10:30 - 11:15 AM AT
ST PATRICK
IN THE CHAPEL

Dear Padre,

At what precise point in the Mass does the bread and wine turn into the Body and Blood of Christ?

For many centuries, thinkers in the Western and Eastern Churches have pondered this question. Some say the moment of consecration happens at the beginning of the sentence, "This is my body." Others say it happens at the conclusion of that sentence. Still others claim it happens sometime during the sentence. The same theories were proposed about the consecration of the cup. From the Eastern Churches, the theory was raised that it wasn't the eucharistic narrative that was consecratory, but rather the prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit known as the *epiclesis*.

These theories continue to be debated, but to what avail? Even the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* does not specify when the consecration happens (CCC 1375–81). But knowing the precise moment it happens doesn't seem to be as important as simply knowing that the elements of bread and wine over which the prayer is prayed do become for us the Body and Blood of Christ.

This mystery of faith, moreover, adds another dimension to our lives: transformation into Christ. Whether we share in Communion at the liturgy or contemplate the Lord in the tabernacle, the loving call of the Spirit is to change our hearts. Specifically, when does that happen to us? One never knows for sure. But by participation in the mystery of faith, we're changed ever more deeply into the One whose Body and Blood we share. ●



DearPadre.org

Source: *The Eucharist: 50 Questions From the Pews*, © Richard N. Fragomeni, PhD
(Liguori Publications, 2008)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
August 14 <i>St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr</i> Dt 10:12–22 Mt 17:22–27	August 15 <i>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Rev 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab 1 Cor 15:20–27 Lk 1:39–56	August 16 <i>Weekday</i> Dt 34:1–12 Mt 18:15–20	August 17 <i>Weekday</i> Jos 3:7–10a, 11, 13–17 Mt 18:21–19:1	August 18 <i>Weekday</i> Jos 24:1–13 Mt 19:3–12	August 19 <i>Weekday</i> Jos 24:14–29 Mt 19:13–15	August 20 <i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Is 56:1, 6–7 Rom 11:13–15, 29–32 Mt 15:21–28



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Having faith means keeping your heart turned to God, to His love, to His Fatherly tenderness, amid the storm. Jesus wanted to teach this to Peter and the disciples, and also to us today. In dark moments, in sad moments He is well aware that our faith is weak.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 9, 2020