SUNDAY MASSES & CONFESSIONS: See inside

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGE: For these Sacraments please notify the church office as soon as possible so that we may advise you of the requirements. Thank you.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please fill out registration card and return to ushers or the church office.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Tel. 482-6883 or 481-7172

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE: Tel. 437-9876
The Gift Shop is located in the front of the church

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE: Tel. 482-6883

YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE: Tel. 481-5144

PARISH OFFICE: Tel. 481-7171 or 481-7172
Fax: 481-8007, www.resurrectionch.org

August 13, 2017
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOTHING TO FEAR

A rabbi was asked why God sends trials and troubles into human lives. "Because God gets lonely for his people" was the reply. There is some resonance with this wisdom in today's Gospel, as Jesus makes his disciples get into a boat without him and goes off alone while they venture into stormy waters. Of course, neither Jews nor Christians believe that the Almighty plays this sort of whimsical game with them, but there is some truth in the statement that we don't turn to God for saving help until we're in a bind. Peter's role today, as it is throughout the New Testament, is to be a sign or to represent each member of the church and the whole church. Our story is the tale told about Peter's faith today. What can bolster our faith is that even when Christ calls us to face bravely the tempests of life, if we are walking through them with our eyes fixed on him in faith, we have nothing to fear. Even when we falter or sink, simply crying "Lord, save me!" is enough to help us know the steady grasp of God's hand. Then, sheltered inside the walls of faith, the storms we endure lose their power over us.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A
Sunday, August 13, 2017

First Reading
1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
The Lord appears to Elijah in a whisper.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 85:9-14
The Lord is the source of salvation.

Second Reading
Romans 9:1-5
Paul speaks of the blessings that have come to the Israelites.

Gospel Reading
Matthew 14:22-33
Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

Background on the Gospel Reading
Today’s Gospel directly follows last week’s account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew’s Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples’ growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with last week’s Gospel, today’s Gospel is also about what the disciples’ faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week’s Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The five loaves and two fish feed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter’s example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God’s only Son.
RESURRECTION CALENDAR

ALL events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.

Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, Mondays, 10:00 a.m. For more information call Alouise 481-8168
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men's Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00p.m., Sept. - May
Men's Gospel Forum, Fridays 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Sundays, after the 9:00a.m. Mass, for info, 482-6883
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, for info, call Judy at 287-1237
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May, 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m. Sept. - May

RESURRECTION CALENDAR

O God, look with compassion on the one in seven Americans who face hunger in this country. Preserve their dignity as they struggle to get enough to eat. May those looking for jobs find new opportunities to earn a living. May those who are unable to work be supported and sustained by their communities. Amen

WEEKLY OFFERING

August 6, 2017
Offertory: $16,634.99
Education: $3,703.00
Latin Mass: $290.00
SVDP: $365.00

Online Giving, July 2017
Offertory: $8,804.00
Education: $330.00

SVDP Distributions, July 2017
Gas vouchers $100.00
Electric. $418.07
Rent $2,875.00
Medical $61.83
Bus pass $25.00
Food vouchers $20.00
Uniforms for vocational school $50.00
SVdP cannot express our gratitude enough when it comes to your generosity!

O God, look with compassion on the one in seven Americans who face hunger in this country. Preserve their dignity as they struggle to get enough to eat. May those looking for jobs find new opportunities to earn a living. May those who are unable to work be supported and sustained by their communities. Amen.

St. Vincent DePaul is in need of peanut butter, jelly, mayo, toilet paper, and cereal. Thank you for your generosity!

RAINY SEASON has arrived! St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting umbrellas for the poor and the homeless. Please drop off at the Parish Center. No need for new.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:

When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171.
Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:
* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

GIFT SHOP HOURS:
Thursdays: Closed until November
Sat: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Sun: Open 7:00 a.m.
and also open between morning Masses.
CLOSED DURING MASSES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
Volunteers are needed in the Gift Shop for all shifts. Please call 239-481-7171 and leave a message for Gaye for more details.
PLEASE JOIN US EACH 1ST FRIDAY FOR ADORATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 8:00 MASS

A Meditation from the Diary of St. Faustina, entry 1485 -
Jesus: I am your strength, I will help you in the struggle.
Soul: Lord, I recognize your holiness, and I fear you.
Jesus: My child, do you fear the God of Mercy? My holiness does not prevent Me from being merciful. Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth - the tabernacle - and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. I am not surrounded by a retinue or guards. You can come to me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace.

A society is best judged by how it treats its most vulnerable members.
~ Anonymous
We cannot diminish the value of one category of human life - the unborn - without diminishing the value of all human life.
~ Ronald Regan, former U.S. President

This week’s Sanctuary Candle: for Chris Buzenius by John & Geri Cedarburg

Altar Flowers This Week:
In Honor of: The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary
In loving memory of: The Deceased of the Parish

---

Please join us here at Resurrection Parish for a special Mass for “A Greater Respect For Life”
August 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

This month marks the half-way point to birth, and the baby is very active. Sleep habits develop and his mother can feel him move and stretch, particularly when she is resting. He is big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it. Up to now, although he swam with ease in his watery world, he was too small for her to detect because the inside wall of the uterus has little feeling. Babies born at this age have survived.

RESURRECTION FOR LIFE
PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FORT MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY.

---

Celebrate Mass on the 25th of each month from the Annunciation to Christmas for a greater respect for all human life.

See the schedule of Masses throughout the Diocese of Venice at www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife.

Diocese of Venice Respect Life
1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, FL 34285
941-441-1101

Respect Life
Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11–13a
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 85:9, 10, 11–12, 13–14
SECOND READING: Romans 9:1–5
GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22–33

Presence

The gathering prayer today speaks of the Spirit who is given to us and who will guide us to the inheritance promised. The Spirit seems at times elusive. To be sensitive to the presence of the Spirit of God requires quiet, uncluttered, care-filled attention and focus.

Comment

Elijah was willing to wait for the Lord. He was open to all the customary manifestations. After all, the first manifestation of the Lord on Mount Sinai was accompanied by great rumbling and smoke. Elijah would be right to expect some natural disturbance. But God is not in the earthquake or in the mighty wind or in the fire. No, God is present in the quietest possible breeze. One holds one's breath watching Elijah who waits. One is quietly satisfied and delighted at Elijah's apprehension of the Lord's appearance and his response to it. Elijah, the non-writing prophet, is truly a man of God. He was in the Lord's presence, and he knew it. He is a prophet worth heeding.

Now we turn to another story in which a natural phenomenon figures. In this, it resembles the first reading. In the first reading, God is the central figure and Elijah is the object of God's attention. In the Gospel reading, Jesus is central and Peter is the object of his attention, and ours. Matthew, Mark, and John all tell the story of the storm at sea. They all set before us the arresting image of a small boat battered by the angry winds. But the stories differ in significant ways. Mark and John have Jesus walking over the waters toward the boat. Peter stays put. The endings of these three stories all differ also. The disciples are amazed and speechless. Only Matthew has Peter act and speak. Jesus summons Peter to meet him on the waters. Peter does fine as long as he is focused on Jesus; he begins sinking the moment his focus is on himself. Without skipping a beat, Jesus reaches out to steady Peter. Jesus also locates the cause of Peter's near drowning—"Why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31) Peter does not respond. Jesus boards the small craft. The wind ceases. Then comes the confession of faith by the apostles, "Truly, you are the Son of God."

Reflection

Miracles attract attention and they are signs of something. But, they are often ambiguous. It is commonly noted that seeing is believing. For example, in heaven one is not likely to need faith. For in heaven one will possess vision; one will see. John the Evangelist and apostle calls Jesus' miracles signs of God's active presence among us. What are we to make of spectacular happenings such as the calming of the sea, not to mention walking on water? We know that in the temptation stories, Jesus forsook spectacular actions that would only serve to dazzle people without also fundamentally strengthening them in mind and body.

What are we to make of today's Gospel? What is it teaching us? Among other things, it graphically shows us the Church—a small boat tossed about by the storm at sea. It is a picture that helped the early Church, and it is one that helps us now. When this Gospel was written, well within the first century, the Church was small indeed, and the strong winds were blowing against it, threatening its survival. The vision of Jesus walking on water inspired fear and awe. After Jesus calls them to task, Peter makes a conditional request. "If it is you ..." And Jesus simply challenges Peter by issuing the command: "Come!" Peter is clearly the leader. It is he who fixes his eyes on the one who summoned him. And it is Peter who falters. But more importantly, it is Peter who recovers by grasping the hand of the One who reaches out to him.

This reaching out to grasp the proffered hand is enough for the Church. In the strength of Christ, the Church can stand against the sinful forces of the world in which it finds itself. The Church will falter when its faith falters. It will fail when it doubts the presence of its Lord. It will experience the poise and calmness of soul that comes with firm faith in the presence of Jesus Christ in its midst.
YOUTH MINISTRY
REGISTRATION OPEN
FOR THE FALL!

Register fees:*

$55 thru Aug. 31
$65 thereafter

Junior Yth. ~ 6—8th grade
Senior Yth. ~ 9—12th grade

Family/Youth Mass 5:00pm
Followed by Youth Gatherings
6:00 - 7:30pm
Call RYM or email with any questions:
Vikki@resurrectionch.org or 481-5144

*Add’l fee for Confirmation Prep. ~ 2yr. Program begins in 9th gr.

REGISTRATION FORMS
AVAILABLE ON LINE AND IN THE PARISH HALL MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

WHO: Grades K-5
WHEN: Beginning September 10th following the 10:00a.m. Mass
FEES: $70/$15 per additional child
Second year sacramental prep: $25

*Sacramental Prep is a two year program. Students must enroll in first grade to receive First Holy Communion in the second grade.

Questions? Please contact the Faith Formation office: 600-6745 or deanna@resurrectionch.org

“Let the little children come to me…” Matthew 19:14

Coffee and Donuts begin September 10 after the 10:00 Mass! Please join us in the Parish Center for coffee, donuts and fellowship!!
Florida Catholic Chamber of Commerce -
NEXT MEETING: August 22, 2017
Please join the next Catholic Chamber networking/lunch meeting on August 22, 2017 from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM.
Where: Brookdale Senior Living, 8351 College Pkwy, Fort Myers, FL 33919 We invite all Catholic businesses and ministries. Free to attend. No membership required. Being a member is a great way to witness our beautiful Catholic faith.

"Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane" - Join Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice, for his monthly radio program on Relevant Radio. "Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane" can be heard the last Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m. on 1660 AM in Naples and 1410 AM and 106.7 FM in Fort Myers. Listen anywhere online at RelevantRadio.com.

Safe Environment Training - As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment. The next training sessions will be on August 24th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm and August 26th from 9:30 - 11:30 am at Church of the Resurrection Parish Hall. Call 239-481-7172 to register if you plan to attend.

Licensed Professional Counselors needed - The Diocesan Project Rachel post-abortion healing program is in need of counselors familiar with the teachings of the Catholic Church, particularly for the Sarasota, Manatee and Highlands counties. Bilingual (English/Spanish) counselors are needed throughout the diocese. Please contact Fonda at 239-719-7210 for details.

Charismatic Renewal Golden Jubilee Celebration - To commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the Diocese of Venice English and Spanish Catholic Charismatic Renewal Commissions will be hosting a Conference at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center in Punta Gorda on Saturday, September 16, from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Conference theme, "A New Pentecost for a New Evangelization," will feature exciting speakers in both English and Spanish. There will also be a combined English/Spanish session for youth, ages 13-17. All are encouraged to attend this Spirit-filled conference, to experience inspirational speakers, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Cost is $20 for adults and $10 for youth (13-17) and includes dinner. Registration is required online at www.dioceseofvenice.org. For more information about the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and the Golden Jubilee Celebration please visit www.dvccr.org.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for August - That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

Christians of the Holy Land
Please join us in the Parish Hall the weekend of August 19/20 after Masses, (3:30 Sat., 8:00 & 10:00 Sun.) to view the beautiful religious items for sale from the Holy Land.

The Christian situation in the Holy Land is dire. What used to be a strong and vibrant 30% of the population has dropped down below 2%. There are several factors involved, not the least of which is economics. Traditionally, the Christian community relied on the services offered for pilgrims as a main source of income for the community, who in turn conduct commerce with each other. Olive wood items/carvings represent the only tangible product they produce and can export. Christians of the Holy Land graciously asks your support through conscience prayers and the purchase of these special religious art pieces. Items range in price from $5 to a few hundred and include rosaries, crosses, icons and statues. Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment and cash flow for our Christian community in Bethlehem. These beautiful and very affordable goods are great gifts for your family, friends and yourself, and please be as generous as God is to you. Checks, cash and credit cards will be accepted.

Cheese and crackers will be provided on Saturday and coffee and donuts on Sunday, compliments of Resurrection Family Circle.

Institute for Catholic Studies and Formation -
Master’s Level Course - Through a partnership with Franciscan University of Steubenville, the Institute for Catholic Studies and Formation extends an invitation to those interested in pursuing a Master’s Degree or just interested in learning their faith, to enroll in the upcoming Fall course, The 607 Dogma Theory II: Church and Sacraments. A 33 percent tuition discount is offered through the Institute. For more information, please contact Kathryn Klein DeNinno at 941-766-7334 or deninno@institutedov.org.

PLEASE HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!

Your food donations will help St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities, South Ft. Myers Food Pantry. Drop food in boxes at vestibules in the church or Parish Center. The following is most needed: Canned fruit and vegetables (corn/peas/carrot/green beans). Canned meat (tuna/chicken/sausages/ham/Spam). Spaghetti noodles and sauce, Macaroni and Cheese, Maseca flour (small bags), Canned diced tomatoes, Tomato sauce, Cereal, Canned soups (prefer chicken), and Dry beans (pinto/red/kidney).
Thank you and God Bless!